



M A S S A C H U S E T T S
HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL

Dedicated to Growth... Committed to Action

MATTERS 2.0 Launched; New Feature Includes Results from Inaugural MATTERS Executive Survey

On October 20, the Council unveiled a redesigned version of the [Massachusetts Technology Talent and Economic Reporting System \(MATTERS\)](#) which includes an assessment of the Commonwealth's strengths and risks collected by a survey of job-creators. MATTERS is a uniquely comprehensive and dynamic aggregation of more than 50 key quantitative metrics and allows technology leaders and policymakers to evaluate and compare the business climate in Massachusetts and competitor states. MATTERS 2.0 includes more than 20 new metrics and a redesigned State Profile featuring new performance indices focused on talent, tax, cost of doing business and quality of life.

Massachusetts ▾ State Profile ■ Strength ■ Neither ■ Weakness ↑ Trend



As part of the launch of MATTERS 2.0, the Council also released the [results of our inaugural MATTERS Executive Competitiveness Survey](#). Survey responses from more than 60 CEOs and senior executives committed to building thriving technology companies described the Commonwealth as a competitive place to operate with business conditions that are stable or improving. Responses also revealed, however, deep and broad concerns about business costs and other challenges that threaten prospects for growth.

"We look forward to analyzing the MATTERS 2.0 data with our colleagues in industry and academia and using the information to make the Commonwealth an even more attractive place for technology companies"
~ Governor Charlie Baker

MISSION STATEMENT

The *High Tech Agenda* keeps the High Tech Council's members and partners up to date on its pro-growth advocacy concerning state and federal public policies and programs in support of its mission.

The goal of the Massachusetts High Technology Council is to help make Massachusetts the world's most attractive place in which to live and work, and in which to create, operate, and grow high technology businesses. Read our Mission Statement at mhtc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mission Gratitude: Featuring the Beach Boys!

November 7 – 7:00 PM

Location: Agganis Arena – Boston, MA

Join New England Tech Vets' partner Home Base, on November 7 for the 4th Annual Mission: Gratitude – the largest benefit concert in New England dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of war for veterans and their families. This year's event features [Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Kyle White](#) sharing his personal story followed by a special performance by [The Beach Boys!](#)

There are many ticket, hospitality and branding opportunities for companies to get involved with Mission: Gratitude and support 617-724-0204.

MATTERS 2.0 - combined with insights from the Council's Executive Competitiveness Insight Survey will enable the Council to further inform and support our advocacy for public policies that help keep Massachusetts competitive. Click [here](#) to view a video tutorial on how to use MATTERS 2.0.

Redesigning this powerful resource was facilitated by the sponsorship of a number of engaged Council members and partners, including: Worcester Polytechnic Institute, The MITRE Corporation, Putnam Investments, MilliporeSigma, PTC, Brandeis University, KPMG, Monster, Bentley University, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Mass. Technology Collaborative and Mass. Development).

Council Convenes Forum on Women and the Talent Pipeline

On September 29, the Council and member [reachHIRE](#) sponsored "Women and the Talent Pipeline: Inclusive Workforce Strategies That Work." More than one hundred technology, business and educational leaders turned out for the event which was hosted at the offices of Council member McKinsey & Company by McKinsey's Boston office head Nav Singh.

McKinsey served as the event's knowledge partner featuring a presentation by Mekala Krishnan, a Fellow at the McKinsey Global Institute on McKinsey's latest [Women in the Workplace research report](#). Attendees also enjoyed an interactive panel discussion featuring reachHIRE CEO Addie Schwartz and several of Massachusetts' most respected thought leaders on talent development from Council members including:

Russ Campanello

*EVP, HR & Corporate Communications
iRobot*

Patricia Flynn

*Trustee Professor
Bentley University*

Rick Miller

*President
Olin College of Engineering*

Pamela Norley

*President
Fidelity Charitable Services*

Click [here](#) to see a video recap of the event.

Council and Coalition Partners Focus on Constitutional Amendment to Hike Income Tax Rate

In a recent communication from Council Chairman Bill Achtmeyer to members, Bill described the Council's strategy concerning the proposed Constitutional Amendment that would impose an 80% increase in the personal income tax rate for certain high-income Massachusetts taxpayers. The Council is working to develop and help lead a coalition of job creators, nonprofit leaders and other impacted stakeholders to work with us as we implement this strategy.

As recently [reported by the Boston Globe](#) and [State House News Service](#), the Council's current efforts are focused on developing additional information on the impacts and effects of the proposal. The Council is committed to ensuring that legislators fully understand the potential ramifications of the proposal well in advance of their next joint meeting in Constitutional Convention (during the 2017- 2018 Legislative Session) at which time they will determine whether or not to put the question on the 2018 state election ballot.

Interested members should contact [Chris Anderson](#) to discuss how they can become engaged in supporting the strategy outlined in the recent communication from Bill.

