

Second Round of BioReady(TM) Community Ratings Announced

July 14, 2009

Seven more Massachusetts communities are BioReady(TM) under a ratings system rolled out this year by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MBC) and MassEcon.

The system-- which ranks communities that meet levels of criteria as bronze, silver, gold or platinum-- helps Massachusetts cities and towns market themselves to biotechnology companies looking to expand or relocate.

The MBC, working with MassEcon and a host of regional economic development organizations around the state, inaugurated the statewide BioReady(TM) Communities Campaign in 2008 for the purpose of providing background to municipal officials about the biotech industry and guidance on how to position municipalities as destinations for biotech laboratory and manufacturing facilities. Ratings for the first 44 cities and towns were announced in April.

As part of the campaign, the MBC Economic Development Advisory Group (EDAG) developed criteria to both guide communities in their pursuit of biotech facility opportunities and rate them for BioReadiness(TM) in order to provide each with a tangible marketing tool.

To date, 51 municipalities have achieved ratings. To view the full list and ratings criteria, go to the [MBC's BioReady\(TM\) Communities Web page](#).

"This initiative is about helping maintain the Commonwealth's competitiveness as the global leader in biotechnology by increasing the inventory of real and potential biotechnology properties in its cities and towns," said MBC President and CEO Robert Coughlin. "Moving innovative treatments quickly from the bench to the bedside is critical for patients facing unmet medical needs. We have no clearer demonstration about the capacity of Massachusetts to achieve this speed than the commitment of these 51 BioReady(TM)-rated communities to work in a proactive way to support biotechnology facility opportunities."

"We at MassEcon are proud to partner with the MBC on this initiative. It sends another strong signal to the biotechnology community that Massachusetts is serious about meeting the growth needs of this industry. Congratulations to the municipalities that have declared themselves open for business; we look forward to many more joining their ranks," said Susan Houston, Executive Director of MassEcon.

Silver

Chelmsford
Marlborough
Somerville

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