

## CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

#### PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

100 Lincoln Street | Sitka, AK 99835 www.cityofsitka.com planning@cityofsitka.org 907-747-1814

Dear Members of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

On behalf of the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS), I respectfully submit this letter in support of our request for three additional restaurant or eating place licenses (REPLs) for our local eateries. In accordance with AS 04.11.405, the CBS Assembly has passed a resolution petitioning for the three (3) additional licenses.

To provide additional context for the data points and rationale used in our resolution, please find our more detailed responses to several of the requirements for REPL petitions by local governing bodies as listed in AS 04.11.405 below.

#### Local, Visitor, and Nonresident Population Counts

In addition to its permanent resident population of 8,063<sup>1</sup>, Sitka serves as a hub of regional commerce in Southeast Alaska due to its strategic location and established fishing and seafood industry. CBS is investing heavily in its seafood and maritime industries through the recently constructed marine haul-out facility to serve our local fleet and those who come from all over the region to access Sitka's expansive fishing grounds.

Expansion within the Sitka's healthcare sector has further increased travel by those seeking medical attention and itinerant healthcare professionals. The Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) is one of the largest Native-run healthcare organizations in the nation which serves 26 communities and over 41,000 patients in Southeast Alaska<sup>2</sup>. Sitka's Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center is the largest of SEARHC's two hospital facilities and provides medical services not only to Sitka residents, but to patients from across the region who require services not available at their local outpatient or traveling clinic facilities<sup>2</sup>.

Tourism in Sitka has experienced significant post-pandemic growth, with cruise visitation rising from a previous peak of almost 290,000 annual visitors<sup>3</sup> to over 585,000 annual visitors in 2023<sup>4</sup>, over 600,000 visitors in 2024<sup>5</sup>, almost 580,000 visitors in

<sup>3</sup> Visit Sitka. "Sitka Historic Cruise Passenger Visitation." December 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office. "Population as of July 2024." February 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SEARHC. "2024 Year in Numbers." March 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2023 Cruise Passenger Count." November 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2024 Cruise Passenger Count." January 2025.

2025<sup>6</sup>, and over 600,000 expected for the 2026 season<sup>7</sup>. It is also notable that cruise passenger numbers as reported by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska (CLAA) do not include smaller cruise lines they are not associated/partnered with, or yachts that CLAA services which in 2024 was estimated to be approximately 5,000 additional visitors.<sup>4</sup> Independent travel to Sitka has also risen, with summer enplanement at the Sitka Rocky Guiterrez Airport rising 15% between 2017 and 2024, and the number of nights rented at short-term rentals regulated by the CBS Planning & Community Development Department growing 52% between 2018 and 2024<sup>8</sup>. Visit Sitka, our local visitor and convention bureau, estimates that over 65,000 independent travelers arrived in Sitka via air travel in 2022 and 2023<sup>9</sup>.

Sitka's economy, particularly its seasonally-driven seafood and tourism sectors, rely on non-local employment. The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development reported that 3,184 non-local workers (369 non-local Alaska residents and 2,815 non-residents) worked in Sitka in 2023<sup>10</sup>.

In consideration of our petition, CBS closely reviewed recent petitions for additional REPLs from other local governments including the City and Borough of Juneau (Juneau), the City of Homer (Homer), the City of Valdez (Valdez), the City of Wasilla (Wasilla), the City and Borough of Haines (Haines) and the City of Soldotna (Soldotna). The resulting population-to-REPL ratios are demonstrated in the below table:

Community	Petition Date	Pre- Petition Active Licenses	Total Available Licenses Post- Petition	Permanent Resident Population	Greater Area Population	Non- Local/Non- Resident Worker Population	Visitor Population	Total Population	Total Population per License Post- Petition
Juneau	4/15/2025	22	30	31,336	-	4,000	1,600,000	1,635,336	54,511
Homer	4/15/2025	15	20	5,648	12,811	-	231,057	249,516	12,476
Haines	2/4/2025	3	5	2,575	-	-	173,500	176,075	35,215
Soldotna	4/16/2024	6	26	4,342	59,819	-	330,678	394,839	15,186
Wasilla	11/13/2023	15	35	9,547	102,205	=	174,000	285,752	8,164
Valdez	8/22/2023	6	16	3,950	5,682	5,922	73,306	88,860	5,554
Sitka	<b>Pending</b>	8	<mark>11</mark>	<mark>8,063</mark>	-	<mark>3,184</mark>	<mark>665,000</mark>	676,247	<mark>61,477</mark>

Sitka currently has 6 active, year-round REPLs, and 2 active, seasonal REPLs. In determining the appropriate number of additional licenses to request, CBS aimed to have commensurate post-petition licenses to population ratios with the other two Southeast Alaska communities that have had recent petitions approved, Juneau and Haines, to account for the unique geographic isolation of Southeast Alaska communities and the nature of the visitor industry in the region. With 3 additional REPLs approved, Sitka's resulting license to population ratio would be lower than those as approved by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2025 Cruise Passenger Count." October 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Daily Sitka Sentinel. "Cruise Dock Owner Hails Progress Over Season." September 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> City and Borough of Sitka. "2024 Annual Short-Term Rental Report." April 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Visit Sitka. "Annual Workplan & Budget Request FY25." April 2024.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 10}$  Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. "Nonresidents Working in Alaska, 2023." February 2025.

the ABC Board for Juneau and Haines earlier this year, and would represent the lowest post-petition license to population ratio in any of the above communities if approved.

#### **Public Interest**

The granting of additional REPLs in Sitka is in the public interest to support our local business community as well as providing improved service to locals and visitors alike. As was noted during consideration of this petition by our Tourism Commission and Planning Commission, additional REPLs could support growth and sustainability for year-round food businesses/restaurants. Increasing the number of REPLs will allow for existing businesses to grow, new businesses to start, and for both to meet the demand of our sizeable visitor and seasonal worker populations while still providing year-round employment and dining options for locals. In order to best preserve these public interests, the Assembly has also stated, through the adopted resolution, its preference to have established, year-round businesses (those that operate during at least ten months per year) prioritized in cases of mutually exclusive applications for the additional licensed issued through the ABC Board's acceptance of this petition.

#### **Public Comment Period**

In consideration of this request, CBS offered several public comment opportunities including:

- A review and recommendation for approval by our Tourism Commission occurred on July 10, 2025, which was publicly advertised and included an opportunity for public testimony.
- A notice was sent to all active alcohol license holders in Sitka on July 22, 2025, which provided instruction on options for written, telephonic, and in-person comment at the August 12, 2025, Assembly meeting.
- The Assembly co-sponsors of the resolution published a Letter to the Editor in the Sitka Sentinel on August 4, 2025, providing the public with information about the petition and instructions on options for written, telephonic, and in-person comment at the August 12, 2025, Assembly meeting.
- The Assembly took public comment at its August 12, 2025, meeting which was publicly advertised, and when the resolution was first considered. The resolution was amended and postponed for further public comment and review by the Planning Commission.
- A notice was sent to all active alcohol license holders in Sitka on September 22, 2025, which provided instruction on options for written, telephonic, and in-person comment at the October 1, 2025, Planning Commission meeting.
- A review and recommendation for approval by our Planning Commission occurred on October 1, 2025, which was publicly advertised and included an opportunity for public testimony.

- A review by our Health Needs and Human Services Commission occurred on October 15, 2025, which was publicly advertised and included an opportunity for public testimony.
- A notice was sent to all active alcohol license holders in Sitka on October 20, 2025, which provided instruction on options for written, telephonic, and in-person comment at the October 28, 2025, Assembly meeting.
- The Assembly took public comment at its October 28, 2025, meeting which was publicly advertised and when the resolution passed.

Copies of public notices, notices to active alcohol license holders, meeting minutes, and written public comments are enclosed for the Board's reference.

In conclusion, the City and Borough of Sitka thanks the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for its consideration of our petition to issue three additional REPLs in Sitka which we believe meets all of the requirements of AS 04.11.405. CBS staff members are happy to provide any additional information ahead of, or at, the Board's meeting at which this petition will be considered.

Sincerely,

[TO BE SIGNED & SUBMITTED UPON ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION]

Amy Ainslie
Planning and Community Development Director
City and Borough of Sitka

#### **ENCLOSED**

Attachment A: Public Review & Comment

Attachment B: Cited Sources

#### **Attachment A: Public Review & Comment**

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## CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### **Historic Preservation Commission**

The Sitka Historic Preservation Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting **6:15 p.m.** Wednesday, July **9, 2025**, in Harrigan Centennial Hall. The Commission will hold officer elections, discuss a memorial and street naming policy, and consider a remodel at 106 Lincoln Street, and placement of a cell tower on wheels at 1330 Seward Avenue. Public comment is welcome. Commission meetings are open to the public; for more information, please contact the Planning Department at planning@cityofsitka.org or planning@cityofsitka.org, or call (907) 747-1814.

Published: July 7, 2025

## LEGAL NOTICE

#### **Tourism Commission**

The Tourism Commission will hold its regular meeting 6:00 pm Thursday, July 10, 2025 in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include a review of a municipal petition to the State of Alaska's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restaurant and eating place licenses in Sitka, and review of a zoning change regulating development of new cruise docks. The public is welcome to attend.

Amy Ainslie, Planning & Community Development Director

Published: July 7, 2025

## SENTINEL Classifieds

Sentinel Classifieds: your BEST BUY for the Sitka market Your print ad here runs free at www.sitkasentinel.com Email us at news@sitkasentinel.com or go to 112 Barracks St.



Would you like to join a team making from-scratch meals for students in Sitka schools?

## Join the NEW SSD **Food Service Team**



TO APPLY

**NOW HIRING** 

FOOD SERVICE TECH (HEAD COOK) (\$30.56-\$37.42 DOE PLUS BENEFITS)

**FOOD SERVICE ASSISTANTS (COOKS)** (\$23.19-\$28.25 DOE PLUS BENEFITS)

## **Help Wanted**

BRAVE HEART Volunteers is hiring an Executive Director. 30hrs/wk \$50-65,000 DOE email

board@braveheartvolunteers.org for job description and apply by sending resume and cover letter by 7/16.

POSITION VACANCY: The Sitka School District is accepting applications for a full-time building secretary position at Blatchley Middle School. Qualifications include high school diploma or equivalent, and ability to or ganize an efficient, businesslike office. Proficiency in use of Microsoft Office 365 is recommended. Current CPR & First Aid Card required. Position begins July 31, 2024. Starting wage: \$23.19, plus benefits. Closing date: Open until filled. Apply on the district website: sitkaschools.org, click on Employment. The Sitka School District is an equal opportunity employer. Alaska Natives are encouraged to apply.

THE SENTINEL has newspaper delivery routes available on:

Katlian St., Edgecumbe Dr. Georgeson Loop, Lance/Wolff/Anna Drive, &

Call Hayley or Sarah at 747-3219 for

## Parkinson's Disease Support Group On

Sitka has an active Parkinson's Disease support group that meets 4:30-5:30 p.m. each Wednesday at 1212 Seward Avenue, on the road just past SEARHC hospital.

Those who are affected by Parkinson's and their health care support people are invited to understand more about the disease.

"This is a group that learns something new every week and supports each other in exercising, emotionally and in new information," organizers

"Parkinson's does not have to define a person. We can live a good life and learn new ways to cope, making life better every day.

Those with questions can call or text Marjorie at 907-738-3078 or Sonny at

#### Keystone Kops Sought by Group

The Alaska Day Committee is seeking local women to become Keystone Kops.

Participants are in parades, hang with the pipers, and visit schools and hospitals, among other activities.

For an application and interview, contact Laurie at 907 738-6919.

#### **Items for Sale**

PAINT FOR Sale! Commercial quantity, quality exterior/interior (mostly 5-gal. containers). 3704 HPR. Please check out paint evenings/late after-

#### **Business Services**

OCEANSIDE EXCAVATION. One-stop source for all excavation and concrete work. Land development, grading, driveway work, rock walls, concrete foundation, retaining walls, patios, concrete driveways, curbs, gutters, and much more. Call for estimate, 738-1027.

#### Cuban Dance Party On Tap

Friends of Sitka Circus Arts in partnership with the Baranof Bruins Wrestling Club and Sitka Cirque will co-host a Cuban dance party fundraiser July 12 at the Sitka Cirque Studio, 207 Smith Street.

