\*PRESS RELEASE\*

At the recent Alaska Municipal League Annual Local Government Conference, held in

Anchorage on November 19 -21, 2014, awards were presented to those municipalities

that have shown innovative ways in which to make their local government more

effective and efficient. Also, the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors chooses a

municipal elected official and an employee who have shown exemplary service to their

community.

This year, the City and Borough of Sitka took home two awards. The first was an AML

Community Award for the Sitka Health Summit/Citizen Health Initiative. The Health

Initiative was created with the goal of building an effective partnership between the two

hospitals and local stakeholders with which to collaborate on and achieve concrete

health and wellness goals. Three of the many successes that have come from the

Sitka Health Summit are the Bicycle Community Award, raising funds for new bike

racks, biking workshops and a National Bike to Work Week contest; the Sitka Farmer’s

Market/St. Peter’s Fellowship Farm; and the Fish to Schools Program.

Past Assembly Member Mike Reif was selected as the Alaska Municipal League

Elected Official of the Year. Mr. Reif has served as Deputy Mayor and was on the

Assembly from 1991-1994 and again from 2011-2014. He also served on many

commissions such as Planning and Zoning; the Home Rule Charter Commission; the

Sitka Investment Committee; and the Sitka School Board. He has been a resident of

Sitka for over 30 years, constructing energy efficient homes and taking part in charter

and commercial fishing. He has been a well-respected public servant, intent on

volunteering, while yet assuring his community’s financial stability for future

generations.