

“This seems to be a really good time to dust it off and see if it would create a more stable funding platform for the Greenway,” she says.

## Power is a money magnet on Beacon Hill

► BY PAUL MCMORROW

**MONEY CHASES POWER** on Beacon Hill, and there may be no clearer example of that relationship than the campaign war chests of state Reps. John Rogers and Charles Murphy.

Rogers used to be powerful, and he had the campaign receipts to prove it. The former majority leader and Ways and Means Committee chairman rode those positions to become one of the House’s most prolific fundraisers. State

In November, Rogers will face Republican challenger Jim Stanton. Rogers is one of just five House incumbents with less cash on hand than their challengers.

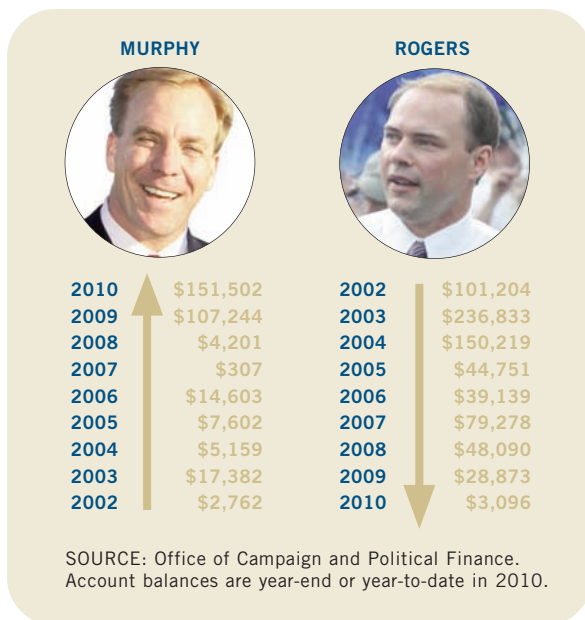
Murphy’s fortunes have also changed, but in a different direction. A former mid-level House functionary, Murphy, a Burlington Democrat, raised \$361,000 and spent \$376,000 between 2002 and 2008; those figures are somewhat inflated by Murphy’s unsuccessful 2007 campaign for an open state Senate seat. He finished 2007 with \$307 in his campaign account, and was only able to raise that total to \$4,200 by the end of 2008.

Murphy was a top vote wrangler during DeLeo’s leadership battle with Rogers, and the newly-minted Speaker DeLeo rewarded Murphy with his old perch atop Ways and Means. Leadership has been very good to Murphy. He has raised \$440,000 since his elevation, and padded his once-depleted campaign account. At last check, it stood at \$151,000.

A significant amount of cash that once flowed to Rogers is now going to Murphy. An analysis of campaign finance records between 2007 and 2010 shows a number of individual donors—many of them lobbyists, attorneys, contractors, and corporate executives—who gave to both Rogers and Murphy. All told, these donors have injected roughly \$95,000 into the two Democrats’ campaign accounts. Their donations ebbed and flowed in accordance with each politician’s proximity to power.

Those common donors gave just \$11,675 to Murphy when he was a vice-chairman in Speaker Sal DiMasi’s House; since Murphy’s ascension to the top job at Ways and Means, that total has risen to \$41,675.

The opposite has held true for Rogers: The group of repeat donors showered \$37,025 on him in 2007 and 2008, when he was majority leader and a likely future House speaker, but they’ve given him just \$4,525 since his 2009 demotion.



campaign finance records show that, between 2002 and 2008, Rogers raised, and spent, \$1.1 million.

But now, after a failed year-long campaign for House speaker against Robert DeLeo, Rogers is languishing on the back benches and being abandoned by a number of influential campaign donors. After raising \$143,000 in 2007 and \$82,000 in 2008, the Norwood Democrat saw his yearly haul fall to under \$29,000 last year; he has taken in just \$25,000 through August, the last date for which public records are available. At the end of August, the tab for Rogers’s campaign vehicle, \$6,900, exceeded the amount of cash his campaign had on hand, \$3,100.

## On Beacon Hill, help is easy to find

► BY JACK SULLIVAN

**MASSACHUSETTS LAWMAKERS HAVE** pared back the size of the legislative staff in the midst of the current recession but the state still ranks as one of the most aide-heavy legislatures in the country.

Last year, Bay State lawmakers had 903 year-round staffers to assist them in their day-to-day affairs, according to the most recent data compiled by the National