THREE U.S. MAYORS WIN GOOGLE’S GET YOUR BUSINESS ONLINE CITY CHALLENGE

LOUISVILLE (KY) REVERE (MA) AND GARLAND (TX) HONORED FOR HELPING THEIR CITIES’ SMALL BUSINESSES GET ONLINE

Dallas, TX -- Today at the US Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting, three cities and their mayors were announced as winners of Google’s Get Your Business Online City Challenge. Mayor Rizzo from Revere, Massachusetts, Mayor Athas from Garland, Texas, and Mayor Fischer from Louisville, Kentucky will take home the honor for leading a number of initiatives to help their cities’ small businesses get online.

More than 150 Mayors and their cities participated in the City Challenge, which Google launched with the US Conference of Mayors during the 2013 Annual Meeting. Cities held events, conducted outreach, and formed partnerships to encourage local businesses to get online. The winning cities were celebrated for their creative, far reaching, and scalable efforts. For example, Revere created a “Tech Buddies” program with local high school students helping business owners create a presence online. Garland created their own Public Service Announcements with local business owners encouraging others to get online. In Louisville, the Challenge was incorporated into their Digital Economic Corridors project, which reached over 3,000 business owners.

As part of their prize package, winning cities will be given a $50,000 technology grant that includes phones, tablets, and laptops. In addition, a celebration and Google small business workshop will be hosted in each of the cities.

"Over the next 3 years, businesses that make use of the web expect to grow 40% faster than those that don’t. Yet, 58% of America’s businesses don’t have a website.” said Soo Young Kim, Marketing Manager for Google’s Get Your Business Online Program. “We are thrilled to see the great strides cities made in helping to get their local businesses online where there customers are.”

"As expected, our partnership with Google on the Get Your Business Online City Challenge has brought out the best in our nation's cities with creative strategies for engaging small businesses in communities from coast to coast. We could not be more proud of the great efforts of our winners and the over 150 cities participating in the challenge." said US Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran.

About The United States Conference of Mayors
The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are nearly 1,400 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/usmayors, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/usmayors.

About Get Your Business Online
Get Your Business Online is an easy and fast way for small businesses to get online. Small businesses need to be online because their customers are. While 97% of Internet users look online for local products and services, 55% of small businesses do not have a website or online presence. Get Your Business Online provides small businesses with a free website as well as free tools, training, and resources to help their business succeed online.