UPCOMING EVENTS

New England Tech Vets 2016 Fall Forum with Special Guest Governor Baker

**November 17 –
8:30AM to 3:00PM**

Location: Gillette Stadium – Foxborough, MA

Please join the Massachusetts High Technology Council for our New England Tech Vets Fall Forum. This event will convene our New England Tech Vets program partners, employers, senior HR executives, thought leaders and policymakers to discuss regional veteran hiring best practices and veteran-focused talent acquisition strategies and opportunities.

Seating is limited. MHTC members are invited to click [here](#) to join us at Gillette Stadium on November 17.

MHTC Cost Competitiveness Committee Meeting

**December 1 –
8:30 AM to 10:30 AM**

Location: MHTC offices – Waltham, MA

The Council's Cost Competitiveness Committee meets to help drive the Council's mission to make Massachusetts the world's most attractive place in which to create and grow a high technology business. The Committee leads the Council's efforts to assess and improve the quality of the Massachusetts business climate in relation to its chief competitor states, performs high-level analysis of corporate tax rates and other business cost data and identifies top policy priorities.

Participating members, kindly RSVP via calendar response or email to [Mark Gallagher](#).

MHTC Government Relations Committee Meeting

**December 7 –
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Location: MHTC offices – Waltham, MA

The Government Relations Committee is a forum for public policy and government relations professionals from member companies to network with peers and colleagues and share intelligence and ideas about pending state and federal issues of common interest. It also serves as an important mechanism to inform and support MHTC's policy and advocacy agenda and strategy.

Kindly RSVP via calendar response or email to [Mark Gallagher](#).

New England Tech Vets 2016 Fall Forum to Feature Governor Baker and Home Base Program

On November 17, the Council will join with our [New England Tech Vets](#) partners Monster and Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program, to



host the New England Tech Vets 2016 Fall Forum from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at Gillette Stadium. The event will feature remarks from Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Secretary of Veteran Affairs Francisco Ureña and LTC Adam Grim of the U.S. Army's Soldier for Life veteran reintegration initiative. The event will also include educational presentations from Home Base clinical professionals and interactive panel discussions with local veteran-friendly employers and veteran employees who will share best practices and first-hand perspectives on optimizing the use of veteran talent in civilian employment.

This event is free to Council members and all but seating is limited. Please click [here](#) to register.

Home Base Program to Host Mission Gratitude Event on November 7

Mission Gratitude is the biggest fundraising event of the year for Home Base, and the largest benefit concert in New England that supports our Veteran community and their families. This year Mission Gratitude will take place on Monday, November 7 at Boston University's Agganis Arena and will feature a benefit concert by the Beach Boys.

You can help Home Base care for our veterans and their families by sponsoring a table or two (tables of 10 seats are \$20,000 or \$10,000) or joining fellow High Tech Council members by purchasing one or more individual seats (\$1,000 or \$2,000 per seat) at a High Tech Council-organized table.

If you are interested in sponsoring your own table, please contact [Monica Collins](#), Associate Director of Development, Home Base at mmcollins2@partners.org. If you are interested in joining a table sponsored by the High Tech Council please contact [Chris Anderson](#). We hope you will join us to ensure a great showing of the "High Tech Council Flag" in support of our terrific program partner Home Base and the unparalleled work they do to support our veterans.

Council Board Hosts Lt. Governor Polito at Boston Symphony Orchestra Reception

On October 13, Council Chairman Bill Achtmeyer and Parthenon-EY sponsored an evening reception for Council members and guests at Symphony Hall in Boston. Attendees heard remarks from Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito and Bill Achtmeyer, and enjoyed a performance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra led by Maestro Jakub Hrůša. The Lieutenant Governor reminded attendees of the need to foster a business environment that supports the health and growth of the Commonwealth's technology sector and praised Council members for their ongoing work in this area.



This year the Council is helping to support the BSO's "A Company Christmas at Pops," a

UPCOMING EVENTS

Company Christmas at Pops

**December 7 –
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**

Location: Boston Symphony Hall – Boston, MA

A Company Christmas at Pops is a unique holiday gala that celebrates the extraordinary partnership between the corporate community and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Designed specifically for the Boston business community, a Company Christmas at Pops has been proven to be one of the BSO's most successful events and has become a model for other arts organizations across the country. Funding raised through this event helps support the BSO Education and Community Engagement programs throughout the year. Click [here](#) for event and sponsorship details or please contact [Mary Thompson](#), Director of Corporate Initiatives at Boston Symphony Orchestra.

MHTC Board of Directors Meeting

**December 8 –
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Location: Dassault Systèmes Americas Corp. – Waltham, MA

This meeting is graciously being hosted by Council member Dassault Systèmes Americas Corp. Attendees are invited to join our host and members of the Council's Talent, Workforce and Education Committee for a buffet luncheon from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. Please RSVP via calendar response or email to [Julie Champion](#).

