



10-08-09  
(Req of Cllr. Lahey)  
amended 2/26/09

# City of Methuen, Massachusetts

## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The Searles Building • 41 Pleasant Street  
Methuen, Massachusetts 01844  
Tel: 978-983-8510 • Fax: 978-983-8975

ORDER #828

### **Ordinance Amending Chapter 10A of the Municipal Code of Methuen – Automatic Door Openers – Requirements**

**WHEREAS**, There are increasing numbers of senior citizens and disabled citizens who are active in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, These citizens have more access to public and commercial buildings due to the installations of ramps or other means facilitating said access; and

**WHEREAS**, The installations of ramps and other means with the intended purpose of assisting with the accessibility of a building but may not permit the building to be fully accessible because the door does not have an Automatic Door Opener; and

**WHEREAS**, The installation of an Automatic Door Opener would make the building with the ramp and other accessible means of access more convenient and safe regarding said access, so that individuals who use wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes or other assistive devices would not be faced with difficulty and hardship of having to physically or manually open a door that it is too heavy or awkward and thereby posing a danger to such citizens and that a Automatic Door Opener will facilitate and accommodate such citizens.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, By the City Council of the City of Methuen that Chapter 10A of the Municipal Code of Methuen, Massachusetts is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:

“Section 10A-23 Requirements - Automatic Door Openers”

All newly constructed commercial buildings or any part thereof open to and used by the public shall be required to have Automatic Door Openers as defined in 521 CMR 5.00. Said Automatic Door Openers shall be in further compliance with the applicable provisions of the State Building Code (780 CMR 1017.4.3 and 521 CMR 26 of the Architectural Access Board, or any amendments thereto).

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be enforced by the Inspectional Services Department through the Office of the Building Commissioner.

John A. Cronin, Jr.  
*Central District*

Larry F. Giordano  
*East District*

Jennifer Kannan  
*At Large*

Philip J. Lahey, Jr.  
*Central District*

Joseph A. Leone III  
*East District*

Jeanne M. Pappalardo  
*West District*

Deborah R. Quinn  
*West District*

Kenneth R. Willette, Jr.  
*At Large*

Stephen N. Zanni  
*At Large*

Note :

521 CMR 5.00

Architectural Access Board defines an Automatic Door as "A door equipped with power-operated mechanism and controls which open and close the door automatically. The switch that begins the automatic cycle may be a photoelectric device, floor mat, or manual switch (see power-assisted door).

"Power-Assisted Door": A door with a mechanism that helps to open the door or that reduces the opening resistance of a door, upon the activation of a switch or a continued force applied to the door itself."

780 CMR 1017.4.3

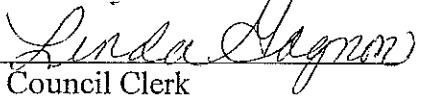
State Board of Building Regulations and Standards, in its Means of Egress-Doorways section, defines power-operated doors as "where means of egress doors are operated by power, such as doors with a photoelectric-actuated mechanism to open the door upon the approach of a person, or doors with power-assisted manual operation...."

First Read: December 15, 2008

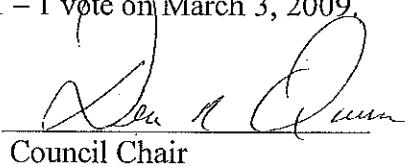
Adopted: March 3, 2009 (as amended)

Effective: April 2, 2009

I do hereby certify that at a meeting of which a quorum was present, the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Methuen City Council by a 7 - 1 - 1 vote on March 3, 2009.

  
Linda Hagnon

Council Clerk

  
Sean Quinn

Council Chair

Approved under MHRC Sec. 3-6

Date: 3-16-09

Approved:

  
William M. Manzi, III  
Mayor