The family friendly event will begin with dance lessons led by Brendan Jones and Jasmine Shaw, teaching the steps and moves for Rueda de Casino-style circle dances, in which dancers move in response to a designated

Following lessons will be four hours of dancing to put those moves to use. Homecooked Cuban food will be available for purchase.

Lessons for 7-13 years is set 5-5:45 p.m.; 14-year-olds and older will be taught 6-7 p.m. Class sizes are limited to 20. The dance is 7-11 p.m. and is

Fees for the lessons and dance combo are: under 14, \$10; and teens and adults, \$15. For the dance only 5-14 years, \$5; and teens and adults, \$10.

#### **Intergenerational Paddling Offered**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska will offer in July an intergenerational kayaking series to explore surrounding waters and build connections.

The program is designed for those in tribal households to attend as intergenerational pairs. The program will equip participants with the skills and confidence to safely recreate on the water, strengthen family ties and will weave in cultural components, STA said.

Registration is required. Contact Anna Schumacher in Social Services at 907 966-9662 with questions. Dates and times are 9 a.m.-noon July 22, 24,

The registration link is https:// forms.gle/xdTsP8c4cJPrhox67.

## **Police Blotter**

Sitka Police Department reported the following calls over the holiday

At 8:48 a.m. police were asked to assist troopers in investigating a report of a domestic disurbance on a cruise ship that was due to dock at the cruise ship terminal later that day. Results were forwarded to troopers; alcohol may have been a factor, the report said. Police made no arrests.

Two vehicles were involved in an accident in the 200 block of Lincoln Street at 11:36 a.m. There was some damage but no injuries.

A driver at the National Park visitor center drove away when a park ranger tried to pull him over. Federal citations may be issued.

At 7:40 p.m. a caller complained of a dog off-leash at Moller field in spite of city ordinance. The animal control officer was to be notified.

An intoxicated person in the 1500 block of HPR was found to be able to care for himself.

July 4

At 6:12 a.m. a bear was reported to have eaten some chickens in the 2000 block of Cascade Creek Road.

At 11:21 a.m. an intoxicated woman was reported on the ground at Sandy Beach. Police checked on her and found she was OK.

A complaint of harassment turned out to be a misunderstanding.

A trooper cited a driver on Katlian Street for driving with a revoked li-

At 10:38 p.m. a bear again was reported after chickens in the 2000 block of Cascade Creek Road.

At 11:25 p.m. an incident of drunkenness was reported at ANB Harbor. July 5

At 12:38 a.m. a caller in the Baranof and Biorka streets area said she'd returned from work and found someone had broken out the passenger side window of her vehicle.

At 8:47 a.m. a bear and two cubs were reported eating berries in the area of Charteris Street and Wortman Loop. At 12:21 p.m. a sign was reported

left in the middle of the roundabout. It was to be removed. At 8:56 p.m. bears were reported getting into garbage on Shelikof Way.

An out-of-town caller asked for a welfare check on a daughter not heard from in a while. However, the daughter texted the parent shortly afterward.

At 11 p.m. callers complained of fireworks on Lance Drive. July 6

At 12:07 a.m. callers complained of fireworks on Kaasda Heen Court.

At 4:23 a.m. an incident involving drunkenness was reported at ANB Harbor. Police determined those involved were able to take care of them-

At 5:20 a.m. a bear and two cubs were reported trying to get into trash on Tilson Street.

At 8:35 p.m. a bear was reported in the 2300 block of HPR.

At 9:38 p.m. an aggressive dog was reported in the ball field next to Blatchofficers arrived.

An incident of drunkenness was reported at 12:35 a.m. in the 200 block of Katlian Street, after a bartender refused service.

#### **Emergency Calls**

Sitka Fire Department responded to four ambulance calls and a boat fire call at Eliason Harbor on Thursday. On Friday, the 4th of July, it received nine ambulance calls, one search & rescue call and two fire calls. On Saturday, three ambulance calls and one fire call came in; and on Sunday, two ambulance calls and two fire calls were logged.

#### Sitka Police

Dennis Flores Velazquez, 26, of Davenport, Florida, was charged Fri-

day night with disorderly conduct.

Jack R. McNamee, 22, of Nevis,
Minnesota, was charged Saturday with driving under the influence.

Joshua Laukala, 33, of Puyallup, Washington, was charged Saturday with felony driving under the influence and failure to give immediate notice of

#### Non-Profits Offered **Grant Funding**

Grant applications are available for non-profit organizations to apply for annual funding from the City and Borough of Sitka FY 26 general fund.

A total of \$45,000 is available for disbursement. Applications are available at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street, 3rd Floor, in the municipal clerk's office, and at www.cityofsitka.com.

Completed applications can be submitted to the Municipal Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15. Applications received after the time fixed for receipt will not be considered, the city said in a news release. Applications will be awarded in September at a special Assembly meeting. For information, contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 907 747-1826 or clerk@cityofsitka.org.

#### **STA Zumba Slated Fridays**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska Zumba classes with Harper and Anna will continue 5:30-6:15 p.m. Fridays July 11, 18 and 25 at the Blatchley Middle School multipurpose Room.



Parton Imagination Library. From left are Kelly Schwarz, Sitka Woman's provided to the Sentinel)

## Workshops To Be Held On **Homemade Foods In July**

A series of workshops will be held in July on the updated rules for selling homemade foods, how to preserve vegetables by making and canning soups and pickles, and food preservation

Workshops will be led by Sarah Lewis, a health, home and family development agent for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service, and Jasmine Shaw, Extension program assistant in Sitka.

Lewis will lead a free workshop 5:30-7:30 p.m. July 8 to discuss the new Homemade Food Exemption rules. The

#### **Dinner, Cruise** For Little League

All are invited to support Sitka Little League by attending a Fin Island dinner and cruise fundraiser July 13.

The Allen Marine boat will depart from Crescent Harbor at 5:15 p.m. The cost is \$150 per person.

A 30-minute harbor cruise will be followed by a dinner of Alaskan crab, wild salmon, prime rib, desserts and side dishes at Fin Island Lodge.

A beach bonfire, complete with s'mores, will follow dinner. Call or text Savanah at 805-698-

3014 for more information and tickets. The league is raising funds for new equipment, rising field costs and future all-stars, a press release said.

#### **Community Picnic Listed for July 12**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska will host its annual community picnic 11 a.m.-3 p.m. July 12 at the Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School playground.

It will be an afternoon of traditional and picnic foods, games, and community gathering. All are invited to attend.

#### **Marine Cruise** Offered by STA

Sitka Tribe of Alaska is offering an afternoon on the water 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1. 'Come explore the beauty of Sitka

and get an up-close look at the incredible marine life," STA said in a news release. "Join us for a time of connection with nature and one another!"

Those who register will receive follow-up details about the meeting time and location. It is no cost to Tribal citizens and snacks will be provided.

Register at: https://forms.gle/XKEga7yF6zEx44aW6.

#### Calendar of Events

## **MONDAY**

5:30-6:30 p.m. AA, Sitka Pioneers Home Recreation Kitchen, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information 6 p.m. White Elephant Shop open **TUESDAY** 

6-8 a.m. MEHS Aquatic Center pool 10:30 a.m. Sitka Sprouts, ages 3-5 years and caregivers, Sitka Sound

Science Center Noon Sitka Fine Arts Camp Tuesdays at Twelve concert, Odess Theater Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call

AA hotline 747-8866 for information

Noon Rotary Club, UAS-Sitka Campus Room 230 5:30 p.m. Homemade Food Exemption rules presentation, Sitka Public

6 p.m. Assembly, Centennial Hall WEDNESDAY 6-8 a.m. MEHS Aquatic Center pool

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Made in Sitka Market, Harrigan Centennial Hall
11-2 Salvation Army Little Store

Noon White Elephant Shop open Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information Noon STA Tribal Council, via Teleconference

4:30 p.m. Sitka Parkinson's Support Group, 1212 Seward Ave. (the old BOQ) 907 747-3461 5:30 p.m. Scripture Walk, national park visitor center

. 7 p.m. Sitka Sportsman's Association Indoor Range open 7 p.m. AA, St. Gregory's Church, 606 Etolin Street, info: 907-747-8866 workshop is for people who have or would like to start a home-based food business, support local foods, or offer

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation significantly revised the rules, formerly called the Alaska Cottage Foods Exemption, in 2024. Knowledge of the new rules will help ensure compliance and help people understand the risks and opportunities associated with homemade foods, Lewis said.

The workshop will be held at Sitka

will learn to make healthy, homecanned vegetable soups from garden to pantry using a pressure cooker. The group also will learn to make vegetable pickles using the water bath method. The workshop will be at Sitka Lutheran Church. The cost is \$40. Children under 12 can attend for free if accompanied by an adult taking the class.

10 outlining the most important food jarring, and how to minimize those food and nutrition education and other food-focused programming. It will run

# Sitka Tells Tales

Sitka Tells Tales, the local live storytelling series, will present "Breakthrough ll: Stories of Unexpected Change & Seeing Anew" 7-8 p.m. Friday, July 11, at Harbor Mountain Brewery.

It will feature true stories rehearsed and then told live before an audience by friends and neighbors, hosted by Artchange, Inc.

The program will then air/stream on KCAW Raven Radio in August.

#### **STA Planning Fish Distribution**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska will have a fish distribution event 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, July 11, at SPC Cold Storage. Elders are welcome to go to the

front of the line. "We honor and prioritize our elders at all community events," STA said. Contact Jade with any questions at

### SFS, Coliseum Set Screening for 'Wedding Banquet'

Sitka Film Society and Coliseum Theater will present "The Wedding Banquet" 5 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at

the Coliseum Theater. The film, rated R, is a joyful comedy of errors about "a chosen family navigating cultural identity, queerness and family expectations," according to one description. It stars Bowen Yang and Lily Gladstone, and is inspired by the original film, made in 1993 by Ang

Tickets are \$10 at Old Harbor Books and the door.

#### Tuesdays at Twelve Concerts Planned

All are invited to the Sitka Fine Arts Camp's free "Tuesdays at Twelve" concert series noon July 8 and 15 at the Odess Theater at Allen Hall.

Concerts will highlight the many emerging musicians involved in SFAC. Each performance will be family-friendly and feature a different mu-

#### Scripture Walks Set in the Park

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church will lead Scripture Walks in Sitka National Historical Park 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays through July 30.

All are welcome to meet at the visitor center for a short walk to enjoy nature and reflect on sacred readings and prayers.

For information, send an email to stpetersbytheseak@gmail.com or call 907 747-3977 and leave a message for a call back. The church is located at 611 Lincoln Street, and is open every day to stop in for a time of quiet reflection and prayer.

#### PBS, Library Set **Program for Parents**

Alaska Public Media PBS Kids and Sitka Public Library invite parents and/ or caretakers of children 3 to 8 years old to attend a "PBS Kids Growing Up Well: Supporting Your child's Social Emotional & Character Development" program 4-6 p.m. July 31 at the library.

velop their social an emotional skills and habits with their favorite characters including Daniel Tiger and Sesame Participants can join the PBS team

The program will help children de-

to learn techniques that will help a child become more self-aware and have more self-control. To register call the library at 907

747-4020. Snacks and refreshments

will be provided. Each family will receive a \$50 gift card. For information call 907 747-4020 or e-mail Maite at maite.lorente@city-

#### **Animal Shelter Survey Available**

Friends of Sitka Animal Shelter is seeking community input on what type of animal shelter services they'd like to

see in Sitka. The group has a 5- to 10-minute survey that can be found on its website at www.sitkaanimalfriends.org and its

Facebook page. Additionally, paper copies of the survey can be filled out at the Sitka Public Library.

#### **Grants Offered to Cancer Victims**

Sitka Cancer Survivors Society offers grants to those dealing with cancer. Applications can be picked up at Sitka Realty, 228 Harbor Drive.

The public is reminded of the Path of Hope, an inspirational park located next to Moller track. Donations are being accepted at P.O. Box 1624, Sitka. The organization

**SECON** SOUTHEAST ALASKA

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SECON Granite Creek Quarry **OPEN Monday to Saturday** 8am-4pm

For a FREE estimate and info on pricing, please call: 907-747-8514

# **CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA**

LEGAL NOTICE **Historic Preservation Commission** 

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#### LEGAL NOTICE **Tourism Commission**

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Amy Ainslie, Planning & Community Development Director

Published: July 7, 2025



MINI GRANT - Sitka Woman's Club recently donated \$500 to the Dolly Club; Nicole Filipek, Dolly Parton Imagination Library representative; Kimberly Gleason, club member; and Sarah Allison, club member. (Photo

# homemade foods through their market.

Public Library.
On July 9, 5:30-9 p.m., participants

Lewis will lead a free class July

and public safety risks associated with food preservation, such as canning and risks. It is designed for community and Tribal leaders and organizations involved with community gardens and farms, food security and sovereignty, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the library.

