



**CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA  
BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPLICATION**

Municipal Clerk's Office, 100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3  
Phone: 907.747.1826 Fax: 907.747.7403 Email: [clerk@cityofsitka.org](mailto:clerk@cityofsitka.org)

**Submit this completed application AND either a letter of interest or resume to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.**

Board/Commission/Committee Applying For: Tourism Commission

Name: Chris McGraw Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Length of Residence in Sitka: 45 years Registered to vote in Sitka?  Yes  No

Employer Business Name and your position: Halibut Point Marine Services - General Manager

Organizations you belong to or participate in:

None

**Explain your main reason for applying:**

I am passionate about enhancing Sitka's tourism landscape and ensuring sustainable growth that benefits both the local economy and residents. With my experience in operating businesses within the cruise industry and my knowledge of the needs of both visitors and the local community, I want to contribute to Sitka's long-term tourism planning and operations.

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

I have extensive experience managing tourism-related businesses, including a shuttle bus service, cruise terminal operations, and tour operations. My background in handling large volumes of cruise passengers, strategic business planning, and collaboration with local stakeholders positions me to contribute valuable insights on improving the visitor experience and maximizing economic benefits for Sitka

**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

**Potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment must be disclosed.** These may include, but are not limited to, a substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment, or an immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment. **Do you have any potential conflicts of interest to disclose?**  Yes  No

**If yes, please explain:**

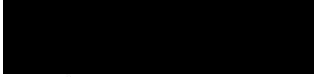
As a business owner operating within Sitka's tourism sector, I acknowledge a potential conflict of interest. However, this is not unique to me, as the vast majority of the community is similarly impacted by tourism due to its significant role in our local economy. I believe that my experience within the industry allows me to offer valuable insights and a balanced perspective that will benefit both the community and its stakeholders. I am committed to full transparency and will recuse myself from any discussions or decisions that may present a direct conflict.

*I understand this is a volunteer position appointed by the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly and requires regular meeting attendance. I further understand this application is public information and the merits of my appointment may be discussed at a public forum. In addition, my name may be published in media outlets. If I am appointed to serve, I will follow all laws, procedures, and practices associated with my appointment.*

*I certify that the information in my application is true and accurate.*

Date: 10-10-24 Applicant Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

**Chris McGraw**



October 10, 2024

Municipal Clerk  
City and Borough of Sitka  
100 Lincoln Street, Floor 3  
Sitka, AK 99835

Dear Municipal Clerk,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Tourism Commission for the City and Borough of Sitka. As an active member of our community and a business owner with a deep connection to Sitka's tourism industry, I am eager to contribute my experience and insights to ensure the continued growth and sustainability of tourism in Sitka.

Tourism plays a pivotal role in our local economy, and as someone who has firsthand experience managing businesses in the cruise sector, I understand both the opportunities and challenges it presents. I am passionate about working towards solutions that benefit not only our visitors but also our residents and the broader community.

I recognize that my involvement in the tourism sector presents a potential conflict of interest, but I believe this also enables me to offer valuable insights into the industry. I am committed to transparency and will recuse myself from any matters where a direct conflict may arise. My goal is to represent the community's best interests and ensure that our tourism strategies align with Sitka's long-term growth and sustainability goals.

I am confident that my skills in business management, strategic planning, and community engagement would make a positive contribution to the Tourism Commission. I am excited about the possibility of serving our community in this capacity and look forward to the opportunity to help shape the future of tourism in Sitka.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the City and Borough of Sitka's tourism efforts.

Sincerely,  
Chris McGraw