



*Leaders at the Core of Better Communities*

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ICMA Center for Performance Measurement™

### **OLATHE, KS RECOGNIZED FOR PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SUCCESSES**

**Washington, DC, July 7, 2009**—The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is pleased to announce that the City of Olathe is among only 14 jurisdictions being recognized for their superior efforts and results in performance measurement and management with a Certificate of Excellence, the highest level of recognition, from the ICMA Center for Performance Measurement™ (CPM).

In the current economic climate, performance management is more important than ever. Not only does performance management aid in cost management, program prioritization, and quality improvement, but it encourages accountability and transparency.

"The certificate program is one of the pillars of CPM," says Michael Lawson, director of CPM. "Through our certificate program, local governments are recognized for their exceptional commitment to continuous learning and improvement. The criteria on which the certificates are based serve as a checklist of effective, results-oriented management practices."

Criteria for the Certificate of Excellence include:

- reporting of performance data to the public through budgets, newsletters, and/or information provided to elected officials, with sufficient context to judge past performance
- verification efforts to ensure the data's reliability
- staff training in the principles of performance measurement
- using performance data in strategic planning and management decision-making
- sharing of performance measurement knowledge with other local governments through presentations, site-visits, and other networking
- a commitment to tracking and reporting to the public key outcome measures
- surveying of both residents and local government employees
- communicating data via public-focused and timely reports such as performance dashboards.

#### **About ICMA**

ICMA advances professional local government worldwide. Its mission is to create excellence in local governance by developing and advancing professional management of local government. ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, provides member support; publications, data, and information; peer and results-oriented assistance; and training and professional development to nearly 9,000 city, town, and county experts and other individuals and organizations throughout the world. The management decisions made by ICMA's members affect 185 million individuals living in thousands of communities.

#### **About the Center for Performance Measurement**

The Center for Performance Measurement is a service of ICMA, dedicated to helping local governments improve the effectiveness and efficiency of public services through the collection, analysis, and application of performance information. CPM currently assists over 200 towns, cities, counties, and other local government entities in the United States and Canada with the collection, analysis, and application of performance information. Eligibility for certificate consideration was open to all general purpose local governments. For a list of local governments participating in CPM and those receiving certificates, please visit [icma.org/performance](http://icma.org/performance).