Individuals can register using the online form or visit https://bit.ly/Sitka-

For more information, contact Jasmine Shaw at jdshaw2@alaska.edu or 907-747-9440.

# Live Event Set



in Sitka! **Residential • Commercial** 

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#### CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

## Meeting Minutes Tourism Commission

Officers: Chair Jeremy Plank; Vice Chair Ian Dempster; and Secretary Carol Bryant-Martin

Members: Devon Calvin; Vaughn Hazel; Bethany Lowrance; Alana Peterson; and Rachel Roy, Visit Sitka (Ex

Officio)

Staff Liaison: Amy Ainslie, P&CD Director (Ex Officio); Holly Bayne, Deputy City Clerk.

Assembly Liaison: Chris Ystad, Scott Saline (Alternate)

July 10, 2025 6:00 P.M. Harrigan Centennial Hall

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeremy Plank called the Tourism Commission meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Present: Carol Bryant-Martin; Devon Calvin; Ian Dempster; Vaughn Hazel; Bethany Lowrance;

Alana Peterson (arrived 6:15 p.m.); Jeremy Plank; Scott Saline (Assembly)

**Absent:** Rachel Roy (excused) **Staff:** Amy Ainslie, P&CD Director

**Public:** Richard Wein, Larry Edwards, Thor Christianson (Assembly)

Secretary Bryant-Martin confirmed quorum was present.

#### III. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

No agenda changes were made.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M-Bryant-Martin/S-Dempster moved to approve the May 8, 2025 and June 12, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

## A. Review of a municipal petition to the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restaurant and eating licenses in Sitka.

Commission members reviewed Ainslie's 7/3/25 memo regarding a petition and draft CBS resolution for additional restaurant and eating place licenses (REPLs) in the City and Borough of Sitka. Ainslie stated REPLs are only available for "bona fide restaurants" to sell brewed beverages and wine on licensed premises (hard liquor not permitted). Ainslie also stated municipalities in Alaska cannot have more than 1 REPL per 1,500 residents without a petition. She presented the State's criteria for additional REPL petitions as well as an overview of other Alaskan municipalities' approved petitions in recent years which included Juneau, Homer, Haines, Valdez, Wasilla, and Soldotna which were based on ratios of licenses to permanent residents, visitors, and non-residents. Ainslie recommended that Commissioners take public comment and provide suggestions for the Assembly to consider on the draft resolution/petition. Commissioners discussed population estimates and felt CBS could possibly qualify for 8 to 12 additional licenses. Richard Wein spoke in favor of the petition and suggested the city apply for ten or more to accommodate growing demand from visitors. Scott Saline stated that 4 licenses wasn't enough for Sitka. Assembly co-sponsor for the resolution, Thor Christianson, spoke in favor of the petition but cautioned against requesting too many licenses such that the petition would not be approved. Commission

members discussed the goals of promoting economic growth and supporting small businesses by applying for as many REPLs as possible. Peterson spoke to the financial difficulties of running a restaurant in Sitka, especially in the winter months, without an REPL. There was discussion on what the right number to request would be. Lowrance stated she was aware of 4-5 businesses that would be highly interested in applying for additional licenses if available. Calvin stated four additional licenses was too many.

M-Bryant-Martin/S-Lowrance moved to support the City and Borough of Sitka's petition to the Alaska State Alcoholic Control Board to issue up to six additional restaurant or eating place licenses. Motion passed 6-1 by roll call vote with Calvin opposed.

#### B. Review a zoning change regulating the development of new cruise docks

Ainslie presented current efforts and progress on a zoning change to regulate the development of new cruise ship docks based on recommendation #23 from the Tourism Task Force that the Planning Commission was working on. Key provisions included proposed definitions of "cruise ship" and "cruise ship dock", which zones had been identified as allowing cruise ship docks as a conditional use versus being a prohibited use, proposed permit submission requirements, and criteria for evaluating impacts of proposed cruise ship docks as a part of the permitting process. Commissioners asked about the extent of zoning for the whole borough, with Ainslie noting that the majority of lands in the borough (outside of the road system and islands in Sitka Sound) are not zoned. Commissioners asked Ainslie how existing cruise ship docks would be affected by the zoning change, and Ainslie responded by stating that existing docks would be allowed to continue under legal non-conforming use permits. Peterson stated that she would like to see more consideration of environmental impacts in permitting potential cruise ship dock developments, recognizing Ainslie's comments that many environmental standards were monitored and enforced at State and Federal levels. Ainslie stated that compliance with State and Federal laws was a common condition of approval for conditional use permits which helps to promote environmental protections.

Plank opened the floor for public comment. Larry Edwards and Richard Wein advocated that in the zoning change, cruise ship docks should be prohibited in all zones as it served as a stronger form of protection against additional cruise ship docks that the community may not wish to see developed as opposed to allowing the use conditionally. Edwards also stated that cruise ship docks should also be prohibited in all un-zoned areas of the borough.

Commissioners reviewed the list of proposed zones in which cruise ship docks would be a conditional use, and discussed changing it to a prohibited use in all or more zones. Commissioners discussed the merits (stronger regulatory position to deny proposals) and drawbacks (deterrence of economic development/investment in Sitka) of making the use prohibited in all zones. The Commission decided it would be best to have the Planning Commission consider these comments, re-evaluate zoning districts in which cruise ship docks would be conditional versus prohibited, and review again once this had taken place. No action was taken.

#### V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (For items ON or OFF the agenda and not to exceed 3 minutes)

Scott Saline shared information he had learned at a recent meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding Fort Babcock, and his concern about the lack of public process regarding permitting of commercial users to take visitors there and Shoal's Point. Larry Edwards stated that he would like to see recordings of Commission meetings made more publicly accessible by posting them on the city website. Richard Wein echoed Larry Edward's comments and added that he would also like meeting transcripts be made available. Wein also commented on liquor licenses noting that SEARHC held a license and support

for six or more additional licenses, and reiterated his previous statements on the zoning change for cruise ship docks and making them a prohibited use in all zones.

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

M-Bryant-Martin/S-Lowrance moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes By: Carol Bryant-Martin, Secretary

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 22, 2025 2:33 PM **Cc:** Holley Bayne; Brian Schoenfelder

**Subject:** Liquor License Information: Addt'l Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in Sitka **Attachments:** DRAFT Resolution 2025-xx\_Addtl REPLs.pdf; Addtl REPL Petition\_Background Info.pdf

Importance: High

Hello,

The City and Borough of Sitka is reaching out to all active alcohol license holders in Sitka to share the attached resolution, which is scheduled for public hearing at the August 12<sup>th</sup> regular Assembly meeting (the full agenda will be posted on August 8). Please feel free to forward this message to other interested parties.

Under Alaska Statute 04.11.405, qualifying municipalities may submit a resolution to the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board to petition for the issuance of additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses (REPLs). The attached resolution requesting six additional REPLs for Sitka has been cosponsored by Assembly Members Thor Christianson and Chris Ystad. If passed by the Assembly on August 12<sup>th</sup>, the petition will be submitted to the ABC Board for consideration at their September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### August 12, 2025, Assembly Meeting Information

#### **Meeting Time & Location**

🦞 Harrigan Centennial Hall – 330 Harbor Drive, room 6

① 6:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment Options**

- Attend in person
- Testify by phone register with the Municipal Clerk's Office by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 11**, by emailing clerk@cityofsitka.org or calling 907-747-1826
- Submit written comments in advance to <a href="mailto:assembly@cityofsitka.org">assembly@cityofsitka.org</a>

#### **Meeting Packet**

Available online by noon on August 8:

https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Along with the resolution, we have also attached background information for your reference. Please don't hesitate to contact the Municipal Clerk's Office with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



**Sara Peterson** Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.

#### Letters to the Editor

#### Additional Alcohol Licenses

**Dear Editor:** In this time of economic growth, we think most Sitkans can agree on at least one thing – how exciting it is to see (and taste) all the new and expanding food businesses! Restaurants, cafes, and other food-service businesses give locals and visitors alike the opportunity to gather, dine and, on occasion, enjoy a glass of beer or wine with their meal.

Currently, restaurants and eating place licenses (REPLs) that allow these businesses to serve beer and wine are limited to six for Sitka based on our permanent resident population, all of which are spoken for. This is why we are co-sponsoring a resolution to petition the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for 6 additional REPLs in Sitka.

It is our hope that by increasing the number of available REPLs in Sitka, new and expanding food-service businesses will have the opportunity to widen their offerings to meet local and visitor demand, and make year-round operations (at least little) more financially feasible.

The Assembly will consider this resolution at its regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 12, starting at 6 p.m. at Harrigan Centennial Hall. The resolution and supporting materials will be available to view online by noon on Friday, Aug. 8, at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx.

We encourage anyone who is interested in providing public comment on this resolution to:

- Attend the Assembly meeting in-person
- Testify by phone by registering with the Municipal Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 11, by emailing clerk@cityofsitka.org or calling 907 747-1826
  - Submit written comments in advance to assembly@cityofsitka.org.
     We hope that Sitkans join us in our support for local eateries!

Assembly Members Thor Christianson and Chris Ystad

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Submit written comments in advance to assembly@cityofsitka.org.

We hope that Sitkans join us in our support for local eateries! **Assembly Members** Thor Christianson and Chris Ystad

## Vigil for Gaza

**Dear Editor:** Sitkans for Peace and Democracy will hold a vigil calling for an end to Israel's near-total food blockade of Gaza, this Wednesday, Aug. 6, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the roundabout.

At least six people died of starvation in Gaza on Sunday, according to Gaza's health ministry. The new deaths raised the number of those dying to 175, including 93 children. UN agencies caution that time is running out for a humanitarian response to famine conditions in the Gaza Strip. Nearly a quarter of the population is facing "catastrophic" level of food insecurity, and a further 54 per cent is at "emergency" level. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) stressed that "this is a condition that we can prevent," calling for an end to deliberate blocking and delay of food, health, and humanitarian aid.

Joining a growing international consensus, two leading Israeli human rights groups, B'Tselem and Physicians for Human Rights Israel, issued reports last week accusing Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. "What we see is a clear, intentional attack on civilians in order to destroy a group," said Yuli Novak, the director of the Israeli human rights organization, B'Tselem, calling for urgent action. "I think every human being has to ask himself: what do you do in the face

Bring an empty pot or pan and spoon. Let's make noise and demand an end to Israel's food blockade (or just come stand with us).

You can also call our elected officials and demand that they speak out publicly to stop starving Gaza:

Senator Murkowski: (202) 224-6665 (Washington, D.C.), (907) 271-3735

Senator Sullivan: (202) 224-3004 (Washington, D.C.), (907) 271-5915 (An-

Representative Begich: (202) 225-5765 (Washington, D.C.), (907) 921-6575 (Anchorage).

Cindy Litman, Sitka

Loni Anderson. (AP, File Photo)

the time. And it was hard to have a

relationship in that atmosphere. And

somehow, we did it through many ups

and downs," Anderson told The Asso-

marriage in the 1995 autobiography,

'My Life in High Heels," which she

said was about "the growth of a wom-

about yourself, you have to do it warts

and all," Anderson told the AP while

promoting the book. "You may not

even tell the nicest things about your-

She married four times, most re-

Anderson was born Aug. 5, 1945, in

St. Paul, Minnesota. Her father was an

environmental chemist, and her moth-

Sitka Yesterday

20 YEARS AGO August 2005

idents of Sitka, the Thimbleberry Trail

capital campaign ended successfully

August 1. The \$10,000 goal was sur-

passed, with a total of \$15,000 raised.

**50 YEARS AGO** 

**August 1975** 

Curran: Correction from last week.

The jelly sold at the Centennial Build-

ing may be made by older citizens

but they were all Sitka Woman's Club

members. They pick the berries, make the jelly and sell it.

Weather

For tonight a low of 53 degrees with

a 20 percent chance of rain. On Tues-

day expect a high of 64 degrees with

a 30 percent chance of rain followed

by an overnight low of 55 and mostly

On Friday temperatures ranged

from 51 to 63 degrees, on Saturday it

was 52 to 62, and Sunday it was 56 to

59 degrees. The only rainfall was .07

Sitka Forecast

Sitka Weather

cloudy skies.

inch on Sunday.

