



**City of New Bedford**  
**Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor**

## **New Bedford Hosts the Massachusetts Mayors' Association**

**New Bedford, Massachusetts** - On Wednesday, June 26, 2013 mayors from across the Commonwealth convened at the New Bedford Whaling Museum for the Massachusetts Mayors' Association's (MMA) monthly meeting. Mayor Jon Mitchell hosted the meeting and welcomed the group of mayors who hailed from cities including Salem, Medford, Gloucester, and Marlboro.

Featured speakers included Betsy Wall, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism, and Alan Clayton-Matthews, the Associate Professor and Director of Quantitative Methods in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University.

Alan Clayton-Matthews examined the past, present, and future state of the Massachusetts economy, while Betsy Wall spoke to attendees about the importance of tourism and marketing. Ms. Wall highlighted the state's efforts to continue to attract domestic and international visitors and noted that approximately 21.3 million people visited the Commonwealth in 2011, spending about \$17 billion and contributing to the state and local economies. Mayor Mitchell also recognized the City of New Bedford as a destination for tourists and discussed his efforts to reposition the City as a location for recreational boaters.

The delegation of mayors also honored former Worcester Mayor and Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor, Tim Murray. During his tenure, Murray was a great friend to cities in the Commonwealth by directing resources to critical infrastructure improvements. Mayor Mitchell expressed his gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor, on behalf of New Bedford residents, for his support of New Bedford on offshore wind energy, commuter rail, port investments, and other City priorities.