MHTC Talent, Workforce and Education Committee Meeting

**December 8 –
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

Location: Dassault Systèmes Americas Corp. – Waltham, MA

The Council's Talent, Workforce and Education Committee meets regularly to develop and shape the Council's education and workforce priorities and initiatives and develop highly-usable data and analysis of key talent and education metrics that are relevant to high tech companies.

The December meeting is graciously being hosted by Council member Dassault Systèmes Americas Corp. Attendees are invited to join our host and the Council's Board of Directors for a luncheon prior to the team meeting from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.

Participating members, kindly RSVP via calendar response or email to [Mark Gallagher](#).

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2016 Ballot Questions Enter Final Stretch

With Election Day less than two weeks away and early voting already underway, it is crunch time for candidates and for several ballot questions voters will consider this year.



As a reminder, the Council is urging our members and Massachusetts citizens to vote “yes” on Question 2, which would allow state education officials to expand access to public charter schools, particularly in low-performing school districts. The Council has been a longtime advocate for public

charter schools and has consistently led efforts to rally business and technology leaders to support their expansion. As outlined in Council President Chris Anderson's [August 5 op-ed in the Boston Business Journal](#), expanding access to charter schools is not just a moral and social issue, but also one with critical economic ramifications for the Commonwealth and its citizens.

The YesOn2MA coalition has consistently attracted a broad and bipartisan group of supporters. In recent weeks an array of Democratic state leaders including House Speaker DeLeo, House Speaker *Pro Tem* Pat Haddad (a former public school teacher and municipal school committee member) and the House Chairwoman of the legislature's Education Committee Alice Peisch have joined Republican Governor Baker to urge voters to lift the cap on charter schools. In [thoughtful op-eds](#), [inspiring remarks](#), and a [compelling ad featuring Governor Baker](#), state leaders have articulated an undeniable case to put students and parents above politics.

The Council has also joined a broad coalition of business, political and public safety leaders to oppose Question 4 which would fully legalize the sale and use of marijuana in Massachusetts. Massachusetts currently permits the medical use of marijuana by prescription and has already decriminalized the possession of small amounts of the drug. The Council believes that full legalization and creation of a large-scale marijuana industry in Massachusetts would be unwise. Proponents of legalization are well-organized and well-resourced with significant funding from out-of-state marijuana industry players. Council members who wish to support the opposition effort personally can contact the [Campaign for a Safe and Healthy Massachusetts](#) or [Mark Gallagher](#) for more information.



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Council's Cost Competitiveness Committee Hosts DOR Commissioner Heffernan

The Council's Cost Competitiveness Committee welcomed Massachusetts Department of Revenue Commissioner Mike Heffernan for a CEO Roundtable hosted by Cost Competitiveness Committee Co-Chairman Jason Zorfas at EY's Boston offices on October 24. Commissioner Heffernan and members of DOR's senior staff updated Council members on DOR's efforts to drive internal efficiencies and enhance the quality of taxpayer engagement. He shared thoughts on ways DOR's revenue forecasting and supports and informs the legislature and executive branch as they develop and enact fiscal and tax policy for the Commonwealth.



Participation in Council committees and attendance at meetings and roundtable events are open to all individuals from any Council member. Email [Mark Gallagher](mailto:Mark.Gallagher@state.ma.us) to get involved in one or all of the Council's committees and make sure you aren't missing out on these opportunities to engage with other technology leaders and policymakers.

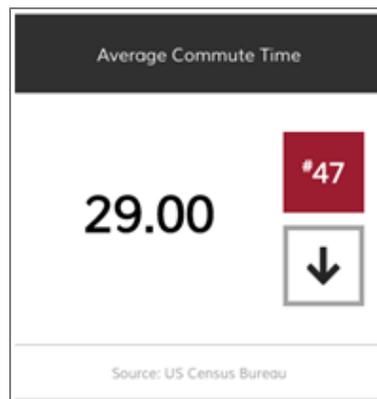
MilliporeSigma's Udit Batra Receives Prestigious 'CEO of the Year' Award from CPhI

In recognition of his commitment to furthering life science innovation, MilliporeSigma CEO and Council Board Member Udit Batra was named 2016 "CEO of the Year" by [CPhI Pharma](http://CPhI.com) at CPhI's annual awards gala on October 4 in Barcelona, Spain.

"As advances in drug discovery yield more complex therapies, drug development and manufacturing must innovate at even a faster pace," said Batra. "At MilliporeSigma, we will continue to empower researchers and scientists with solutions that improve drug development quality and efficiency, helping them solve their toughest problems."

DATA THAT MATTERS

The MATTERS 2.0 Quality of Life index includes Average Commute Times. Commutes for Massachusetts residents are among the five longest in the country with an average time of 29 minutes. More than half of respondents to the Fall 2016 MATTERS Executive Competitiveness Survey identified transportation as a significant potential risk to their business. Visit the new [MATTERS 2.0 site](http://MATTERS2.0.org) to learn more about what MATTERS to employers.



Contact Us

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