From Sitka Summer by Evalin

Yours truly, the Sitka Trail Works

Advertisement: Dear generous res-

self, because you're telling the truth."

an, a woman who survives.

cently to Bob Flick in 2008.

er was a model.

Board of Directors.

Anderson detailed their tumultuous

"I think if you're going to write

ciated Press.

## Loni Anderson, 80, Dies; Was in TV Show 'WKRP'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Loni Anderson, who played a struggling radio station's empowered receptionist on the hit TV comedy "WKRP in Cincinnati," died Sunday, just days before her 80th birthday.

Anderson died at a Los Angeles hospital following a prolonged illness, said her longtime publicist, Cheryl J.

"We are heartbroken to announce the passing of our dear wife, mother and grandmother," Anderson's family

said in a statement. "WKRP in Cincinnati" aired from 1978 to 1982 and was set in a flagging Ohio radio station trying to reinvent itself with rock music. The cast included Gary Sandy, Tim Reid, Howard Hesseman, Frank Bonner and Jan Smithers. alongside Anderson as Jennifer Marlowe, whose good looks were matched

by her intelligence. As the station's receptionist, the blonde and high-heeled Jennifer routinely deflected unwanted business calls for her boss, Mr. Carlson. Her efficiency often kept the station running in the face of others' incompetence.

The role earned Anderson two Emmy Award nominations and three Golden Globe nominations.

Anderson starred on the big screen alongside Burt Reynold s in the 1983 comedy "Stroker Ace," and the two later married and became tabloid fixtures before their messy breakup in 1994.

Their son, Quinton Reynolds, was "the best decision that we ever made in our entire relationship," she said during the unveiling of a bronze bust at Reynolds' Hollywood grave site in

"I think back to the beginning of our relationship, it was so, oh, gosh, tabloidy. We were just a spectacle all

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Sen. Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of N.Y. listens during a news conference on tariffs on Capitol Hill July 31 in Washington. (AP Photo/Mariam Zuhaib)

## **Congress Takes Break But Tensions Not Gone**

#### **BV KEVIN FREKING Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers have left Washington for the annual August recess, but a few weeks of relative quiet on the U.S. Capitol grounds can't mask the partisan tensions that are brewing on government funding and President Donald Trump's nominees. It could make for a momentous

Here's a look at what's ahead when lawmakers return following the Labor

#### A bitter spending battle ahead

Lawmakers will use much of September to work on spending bills for the coming budget year, which begins Oct. 1. They likely will need to pass a short-term spending measure to keep the government funded for a few weeks while they work on a longer-term measure that covers the full year.

It's not unusual for leaders from both parties to blame the other party for a potential shutdown, but the rhetoric began extra early this year, signaling the threat of a stoppage is more serious than usual.

Today, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries sent their Republican counterparts a sharply-worded letter calling for a meeting to discuss "the government funding deadline and the health care crisis you have visited upon the American peo-

They said it will take bipartisanship to avert a "painful, unnecessary shut-

"Yet it is clear that the Trump Administration and many in your party are preparing to go it alone and continue to legislate on a solely Republican basis," said the letter sent to Senate Majority Leader John Thune and House Speaker Mike Johnson.

Republicans have taken note of the warnings and are portraying the Democrats as itching for a shutdown they hope to blame on the GOP.

'It was disturbing to hear the Democrat leader threaten to shut down the government in his July 8 Dear Colleague letter," Thune said on Saturday. ... I really hope that Democrats will not embrace that position but will continue to work with Republicans to fund the government."

#### Different approaches from the House and Senate

So far, the House has approved two of the 12 annual spending bills, mostly along party lines. The Senate has passed three on a strongly bipartisan basis. The House is pursuing steep, non-defense spending cuts. The Senate is rejecting many of those cuts. One side will have to give. And any final bill will need some Democratic support to generate the 60 votes necessary to get a spending measure to the finish

Some Democratic senators are also wanting assurances from Republicans

that there won't be more efforts in the coming weeks to claw back or cancel funding already approved by Congress.

"If Republicans want to make a deal, then let's make a deal, but only if Republicans include an agreement they won't take back that deal a few weeks later," said Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.

rock and their voting base." Democrats may want to demonstrate more resistance to Trump, but they would rue a shutdown, he warned.

"The reality would be, if the government were shut down, the administration, Donald Trump, would have the ability to decide where to spend and not spend," Fleischmann said. "Schumer knows that, Jeffries knows that. We know that. I think it would be much more productive if we start talking about a short-term (continuing resolution.)"

## Republican angry about

Republicans are considering chang-

an expedited basis. Democrats have ina lengthy process than can take days.

of change," Thune said of Senate rules the last six months have demonstrated that this process, nominations is broken. And so I expect there will be some good robust conversations about that.

be a "huge mistake," especially as Senate Republicans will need Democratic legislation moving forward.

The Senate held a rare weekend nees in exchange for some concessions on releasing some already approved

At times, lawmakers spoke of progress on a potential deal. But it was clear that there would be no agreement when Trump attacked Schumer on social media Saturday evening and told Republicans to pack it up and go home.

"Tell Schumer, who is under tremendous political pressure from within his own party, the Radical Left Lunatics, to GO TO HELL!" Trump posted on Truth Social.

#### Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, R-Tenn., a veteran member of the House Appropriations committee, said the Democratic minority in both chambers has

suffered so many legislative losses this year, "that they are stuck between a

## pace of nominations

es to Senate rules to get more of Trump's nominees confirmed.

Thune said last week that during the same point in Joe Biden's presidency, 49 of his 121 civilians nominees had been confirmed on an expedited basis through a voice vote or a unanimous consent request. Trump has had none of his civilian nominees confirmed on sisted on roll call votes for all of them,

'I think they're desperately in need for considering nominees. "I think that

Schumer said a rules change would votes to pass spending bills and other

session as Republicans worked to get more of Trump's nominees confirmed. Negotiations focused on advancing dozens of additional Trump nomi-

## Tesla Awards CEO Musk **Shares Worth \$29 Billion**

#### By MICHELLE CHAPMAN **AP Business Writer**

Tesla gave Elon Musk a stock grant of \$29 billion today as a reward for years of "transformative and unprecedented" growth despite a recent foray into right-wing politics that has hurt its sales, profits and its stock price.

In giving its billionaire CEO 96 million in restricted shares, the electric car company noted that Musk hasn't been paid in years because his 2018 compensation package has been rejected by a Delaware court. The award comes eight months after a judge revoked the 2018 pay package a second time. Tesla has appealed the ruling. Tesla today called the grant a "first step, good faith" way of retaining Musk and keeping him focused, citing his leadership of SpaceX, xAI and other companies. Musk said recently that he needed more shares and control so he couldn't be ousted by shareholder activists.

"Rewarding Elon for what he has done and continues to do for Tesla is the right thing to do," the company said in a regulatory filing, citing an increase of \$735 billion in Tesla's value on the stock market since 2018.

Tesla shares have plunged 25% this year largely due to blowback over Musk's affiliation with President Donald Trump. But Tesla also faces intensifying competition from both the big

Detroit automakers, and from China. In its most recent quarter, Tesla reported that quarterly profits plunged from \$1.39 billion to \$409 million. Revenue also fell and the company fell

short of even the lowered expectations on Wall Street.

Investors have grown increasingly worried about the trajectory of the company after Musk had spent so much time in Washington this year, becoming one of the most prominent officials in the Trump administration in its bid to slash the size of the U.S. government. The electric vehicle maker said in

the regulatory filing that Musk must first pay Tesla \$23.34 per share of restricted stock that vests, which is equal to the exercise price per share of the 2018 pay package.

In December Delaware Chancellor Kathleen St. Jude McCormick reaffirmed her earlier ruling that Tesla must revoke Musk's multibillion-dollar pay package. She found that Musk engineered the landmark pay package in sham negotiations with directors who were not independent.

The rulings came in a lawsuit filed by a Tesla stockholder who challenged Musk's 2018 compensation package.

That pay package carried a potential maximum value of about \$56 billion, but that sum has fluctuated over the years based on Tesla's stock price.

# **AP Poll: Grocery Costs Worrying Most Adults**

#### By CORA LEWIS and LINLEY SANDERS Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The vast majority of U.S. adults are at least somewhat stressed about the cost of groceries, a new poll finds, as prices continue to rise and concerns about the impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs remain wide-

About half of all Americans say the cost of groceries is a "major" source of stress in their life right now, while 33% say it's a "minor" source of stress, according to the poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Only 14% say it's not a source of stress, underscoring the pervasive anxiety most Americans continue to feel about the cost of everyday essentials.

Other financial stressors — like the cost of housing or the amount of money in their bank accounts — are also broadly felt, but they weigh more heavily on younger Americans, who are less likely than older adults to have significant savings or own

The survey also found that about 4 in 10 Americans under age 45 say they've used what are known as "buy now, pay later" services when spending on entertainment or restaurant meals or when paying for essentials like groceries or medical care.

Adam Bush, 19, based in Portland, New York, is one of those younger Americans who has used pay-later services for things like groceries or entertainment. Bush works as a welder, fabricating parts for trucks for Toyota, and makes under \$50,000 per year.

"I just keep watching the prices go up, so I'm looking for the cheapest possible stuff," he said. "Hot pockets and TV din-

#### Everyone is stressed about groceries

Groceries are one of the most far-reaching financial stressors, affecting the young and old alike, the poll finds. While Americans over age 60 are less likely than younger people to feel major financial anxiety about housing, their savings, child care, or credit card debt, they are just as worried about the cost of groceries.

Esther Bland, 78, who lives in Buckley, Washington, said groceries are a "minor" source of stress — but only because her local food banks fill the gap. Bland relies on her Social Security and disability payments each month to cover her rent and other expenses — such as veterinary care for her dogs — in retirement, after decades working in an office processing product orders. "I have no savings," she said. "I'm not sure what's going on politically when it comes to the food banks, but if I lost that, groceries would absolutely be a major source of stress.

Bland's monthly income mainly goes toward her electric, water and cable bills,

she said, as well as care of her dogs and other household needs. "Soap, paper towels, toilet paper. I buy gas at Costco, but we haven't seen \$3 a gallon here in a long time," she said. "I stay home a lot. I only

put about 50 miles on my car a week." According to the poll, 64% of the lowest-income Americans — those who have a household income of less than \$30,000 a year - say the cost of groceries is a "major" stressor. That's compared with about 4 in 10 Americans who have a household income of \$100,000 or more.

But even within that higher-income group, only about 2 in 10 say grocery costs aren't a worry at all.

#### Women and Hispanic adults are especially economically anxious

Housing is another substantial source of worry for U.S. adults — along with their savings, their income and the cost of health care. About half of U.S. adults say housing is a "major" source of stress, according to the poll, while about 4 in 10 say that about the amount of money they get paid, the amount of money they have saved and the cost of health care. About 3 in 10 say credit card debt is a "major" source of stress, while about 2 in 10 say that about the cost of child care and student debt.

But some groups are feeling much more anxiety about their finances than others. Women, for instance, are more likely than men to report high levels of stress about their income, savings, the cost of groceries and the cost of health care. Hispanic adults are also particularly concerned about housing costs and both credit card and student debt. About two-thirds of Hispanic adults say the cost of housing is a "major" source of stress, compared with about half of

Black adults and about 4 in 10 white adults. Some people are making changes to their lifestyle as a result of high costs. Shandal LeSure, 43, who works as a receptionist for a rehabilitation hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and makes between \$85,000 and \$100,000 a year, said she's started shopping for groceries at less expensive stores.

"It's an adjustment," she said. "Sometimes the quality isn't as good.' Many US adults have used 'buy now, pay later's ervices

As they stretch limited budgets, about 3 in 10 U.S. adults overall say they've used "buy now, pay later" services such as Afterpay or Klarna to purchase groceries, entertainment, restaurant meals or meal delivery, or medical or dental care, according to the poll. Bland, the Washington state retiree, said she's paid for pet surgery with a pay-later plan. Younger Americans are much likelier than older people to have used pay-later plans for entertainment, groceries or restaurant meals, but there's no age gap on medical care. Black and Hispanic people are also especially likely to adopt the plans.

