

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS**

**Board/Commission/Committee:** Tourism Task Force



**Seat Applying For (select only ONE):**

- |                                                                      |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sitka Tribe of Alaska Representative        | <input type="checkbox"/> Business in General           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ports and Harbors Commission Representative | <input type="checkbox"/> Tours and Attractions         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Commission Representative    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sitka Sound Cruise Terminal   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown Business Corridor                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community At-Large |

**Name:** Ronald Reda **Phone Number:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED]

**Email Address:** [REDACTED]

**Length of Residence in Sitka:** off and on 12 years **Registered to vote in Sitka?**  Yes  No

**Employer:** Searhc

**Organizations you belong to or participate in:**

Herring Protectors, *KCAW*

**Explain your main reason for applying:**

I would like to see tourism growth take as egalitarian a path as possible. I also would like to make sure environmental considerations are given weight.

**What experience or credentials will you bring to the board, commission, or committee membership?**

I have worked in tourism in Sitka previously, I also never forget that I am also a tourist when I travel.

**Please disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment. These may include but are not limited to:**

- A substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment.
- An immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment.

**To be considered, your application must be complete AND include a letter of interest, or a resume.**

**Date:** 3/28/2023 **Signature:** [Signature]

Return your completed application and letter of interest or resume to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: All information submitted is public and will be published online. Appointments are typically made during Assembly meeting open sessions. However, Assembly members may vote to discuss applicant(s) in closed executive session. In this case, do you wish to be present when your application is discussed?  Yes  No

**RETURN TO: Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk/Records Specialist**  
**Municipal Clerk's Office, 100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3 ~ Fax: 907-747-7403 ~ clerk@cityofsitka.org**

To the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly,

Hello all, my name is Ronald Reda and I would like to inform you of my interest in sitting on the new Tourism Task Force, Community at Large. I first moved to Sitka in 2003. That summer a friend of mine from Seattle came up and spent the summer with me on my 26 foot sailboat. We took a leisurely 2 months exploring Southeast Alaska. I would like to say I fell in love with Southeast then but I had fallen in love 2 years earlier on my ferry ride from Haines to Ketchikan. I couldn't believe a place like this still existed on earth.

When I moved to Sitka I felt this was my place. I have had the greatest times of my life here. It was not all perfect of course. I enjoyed all the town had to offer, made lifelong friends, and did all the things like hunting, fishing, clamming, kayaking, diving, and living in the harbor. Old Thompson. Most of my work was fishing in the summer and picking up what I could the rest of the year. It was not the most diversified economy then and it still isn't. I hit a wall eventually in 2004 and reluctantly made the move to Port Townsend, Washington (which is almost like Sitka South). I did honestly find more opportunity and a more egalitarian economic situation but, like happens to some of us, in my person the match anywhere I lived before I came back never measured up to Sitka. It was, and still is, the best place I have ever lived.

Upon my return I could sense that the town had made a shift towards embracing the cruise ship economy more than before. There are more businesses open only seasonally than before. Ludvigs was open year round! I miss that place.

The economy appears to be relatively unchanged. Housing is more of a nightmare. The same trailers from the 50's are the only options for many people. My primary objective to throwing my hat in is to make sure one person is reviewing any proposals from the perspective of someone who lived in a boat, in a trailer, in a neglected rental house. I want to make sure there is an expansive "We" perspective on the task force that does not forget the others who do not get their fingers in the tourist money pie. When I came back to Sitka I moved from Hawaii. Many of the same issues exist there, but you can wash dishes for 25 dollars an hour. Here, wages are flat and not equitable. I would like to make sure that any move we make looks at the effects from the top to the bottom.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ronald Reda

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Reda', written in a cursive style.