#### **CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Wednesday, August 6, 2025 7:00 PM Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

A Approve the July 16, 2025 meeting minutes. IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.) V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI REPORTS

VII. THE EVENING BUSINESS

B. Update on the Land Suitability and Feasibility Study.

C. Public hearing and consideration of a minor zoning variance to increase the size of a sign at 4500 Sawmill Creek Road in the GP Gary Paxton Special Zone. The property is also known as Lot Five (5), Sawmill Cove Industrial Park, Subdivision #1. The request is filed by Jeremy Serka. The owner of record is Starwest Alaska, LLC. VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at https://

sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Planning Office at 100 Lincoln Street. Individuals having concerns or comments on any item are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cityofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814. **Published: August 1 & 4, 2025** 

#### LEGAL NOTICE NEW LIQUOR LICENSES – DISTILLERY MANUFACTURER AND **DISTILLERY RETAIL**

The City and Borough of Sitka has been notified by the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office of the following new distillery manufacturer and distillery retail applications: Lic #:

License Type: Distillery Manufacturer License Sitka Spirits LLC Licensee: DBA: Sitka Spirits Premises Address: 328 Lincoln Street Lic #:

License Type: Distillery Retail License Licensee: Sitka Spirits LLC DBA: Sitka Spirits Premises Address: 328 Lincoln Street Lic #:

License Type: Distillery Manufacturer License Licensee: Harbor Mountain Brewing Company LLC DBA: Premises Address:

Lic #:

Harbor Mountain Brewing Company 1209 Sawmill Creek Road Suite A 16269 License Type: Distillery Retail License

Harbor Mountain Brewing Company LLC Licensee: DBA: Harbor Mountain Brewing Company Premises Address: 1209 Sawmill Creek Road Suite A The City and Borough of Sitka will consider these applications at the August 12 Assembly meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Any protest may be lodged either prior to or at that time by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at clerk@cityofsitka.org or

907.747.1826. Sara Peterson, Municipal Clerk Published: August 4, 2025

#### CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet 12 p.m. Tuesday, August 12, 2025, in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: Discussion/Direction/Decision of Special Use Area Limits/Guidelines. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Depury Municipal Clerk Published: August 8, 2025

City and Borough Assembly Meeting Agenda 330 Harbor Drive Assembly Chambers 6:00 PM Tuesday, August 12, 2025

REGULAR MEETING I. CALL TO ORDER II. FLAG SALUTE

III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IV. ROLL CALL

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Minicipal Boards/ Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)

Department Quarterly Report Public & Government Relations (written

report only)

VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the mayor imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Item IX Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A Approve the minutes of the February 25, 27, and July 22 Assembly

meetings

B. Approve the following liquor license applications: 1) new distillery manufacturer and retail licenses for Sitka Spirits LLC at 328 Lincoln Street; new distillery manufacturer and retail licenses for Harbor Mountain Brewing Company LLC at 1209 Sawmill Creek Road, Suite A

C. Approve renewal applications for a standard marijuana cultivation facility license and a retail store license for Northern Lights Indoor Gardens, LLC

at 1321 Sawmill Creek Road

X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

D. RES 25-11 Petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to six additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses under Alaska Statute (AS) 04.11.405

E. Approve the Operating Agreement between the City and Borough of Sitka and Highmark Marine Fabrication for Marine Vessel Haul-Out and Shipyard Operations

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

Public participation on any item on or off the agenda. Not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual

XIV REPORTS

a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Artorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other

XV EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Detailed information on these agenda items can be found on the City website at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street or 907.747.1811. A hard copy of the Assembly packet is available at the Sitka Public Library. Regular and Special Assembly meetings are livestreamed through the City's website and YouTube channel, and aired live on KCAW FM 104.7. To receive Assembly agenda notifications, sign up with GovDelivery on the City

Sara Peterson, MMC, Municipal Clerk

Published: August 8, 2025

## SENTINEL Classifieds

Sentinel Classifieds: your BEST BUY for the Sitka market Your print ad here runs free at www.sitkasentinel.com Email us at news@sitkasentinel.com or go to 112 Barracks St.

#### Rentals

#### Rentals



**Help Wanted** 

**Help Wanted** 

## Now Hiring!

#### PARAPROFESSIONALS



The Sitka School District is hiring

> <u>Paraprofessionals</u> for 2025-2026

• High School Diploma or equivalent • Desire to work with students with specialized needs

Starting Wage: \$23.19 per hour/9 months

• Immediate start date, pending background check

- Excellent Medical, Dental, Vision Insurance
- \$50,000 Life Insurance Policy · Retirement vested at 5 years

To apply, go to SitkaSchools.org and click on "Employment." Alaska Natives are encouraged to apply.

12 WEEK GROUP THERAPY for sexual assault survivors. Initial consult free. Call Debi Terry, M.S., LPC

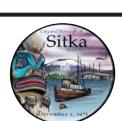
For more information

call (907) 621-8080

THE UNIVERSITY of Alaska Fairbanks is seeking a Communications Specialist to assist with the Rural Alaska Students in One Health Research education program. This position is full-time with benefits and based in Sitka at the UAS Sitka Campus. Apply by Aug 17th. More info at https://careers.alaska.edu/.

SITKA TRIBE of Alaska is soliciting bids for "Election Supervisor" for the 2025 Tribal Council Election. Those interested in obtaining additional information and/or submitting a bid contact Lisa Gassman at Sitka Tribe of Alaska, 907-747-3207. Deadline of August 27, 2025, by 4:30 pm to submit a bid for Election Supervisor. Submit via email to lisa.gassman@sitkatribe-nsn.gov or via hand delivery/mail (must be received by August 27, 2025, by 4:30 pm) at 204 Siginaka Way, Suite 300,

SITKA TRIBE of Alaska is soliciting letters of interest for "Election Judges" for the 2025 Tribal Council election. Those interested in obtaining additional information and/or submitting a letter, contact Lisa Gassman at Sitka Tribe of Alaska at 907-747-3207. Deadline of August 27, 2025, by 4:30 pm to submit a letter to be an Election Judge. Submit via email to lisa.gassman@sitkatribe-nsn.gov or via hand delivery/mail (must be received by August 27, 2025 by 4:30 pm) at 204 Siginaka Way, Suite 300, Sitka, AK 99835.



The City & Borough of Sitka has a wide range of full-time, benefited opportunities across several departments including Finance, Centennial Hall, Electric, Planning, Police, and Public Works. We offer a generous benefit package that includes PERS and SBS Retirement, Medical, Dental, Vision, Paid Leave, and Paid Holidays. The City & Borough of Sitka is an **Equal Opportunity Em**ployer.



Please scan the above QR code or visit governmentjobs.com/careers/sitka for more information and call 747-1816 with any questions.

**PART-TIME MAINTENANCE.** Fortress of the Bear is hiring a part-time maintenance worker. Duties include basic repairs, groundskeeping, and upkeep of visitor center maintenance. Must be reliable, handy with tools, and able to work with a diverse team. Part-time 15–25 hrs/week. Pay \$22-\$25/hour DOE. Apply at info@fortressofthebear.org or call 907-747-0524.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE and Custodial position. Average 24 hours/week at \$22-\$28/hour DOE. Duties include sweeping, pressure washing, painting, basic carpentry; repairing, organizing & operating tools, supplies, plumbing, electrical and mechanical equipment. Reply to fishermansquay@gmail.com

THE SENTINEL has newspaper delivery routes available on:

Katlian St., Edgecumbe Dr. Georgeson Loop, Lance/Wolff/Anna/Jamestown Drive, Price St., & (ends) HPR/SMC. Call Hayley or Sarah at 747-3219 for more information.

#### **Business Services**

OCEANSIDE EXCAVATION. One-stop source for all excavation and concrete work. Land development, grading, driveway work, rock walls, concrete foundation, retaining walls, patios, concrete driveways, curbs, gutters, and much more. Call for estimate, 738-1027.

#### **Vehicles for Sale**

2006-TOYOTA CAMRY. 50,000 miles, standard shift 5-speed, \$6,499. 907-738-4906.

## **Boats for Sale**

HICKMAN SEASLED, Leecraft. LOA 30'x10'. Twin 200 Optimax. \$99,000.

907-738-4906.

#### **Legal Notice**

This is a formal notice of delinquent storage due from Kirk Albrecht of Sitka. This notice is for 15 days and items held in storage will be sold and/or disposed of. Kirk Albrecht or estate must plan for past payments due. Storage Taranoff, 104 Rockfish Way, Sitka, Alaska 99835.

July 29, 30, 31, August 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 2025



Mon-Sat 9-5 • Sun Closed 475 Katlian • 747-3171 LFS MARINE SUPPLIES COMMERCIAL & SPORT FISHING GEAR

#### **Animal Shelter Survey Available**

Friends of Sitka Animal Shelter is seeking community input on what type of animal shelter services they'd like to

see in Sitka. The group has a 5- to 10-minute survey that can be found on its website at www.sitkaanimalfriends.org and its Facebook page.

#### **Utility Payment System in Place**

The City and Borough of Sitka has launched a new utility payment system, offering improved features and enhanced security, the city said.

Customers can pay bills online https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/cityandboroughofsitkaak/ utilities, make one-time payments, or set up a profile to enroll in autopay, view bills, go paperless, and track electric usage. Those who were previously enrolled in autopay must re-enroll using the new system, the city said.

Automatic payments will now be drafted on the bill's due date. Step-by-step instructions are available at www. cityofsitka.com/departments/Finance/ utilities, and staff are available at the counter to assist during business hours.

Public computers also are available at the Sitka Public Library for those who need access.

Payment by phone must be made through the secure IVR (Interactive Voice Response) system by calling 907 312-2934. Cash and check payments remain unchanged. Moorage payments are not affected by this system change.

For information, call 907 747-1818 or email utilities@cityofsitka.org.

#### **Boating Safety** Class Aug. 23

A community training event, a boating safety class, will be held 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23. It will

include hands-on training.
The event is hosted by Sitka Police Department, Alaska State Troopers U.S. Coast Guard, and Alaska Marine Safety Education Association.

It is limited to 25 students; however, if more sign up a second class will be scheduled, organizers said.

For more information contact Sgt. Lance Ewers, 907 315-4999.

The class is free; however, donations of \$150 may be made to AMSEA. Participants will receive a certificate of completion and essential boating safety information.

#### **Election Supervisor** Needed by **STA**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska is seeking an election supervisor for its upcoming Tribal Council election.

For more information or to submit a bid, contact Lisa Gassman at 907-747-3207. Deadline to submit a bid is 4:30 p.m. Aug. 27.

Bids may be emailed to lisa. gassman@sitkatribe-nsn.gov or by hand delivery or mail to 204 Siginaka Way, Suite 300, Sitka, AK 99835.

#### **Salty Spokes Open Saturday**

The Salty Spoke community bike cooperative is open 11 a.m.-2 p.m .every Saturday at 4 Lincoln Street.

Community members can sign up to receive guidance from volunteers, and have a space and tool wall to fix and maintain their own bikes.

A selection of used bikes are available for sale as well.

For more information go to www.saltyspoke.com or email thesaltyspoke@gmail.com.

These ads are Email to: sunshine@sitkasenti-

nel.com, drop off at 112 Barracks St., or fax to 747-8898. Watch for the Sunshine Corner form in each Tuesday's Sentinel. All requests must be received by the Sentine BEFORE 3:00 P.M. THURSDAY. Items are limited to individuals and must be priced at \$200 or less. LISTINGS WILL NOT BE TAKEN **BY PHONE** 

#### VOLUNTEER **OPPORTUNITY!**

The Salvation Army is in need of volunteers for its soup kitchen and thrift store. If you'd like to give back to the community one day a week or even once a month, let us know! Phone 888.265.2240 or stop in at 405 Sawmill Creek Road.

## Native Artists to Teach At Sheldon Jackson Museum

Sheldon Jackson Museum and Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum invite the public to sign up for free hands-on art classes with Alaska Native artists-in-residence.

Classes will be held at the museum with some offered simultaneously on zoom. They are offered at no cost; however, some require a materials fee to the instructor.

In some cases, students must acquire materials online or locally in advance of the class. Classes require advance sign up by calling 907-747-8981 or stopping by the museum in-person.
This year's residency program will

include the following classes:

-A two-part fish skin earring making class taught by Amber Webb (Yup'ik & Curyung Tribe) Aug. 15, 11 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m., in-person only. Students will need to pay Webb a \$20 materials fee. The class is open to ages 12 and older.

– A painting still life class taught by Danielle Larsen (Koyukon Athabascan, Unangax<sup>^</sup>, & Inupiaq) Thursday, Sept. 11, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m., in-person and on zoom. It is open to ages 10 and older. Materials are to be purchased in advance of the class. For a list of supplies, call (907) 747-8981.

To view events and details related to the Native Artist Residency Program,

#### **Zumba Classes Slated in August**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska will sponsor Zumba with Anna in August.

The free class is open to the community 5:30-6:15 p.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 6, 20 and 27 at Blatchley Middle

#### Sitka Recreation **Seeks Volunteers**

Sitka Recreation Foundation is seeking volunteers for a variety of projects and leadership roles.

The non-profit organization is working to advance recreational opportunities. Efforts include improving outdoor spaces such as the Blatchley covered court area and Crescent Harbor courts, providing youth scholarships for parks and recreation activities and much.

Volunteer opportunities include hands-on projects, subcommittee work, or a leadership role on the board of directors. Many other opportunities are available.

We also welcome input from anyone who wants to share project ideas and priorities for recreation in Sitka,' the organization said.

For information email info@sitkarecreationfoundation.org or call/text 907-738-0875. The website address is www.sitkarecreationfoundation.org

#### Sitka Rotary Club **Seeking Members**

Sitka Rotary Club is seeking new members who want to make a difference locally and internationally.

The club was chartered on Jan. 30, 1941. It is a diverse group of community members.

Throughout its 83 years the club has done a variety of projects including providing dictionaries to students, picking up trash, co-sponsoring the Kids Fishing Derby on Swan Lake, providing bike rodeos and providing educational scholarships to Tanzanian school girls.

Those wanting further information can email jbudd3500@gmail.com.

#### **Theater Program** Offered to Kids

Kids ages 7 to 10 can participate in a free theater program 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12, at Sitka Public Li-

The acting class will be led by library teen advisory board members Grace, Lola, Mari and Ruby.

No experience is needed; however, pre-registration is required.

Participants should wear comfortable clothes, and be ready for an afternoon of theater games, improv, and other activities. To register, call 907 747-4020. For information email maite.lorente@cityofsitka.org.

Call about a subscription **Daily Sentinel - 907-747-3219** 

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

AKO Farms, LLC is applying under 3 AAC 306.300 for a new Retail Marijuana Store license #39575, doing business as HIGH TIDE CANNABIS, located at 4509 HALIBUT POINT ROAD, SITKA, AK, 99835, UNITED STATES.

Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and application information will be posted on AMCO's website at https://www. commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501. Published: August 8, 15, 22, 2025

#### **Series to Begin** The public is invited to hear Mike Morris and Gary Bagley talk about 40 years of paddling trips on the Yukon visit the Friends of Sheldon Jackson River 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at Sit-Museum Facebook page or website at

https://friendsofsjm.com/calendar/ or the Alaska State Museum website at https://museums.alaska.gov/sheldon\_ jackson/sjhome.html. For information on operations or

events, contact the museum by calling

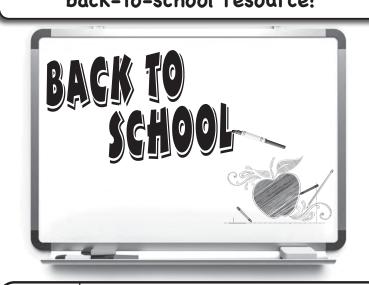
(907) 747-8981.

The event is part of the library's Armchair Travel Series. The two adventurers will complete the story they began telling last year. No registration

ka Public Library in the multipurpose

**Armchair Travels** 

The Daily Sentinel -Sitka's best & most complete back-to-school resource!



#### The Sentinel Back-to-School section will publish August 13

Watch for BTS savings, bus info, school

directory, and more - all the information

you need for a great school year!

The deadline to advertise is Friday, August 8

To advertise, call KathyHope at 907-747-3219 or email info to susansitkasentinel@gmail.com

#### **CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA**

LEGAL NOTICE **Parks and Recreation Committee** 

The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet 12 p.m. Tuesday, August 12, 2025, in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: Discussion/Direction/Decision of Special Use Area Limits/Guidelines. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk Published: August 8, 2025

> City and Borough Assembly Meeting Agenda 330 Harbor Drive Assembly Chambers 6:00 PM

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IV. ROLL CALL

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/ Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)

Department Quarterly Report: Public & Government Relations (written

VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the mayor imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item. IX. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Item IX Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A. Approve the minutes of the February 25, 27, and July 22 Assembly

B. Approve the following liquor license applications: 1) new distillery manufacturer and retail licenses for Sitka Spirits LLC at 328 Lincoln Street; 2) new distillery manufacturer and retail licenses for Harbor Mountain Brewing Company LLC at 1209 Sawmill Creek Road, Suite A

C. Approve renewal applications for a standard marijuana cultivation facility license and a retail store license for Northern Lights Indoor Gardens, LLC at 1321 Sawmill Creek Road

X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None. XII. NEW BUSINESS:

D. RES 25-11 Petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to six additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses under Alaska Statute (AS) 04.11.405

E. Approve the Operating Agreement between the City and Borough of Sitka and Highmark Marine Fabrication for Marine Vessel Haul-Out and Shipyard Operations

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD: Public participation on any item on or off the agenda. Not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.

XIV. REPORTS

a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Detailed information on these agenda items can be found on the City website at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street or 907.747.1811. A hard copy of the Assembly packet is available at the Sitka Public Library. Regular and Special Assembly meetings are livestreamed through the City's website and YouTube channel, and aired live on KCAW FM 104.7. To receive Assembly agenda notifications, sign up with GovDelivery on the City website.

Sara Peterson, MMC, Municipal Clerk Published: August 8, 2025



#### CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS 330 Harbor Drive Sitka, AK (907)747-1811

#### **Minutes - Final**

#### City and Borough Assembly

Mayor Steven Eisenbeisz, Deputy Mayor Timothy Pike, Vice Deputy Mayor JJ Carlson, Kevin Mosher, Scott Saline, Chris Ystad, Thor Christianson

Municipal Administrator: John Leach Municipal Attorney: Rachel Jones Municipal Clerk: Sara Peterson

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

6:00 PM

**Assembly Chambers** 

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. FLAG SALUTE
- III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
- IV. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Christianson, Mosher, Pike, Carlson, and Saline

Absent: 1 - Eisenbeisz

Remote: 1 - Ystad

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes.

<u>25-108</u> Reminders, Calendars, and General Correspondence

VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

None.

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)

<u>25-105</u> Department Quarterly Report: Public & Government Relations (written

report only)

#### VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

None.

#### IX. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Christianson that the Consent Agenda consisting of Items A, B, & C be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - Christianson, Mosher, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline

Absent: 1 - Eisenbeisz

25-104 Approve the minutes of the February 25, 27, and July 22 Assembly meetings

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

25-106 Approve the following liquor license applications: 1) new distillery В manufacturer and retail licenses for Sitka Spirits LLC at 328 Lincoln Street; 2) new distillery manufacturer and retail licenses for Harbor Mountain Brewing Company LLC at 1209 Sawmill Creek Road, Suite

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

C Approve renewal applications for a standard marijuana cultivation 25-107 facility license and a retail store license for Northern Lights Indoor

Gardens, LLC at 1321 Sawmill Creek Road

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

#### X. **BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

None.

#### XI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

#### XII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### D **RES 25-11**

Petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to six additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses under Alaska Statute (AS) 04.11.405

Christianson summarized the request for additional Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) for beer and wine. The Assembly engaged in discussion, asking questions of Planning and Community Development Director Amy Ainslie. Several members felt the process was rushed and suggested reducing the number of licenses requested.

Lenise Henderson, Christian Litten, and Cambria Goodwin spoke in support. Jasmine Wolfe read a letter from local CHARR President, Stan Filler Sr. opposing the resolution. Mary Magnuson and Patti MacPike spoke in opposition.

A motion was made by Christianson to AMEND the resolution by reducing the number of additional REPL's from six to three. The amendment PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 5 - Christianson, Carlson, Pike, Ystad, and Mosher

No: 1 - Saline

Absent: 1 - Eisenbeisz

Drew Wilson, Lenise Henderson, Cambria Goodwin, and Luke Bruckert spoke in support. Mary Magnuson, Patti MacPike, and Peter Menendez spoke in opposition.

Mosher expressed concern about the number of unknowns associated with requesting additional licenses, particularly the potential economic impacts. He also emphasized the importance of notifying all license holders and providing them an opportunity to comment. The Assembly recommended further public outreach and review by the Planning Commission.

It was suggested that consideration of the item be postponed until late October to allow for additional public outreach. It was noted that, when the resolution returned, its two sponsors (Ystad and Christianson) might no longer be serving on the Assembly. Ystad's term would have ended, and as he was not seeking re-election, his sponsorship would lapse. Christianson was seeking re-election, but the outcome would not be known until the October 7 municipal election. The Clerk would contact Assembly Members to confirm at least two additional sponsors.

Speaking to the motion to postpone, Lenise Henderson, Cambria Goodwin, and Drew Wilson spoke in opposition. Mary Magnuson and Peter Menendez spoke in support.

A motion was made by Mosher to POSTPONE the AMENDED RESOLUTION to the October 28 Assembly Meeting. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 6 - Christianson, Mosher, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline

Absent: 1 - Eisenbeisz

E 25-103

Approve the Operating Agreement between the City and Borough of Sitka and Highmark Marine Fabrication for Marine Vessel Haul-Out and Shipyard Operations

Gary Paxton Industrial Park Director Garry White reviewed the operating agreement and exhibits.

Linda Behnken, Mary Magnuson, Megan Pasternak, Ben Matthys, and Jonathan Wolf commented.

Assembly Members acknowledged the milestone, commended the effort involved, and thanked all who contributed.

A motion was made by Christianson that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

Yes: 5 - Christianson, Mosher, Ystad, Pike, and Carlson

No: 1 - Saline

Absent: 1 - Eisenbeisz

#### XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

None.

#### XIV. REPORTS

#### a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other

Mayor - Pike thanked everyone for their work on the haul out and the community discussion.

Administrator - Acting Administrator Josh Branthoover provided a progress update on the Gary Paxton Industrial Park haul out and washdown pad.

Attorney - Jones announced the cell phone tower appeal was scheduled for August 21.

Liaison Representatives - Christianson reported on the recent Planning Commission meeting.

Clerk - Peterson provided an update on the recent citizen initiative filing and the upcoming municipal election.

#### XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

#### XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Christianson to ADJOURN. Hearing no objections, the meeting ADJOURNED at 8:30 p.m.

ATTEST:						
S	Sara Peterson, MMC					
N	/Junicipal Clerk					

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2025 3:17 PM

**To:** Amy Ainslie

**Subject:** FW: Oppose the new REPL

From: Kevin Mosher (Assembly) <assemblymosher@cityofsitka.org>

Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 3:17 PM

To: Sara Peterson <sara.peterson@cityofsitka.org>

Subject: Fw: Oppose the new REPL

FYI

From: Patricia MacPike <sitkacharr@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, August 8, 2025 7:49 PM **To:** assembly <a href="mailto:assembly@cityofsitka.org">assembly@cityofsitka.org</a>

Subject: Oppose the new REPL

Some people who received this message don't often get email from <u>sitkacharr@gmail.com</u>. <u>Learn why</u> this is important

August 8, 2025

Dear Assembly Members,

Sitka CHARR is a trade organization that represents existing members in the hospitality industry in Sitka. We are concerned about your method and desire to request additional REPL licenses in Sitka using the number of cruise visitors and non-residents in determining how many licenses should be issued. In doing so you are devaluing what current businesses have paid handsomely for and risking sustainability for our community. You are setting a dangerous precedent. What happens when we have one million visitors? Will you seek more licenses? We are already over licensed for our population. Additionally, you are being asked to approve two distillery licenses.

While we are in the hospitality industry, and welcome our visitors, we also strive to be here year-round for our community. We donate as individual businesses to local nonprofits and schools as well as collectively as an industry group. We provide year round employment.

#### Additional considerations:

What prevents non-locally owned and operated businesses from getting a license? Do you want non-resident business owners getting liquor licenses? Do you want to allow food trucks to sell beer and wine? How many food carts, food courts or the like will you allow? How many new marijuana shops and licenses do you want to allow/request once their limits are met? Where are the places to locate more public restrooms going to be as we

grow besides the middle of streets? How do we better handle the increased foot traffic and what is the answer for getting more internet and bandwidth on high traffic days? There are many issues to address and starting with six new REPL is not the best starting place when the industry hasn't been asked to participate until the end of the discussion. Not to mention, we in the industry are VERY busy right now trying to manage what we have in the busy season. Why is this not a topic of discussion for October, when we can reasonably participate? What is the rush?

Before requesting a variance from the state, we feel appropriate planning needs to take place. Sitka is at a crossroads and we feel it is time to plan for the next ten to twenty years. We have the ability to slow down long enough to plan what Sitka will look like and not be haphazard in our design.

We have all visited places that are welcoming, beautiful and well thought out versus thrown together and tacky. Let's maintain our Paris of the Pacific appearance and have the hard conversations and PLAN not REACT to what change is taking place. In the planning let's be sure to have the right stakeholders at the right meetings for input. The Tourism Commission is not the place we would have expected to be to discuss this issue. This commission doesn't have the representation of our industry. As a new commission, we did not realize this would be within their scope. Additionally, it appears they are not familiar with how thin the profit margins are in our industry. Likewise, the Chamber appears to be representing one part of their group and not the whole.

If you proceed with this request, please understand you will be devaluing and financially harming the current license holder's assets and investments. You will be creating more strain for needed workers than Sitka has available. Not to mention a real lack of affordable housing for the new workers that would be required for six more fully operating businesses.

Additionally, you are basing the "needs" of our community on a population that is only here for maybe 5 hours a day for a limited time of year. How is it that this population truly defines the 'needs' of Sitka as a whole?

Thank you for your consideration.

Stan Filler, President

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sitka Chamber <director@sitkachamber.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:57 PM

**To:** Amy Ainslie; assembly

Cc: Holly Reeder

Subject: Re: Letter of Support: Addt'l Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in Sitka

#### Dear Assembly,

After further conversations with our membership, we encourage the Assembly to hold off on moving this item forward in order to engage with the business community and understand the effect a change like this could have. This is a complex issue and should looked at further before moving on to the state board.

Thank you,

Rachel

From: Rachel Roy < director@sitkachamber.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:07 AM **To:** assembly <assembly@cityofsitka.org>

**Cc:** John Leach <john.leach@cityofsitka.org>; Amy Ainslie <amy.ainslie@cityofsitka.org> **Subject:** Letter of Support: Addt'l Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in Sitka

Dear Members of the Assembly,

The Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce, representing over 200 businesses, encourages the Assembly to adopt the resolution petitioning the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to authorize up to six additional Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) for Sitka.

Our restaurant and hospitality industry continues to face long-term operational and economic challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic. These businesses provide not only essential jobs but also enhance the quality of life for Sitkans and enrich the experience of the many visitors and seasonal workers who rely on our services. Demand for full-service dining remains strong, but current licensing limitations are a barrier to expansion and new business development. Expanded license availability will help strengthen our economy, support entrepreneurial opportunity, and improve Sitka's competitiveness as a destination and regional hub in Southeast Alaska.

Enclosed with this email is our letter of support, which can be included in the packet submitted to the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) Board as part of the City's petition.

Thank you for your support of Sitka's business community and for your consideration of this important issue.

Gunalchéesh Thank you,

Rachel

Rachel Roy, MBA, ACE

**Executive Director** 

Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce | Visit Sitka

104 Lake Street, Sitka, AK 99835 (907) 747-8604

director@sitkachamber.com

sitkachamber.com

visitsitka.org



104 Lake Street Sitka, AK 99835

July 28, 2025

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600 Anchorage, AK 99501

To the Members of the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board,

On behalf of the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce, we are writing to express our support for the City and Borough of Sitka's petition to increase the number of Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) available in our community.

Our food and beverage industry has experienced significant and lasting impacts since the COVID-19 pandemic. Sitka's small, locally owned restaurants have worked tirelessly to adapt to shifting regulations, economic uncertainty, labor shortages, and supply chain issues. Despite these challenges, they continue to serve a critical role in our economy, tourism industry, and overall quality of life.

Sitka is a hub of commercial, medical, and cultural activity in Southeast Alaska, serving not only our 8,000+ residents but also more than 650,000 annual visitors and thousands of non-resident workers. The demand for diverse dining experiences continues to grow, yet the current cap on REPLs has made it difficult for new or expanding businesses to obtain the licensing needed to serve beer and wine, an important part of the full-service dining experience that today's consumers expect.

The Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce supports this petition because increasing the number of REPLs will:

- · Strengthen the viability and growth of local restaurants
- Enhance the experience for both residents and visitors
- Support economic diversification and entrepreneurship
- Reflect the actual population and service needs of our commercial center

We believe the City's petition fully meets the requirements set out in Alaska Statute 04.11.405, and the addition of REPLs is clearly in the public interest. We urge the AMCO Board to approve this petition and allow Sitka the flexibility needed to support our local businesses and community needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachel Roy

**Executive Director** 

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 1:51 PM

To: Amy Ainslie

**Subject:** FW: Public Comment Opportunity: Additional REPLs

Attachments: Res 2025-11A Addtl REPLs.pdf

**Importance:** High



#### Sara Peterson

Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.

From: Sara Peterson <sara.peterson@cityofsitka.org>

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 11:53 AM

Subject: Public Comment Opportunity: Additional REPLs

Importance: High

Good morning,

The City and Borough of Sitka is reaching out to all active license holders in Sitka to inform you of an upcoming opportunity for public comment on Resolution 2025-11A, petitioning the State of Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses (REPLs) under AS 04.11.405 in Sitka. Please feel free to forward this message to other interested parties.

The original resolution (Resolution 2025-11) was reviewed by the Assembly on August 21<sup>st</sup>, at which time the Assembly voted to lower the request from six additional licenses to three, and also requested that additional public comment and review take place by the Planning Commission prior to the Assembly considering the amended resolution again at its October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Planning Commission will review and take public comment on Resolution 2025-11A at their regular meeting on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 7:00 PM at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

#### **Meeting Time & Location**

¶ Harrigan Centennial Hall – 330 Harbor Drive, Room 6

① 7:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment Options**

- Attend in person
- Testify via telephone or Zoom request phone number or Zoom link from the Planning Office by 12:00 p.m. on

Wednesday, October 1, by emailing planning@cityofsitka.org or calling 907-747-1814

• Submit written comments by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1 to planning@cityofsitka.org

#### **Meeting Packet**

Available online by end of day on September 26:



https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Please feel free to contact the Municipal Clerk's Office (clerk@cityofsitka.org) or the Planning Office, with any questions you may have.



**Sara Peterson** Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.

#### CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### LEGAL NOTICE Library Commission

The Library Commission meeting will meet 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 1, 2025 in Harrigan Centennial Hall, located at 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: IT update, Alaska Library Association Conference update, and discussion of facilities and maintenance issues. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Published: September 26, 2025

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Meeting Agenda Planning Commission Wednesday, October 1, 2025 7:00 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

A. Approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.)

V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. REPORTS

VII, THE EVENING BUSINESS

B. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for multifamily housing (four-plex) at 200 Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The property is also known as Lot 1, Jones-OJA Street Subdivision. The request is filed by Jake Trierschield. The owners of record are Peter and Linda Jones.

C. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive in the R-2 multifamily residential district. The property is also known as Lot Seventeen A (17A), Knutson Subdivision Phase III Lot Line Adjustment. The request is filed by Michael Finn. The owners of record are Michael and Elizabeth Finn.

D. Review and recommendation of a municipal petition to the State of Alaska's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restaurant and eating place licenses in Sitka.

E. Recommendation of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Planning Office at 100 Lincoln Street. Individuals having concerns or comments on any item are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cityofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814.

Published: September 26, 29, 2025

#### Letters to the Editor

#### Yes on Proposition 1

**Dear Editor:** I support a yes vote on Proposition No. 1.

After serving 18 years on Sitka's Parks and Recreation Committee and three years on Sitka Recreation Foundation I have seen so many good athletic and recreation projects be proposed but never constructed - often due to lack of funding.

Voting yes is a specific step I can take that prioritizes athletic and recreation facilities as vital components of a healthy community.

A yes vote for Proposition No. 1 does not mean other needs will not be/ or should not be addressed. A yes vote does represent specific support for future athletic/recreation projects (to be approved separately in the future with public process) that primarily are for the benefit of local Sitkans. A yes vote will enhance the quality of life in Sitka. A quality of life that supports young families and others staying in Sitka and supports economic activity

Bart Meyer, 37-year Sitka resident

#### **Last Garage Sale**

Dear Editor: This is our last garage sale. Sitka Lutheran Church has done fundraisers for youths and adults of Sitka Lutheran Church doing Mission Work for more than 20 years. Members of the Sitka Community and Sitka Lutheran Church have generously donated TREASURES AND GIFTS for our garage sales at 3704 Halibut Point Road. Over 20 years we have conducted 80 garage sales and have raised approximately \$42,000.

Members of Sitka Lutheran (including teens) and students of Mt. Edgecumbe High School and Sitka High School have done projects in many places.

Sitka Lutheran Church has sent teams who shared the gospel and their hearts and hands offering energy and grace to people in need. A food bank in Palmer, flood relief in Montana and North Dakota, hurricane repair in the Virgin Islands and New Orleans, support in Tanzania, church repairs in Whitehorse and Brevig Mission, medical care in Jamaica, food bank collections for the Salvation Army, orphanage assistance in Indonesia and much more.

Special thanks to all who helped with their energy, their prayers and their generous donations. Our last garage sale will be held 7 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at 3704 Halibut Point Road.

Come and join us. We have lots of GOOD STUFF. The donations will support a team going to Jamaica in 2026.

Sitka Lutheran Church will continue to help those who are hungry, homeless and in need of health care. Popcorn sales to tourists will be one form of support.

The Brandts

# **Prop 2 Limits Rights**

**Dear Editor:** Proposition 2 is a severe limitation of your rights - and completely unneeded. Sitkans don't need more government regulations.

To address the elephant in the room: the cruise ship limitation initiative failed overwhelmingly. Sitkans spoke loud and clear on that issue. For the context of this letter, I was not part of SOUL and did not sign their petition.

Much has already been said about Prop 2 being unconstitutional and how economic studies are costly and cumbersome. I'll add two points.

First: the sponsors of Prop 2 did not commission such a study. If the sponsors skipped their own remedy, how realistic is it to expect citizen groups to hire one out – especially volunteers with limited funds?

Second: long-time Sitkans will remember that I sponsored an initiative 20 years ago requiring a public vote before building a cruise ship dock on City property at Sawmill Cove (now GPIP). Our measure passed by an overwhelming majority. It did not limit cruise ships—it simply required that the terms of a sale or lease be acceptable to voters.

That initiative would have been unnecessary if the Assembly had simply listened to Sitkans. But a majority on the Assembly at the time feared putting the issue in front of voters.

As the sponsor of a past initiative and chair of an initiative group, I can

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#### say raising funds is already a burden. How can we vote for economic studies without knowing the true costs and complexities of such studies?

Looking back, most citizen initiatives in Sitka have passed by large margins. But when the Assembly is out of step with voters on a single issue, we need a system of checks and balances. I deeply appreciate the service of Assembly members - but I do not trust 4 of 7 to always do right.

We need to trust Sitka voters—not throw the baby out with the bath water. Zach LaPerriere, Sitka

#### **Supporting Riley**

Dear Editor: I am writing in support of Katie Riley's campaign for Assembly. I serve with Katie on the Planning Commission. She is responsible about meeting attendance and preparation. She approaches decisions with an open mind and respect for the opinions of other commissioners and members of the public.

She is a strong supporter of increasing our supply of housing. She brings the experience of involvement in development of our Comprehensive Plan and the sustainability commission. Finally, she is already familiar with how our local government works. I hope you will join me in voting for Katie at the polls on October 7 or in advance. Robin Sherman, Sitka

#### Not If, But When

Dear Editor: The Sentinel article "New Study Maps Alaska's Thousands of Landslides" and the recent Elfin Cove slide Sept. 23, 2025, raise questions about Sitka's emergency preparedness. Landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions are natural disasters that threaten our community. Additionally, disasters include dam breaks, structural bridge damage, and loss of telecommunications. We are vulnerable.

What are the city's emergency plans when a catastrophic event hits Sitka? There is a public blowhorn that can warn us, but not only can people not hear it, they also can't clearly discern what is being broadcast to take appropriate action. Did you know the police department has a warning system? Everyone should know what it can communicate and how, especially if communication systems are down.

My experience of the Alameda Fire in Oregon, drives home Sitka's need for information in advance of an event. There, the Red Cross was the fire's evacuation site's saving grace (Sitka has no Red

Sitka has a Local Emergency Planning Committee with February 2025 as the last posted meeting minutes. Sitka's website has information on emergency go kits, etc., but insufficient community

The tsunami parking areas protect from sea surge, but if the event of a dam break, earthquake or damage to O'Connell Bridge, where and how do folks get

food, warmth, transportation and shelter? Remember it isn't "if" it is "when. Our first responders cannot do it all. We need the Assembly and candidates to answer "how are you going to keep us safe and informed in a catastrophic emergen-

Our community needs to know and practice evacuation responses just like city officials, the fire and police departments. Don't leave us out of this, it can and will save lives.

Carol Voisin, Sitka, Alameda Fire Survivor

#### Weather

## Sitka Forecast

For tonight, a high wind warning is out until around 7 p.m., with gusts as high as 45 mph. Heavy rainfall and a low temperature of 47 degrees also are forecast. For Saturday expect a high of 54 degrees with an overnight low of 48, accompanied by showers. On Sunday a high of 56, an overnight low of 47, and rain are forecast, and on Monday, a high of 57 degrees with rain and an overnight low of 46 with a chance

#### Sitka Weather

Temperatures ranged from 46 to 55 degrees, the wind gusted to 24 mph at 7:53 p.m., and 1.10 inches of rain was measured in the 24 hours ending at midnight last night, the National Weather Service says.

#### Sitka Yesterday

#### 20 YEARS AGO September 2005

Glue fumes from a roofing project put the kibosh on the Blatchley Middle School dance Friday, but the problem was quickly resolved, the fumes dispersed, and the students will be dancing next week at a discount, Principal Robinson said. The roofing project manager quickly got rid of the glue fumes, and as an apology will pay down the cost of dance admission from \$3 to \$1.

#### **50 YEARS AGO** September 1975

American Legion Auxiliary President Lucille Perkins has appointed committee chairmen. They include Alma Jenny, Alice Williams, Velma Baines, Betty Eliason, Florence Eddy, Emma Kohler, Jean Smith, Frances Widmark, Marrietta Williams, Ethel Makinen, Evelyn Didrickson, Darlene Carroll, Betty Garrity ....

# Trump Steps Up Drive Against Liberal Groups

By JILL COLVIN **Associated Press** 

NEW YORK (AP) - President Donald Trump's unprecedented retribution campaign against his perceived political enemies reached new heights as his Justice Department brought criminal charges against a longtime foe and he expanded his efforts to classify certain liberal groups as "domestic terrorist organizations.

Days after Trump publicly demanded action from his attorney general and tapped his former personal lawyer to serve as the top federal prosecutor in Virginia, former FBI Director James Comey, a longtime target of Trump's ire, was indicted by a grand jury for allegedly lying to Congress during tesimony in 2020.

Hours earlier Thursday, Trump igned a memorandum directing his Republican administration to target backers of what they dubbed "leftwing terrorism" as he alleged without evidence a vast conspiracy by Democrat-aligned nonprofit groups and acvists to finance violent protests.

The developments marked a dramatic escalation of the president's ex-

traordinary use of the levers of presidential power to target his political rivals and his efforts to pressure the Justice Department to pursue investigations — and now prosecutions — of those he disdains. It's a campaign that began soon after Trump returned to office and one that critics see as an abuse of power that puts every American who dares to criticize the president at

risk of retaliation. 'Donald Trump has made clear that he intends to turn our justice system into a weapon for punishing and silencing his critics," said Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee. The Comey indictment came less than a week after Trump installed a former White House aide and confidant to the role of U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia. The president had forced the ouster of his previous pick because he wasn't sufficiently responsive to calls from Trump to bring charges against his longtime targets.

"This kind of interference is a dangerous abuse of power," Warner said. "Our system depends on prosecutors making decisions based on evidence

## 2 Groups End Blackout **Of Jimmy Kimmel Show**

NEW YORK (AP) — Nexstar Media Group joined Sinclair Broadcast Group in bringing Jimmy Kimmel's late-night talk show back to its local TV stations on Friday night, ending a dayslong TV blackout for dozens of cities across the

The companies suspended the program over remarks the comedian made in the wake of conservative activist Charlie Kirk's killing. The move means "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" will return to local TV on Nexstar's ABC affiliates in 28 cities, along with the 38 stations where Sinclair agreed to restore the show.

The show will also return to Sinclair's local TV markets from Seattle to Washington, D.C.

Disney-owned ABC suspended Kimmel on Sept. 17, following threats potential repercussions from the Trump-appointed head of the Federal Communications Commission. Sinclair also condemned the host — confirming that it would stop airing the show the

The Maryland-based broadcast giant, which is known for conservative political content, called on Kimmel at the time to apologize to Kirk's family — and taking it a step further, asked him to "make a meaningful personal donation" to Turning Point USA, the nonprofit that Kirk

On the day Kirk was killed, Kimmel shared a message of support for Kirk's family and other victims of gun violence on social media, which he reiterated during his Tuesday return to ABC. He had also called the conservative activist's assassination a "senseless murder" prior to being taken off air.

Kimmel's original comments didn't otherwise focus on Kirk. He instead lambasted President Donald Trump and his administration's response to the killing. The comedian did not apologize on Tuesday, but did say "it was never my intention to make light of the murder of a young man" and acknowledged that to some, his comments "felt either ill-timed or unclear or maybe both."

## Fact Check: Trump's Talk On Climate Has Holes

By The Associated Press

This week, addressing the United Nations, President Donald Trump made several false claims about climate change, including that it didn't actually exist. He called it "the greatest con job ever perpetrated on the world" and urged world leaders to "get away

It was a pointed and extraordinary takedown of the intensely researched issue, and he did it in front of scores of leaders — including some from na-

## Correction

A caption for the front page photo of the Assembly candidate forum in the Sentinel's Thursday edition mispelled the names of Sherri Blankenship and Tracie Castle. The Sentinel apologizes

tions whose very existence is threat-

ened by the effects of global warming.

Among his remarks were several claims that are false or misleading. We enlisted Peter Prengaman, director of climate news for The Associated Press, to go on camera and break it down. He stacks up Trump's claims with well-established facts offered by scientists and years of research. Give it a watch.

AP Fact Checks: https://apnews. com/APFactCheck.

The Associated Press' climate and environmental coverage receives financial support from multiple private foundations. AP is solely responsible for all content. Find AP's standards for working with philanthropies, a list of supporters and funded coverage areas

# Climate CONNECTION

Connecting to the issues, the solutions and each other - a collaborative effort by Sitkans concerned about climate change.

Last Sunday, September 21, was the first Sun Day, a national celebration of renewable energy and climate protection, just as April's Earth Day was designed 55 years ago to bring attention to the needs of the environment. Nearly 500 events were registered across every state with incredible diversity and creativity. Some were festivals. Some were home tours of energy-efficient appliances like heat pumps. One was a choreographed dance among a college's solar panels. Another event installed solar panels on affordable Habitat for Humanity homes. A band performance powered its amplifiers with electric Ford F-150 truck batteries. Everywhere were the signature logos of half a sun with the other half an artistic rendering of anything that local participants wanted to create. Looking at a sampling of these 10,000 designs on the organizing website https://www. sunday.earth is an inspiring treat. There are even internationally contributed designs, reflecting that Sun Day events were organized outside the U.S.

These Sun Day celebrations portrayed what people concerned about keeping the world livable for our children and grandchildren are working for. Stopping the earth's global temperature increase, lowering air pollution, and improving health requires replacing fossil fuel combustion with pointing glass solar panels at the sun to generate electricity; catching wind energy with turbines; harnessing gravity of falling water with hydropower; and mining heat with geothermal. In the U.S., after the current administration erased most of the climate-protective measures taken by the last administration, Sun Day was an affirmation that climate matters as an existential risk to our collective existence. Despite the chaos of the last 8 months, we have to continue to build political will for policies that guarantee urgent transition to clean energy and industry, despite obstacles from climate deniers and min-

imizers Luckily, economics are on the side of an accelerating energy transition. Solar and wind power are now cheaper than fossil fuel power. The gigantic electricity needs of data centers can only be quickly and economically met with renewable energy, since fossil and nuclear power plants take many years to be built. Globally, the solar power installed in the first half of 2025 was about equal to the total solar installed in 2021 and 2022 combined. Twothirds of the 6 months global solar total was installed in China, which is also supplying many third world countries with new electricity.

At the last Sitka Farmers Market of the year, the Transition Sitka table featured a live-aboard boat owner who is in process of installing battery storage and solar power to lower utility cost. These solar panels will join a smattering of other local solar panels, such as at Sitka Electric and Blue Lake campground, and on off-grid islands and aids to navigation. The Jarvis Street community garden will have solar power supplying its electric fence, restroom lighting, and equipment charging. When SEARHC and Coast Guard expansion places more electric demand on our microgrid, should the municipality be exploring floating solar on Blue and Green Lakes?

Kay Kreiss, Transition Sitka



FBI Director James Comey pauses as he testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, May 3, 2017. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster, File)

and the law, not on the personal grudges of a politician determined to settle

An escalation in retribution

The first former president convicted of a felony — for falsifying business records to hide hush-money payments to conceal an alleged affair — Trump won the White House despite a host of other legal troubles over his alleged retention of classified information after leaving the White House in 2021 and his role in stoking denials of his 2020 electoral defeat that culminated in the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

Thursday's moves were the latest in a concerted effort by Trump to wield the vast powers of his office in unparalleled ways to punish his enemies since returning to the Oval Office in January. During his campaign, Trump made clear this was his intention if he returned to office.

"In 2016, I declared: I am your voice," he said in 2023. "Today, I add: I am your warrior. I am your justice. And for those who have been wronged and betrayed, I am your retribution."

Earlier this week, he signed an order designating a decentralized movement known as antifa — short for "an-

ti-fascists" — as a domestic terrorist organization, a move testing broad First Amendment protections enjoyed by organizations operating within the United States.

The Thursday memo went further, targeting liberal-leaning groups and donors, and "represents a significant abuse of power where the government is either changing the law or bending definitions to try and investigate and punish their political opponents in a way that is really unprecedented," said Caitlin Legacki, of Americans Against Government Censorship, which was founded to fight the Trump administration's weaponization of the federal government against its political rivals.

As for Comey, she said, "It reeks of selective prosecution, it reeks of vindictive targeting and calls into question the integrity of many of the charges being brought by the office.'

Trump, meanwhile, denied Friday that he's on a campaign of retribution.

"It's about justice, really. It's not revenge, it's about justice. It's also about the fact that you can't let this go on," he told reporters. "They are sick, radical left people and they can't get away

Asked who is next on his list, he responded: "It's not a list, but I think there'll be others."

#### A widespread pressure campaign

Beyond Comey, Trump has also pressured prosecutors to bring mortgage fraud charges against New York Attorney General Letitia James, who brought a massive civil fraud case against the president. Attorney General Pam Bondi last month named a special prosecutor to investigate mortgage fraud allegations against James and Democratic U.S. Sen. Adam Schiff of California, another top Trump target. Both have denied wrongdoing.

The Justice Department has also begun examining mortgage fraud allegations against Lisa Cook, the Federal Reserve governor who's won success in lower courts in challenging Trump's effort to remove her from her job in a move she says is designed to erode the central bank's independence. Trump has appealed to the Supreme Court to allow him to oust her.

#### **CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA**

LEGAL NOTICE **Library Commission** 

The Library Commission meeting will meet 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 1, 2025 in Harrigan Centennial Hall, located at 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: IT update, Alaska Library Association Conference update, and discussion of facilities and maintenance issues. The meeting is open to

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk Published: September 26, 2025

#### LEGAL NOTICE **Meeting Agenda Planning Commission** Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Harrigan Centennial Hall I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES A. Approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.)

V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT VI. REPORTS

Published: September 26, 29, 2025

VII. THE EVENING BUSINESS B. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use per-

mit for multifamily housing (four-plex) at 200 Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The property is also known as Lot 1, Jones-OJA Street Subdivision. The request is filed by Jake Trierschield. The owners of record are Peter and Linda Jones. C. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive in the R-2 multifamily

Knutson Subdivision Phase III Lot Line Adjustment. The request is filed by Michael Finn. The owners of record are Michael and Elizabeth Finn. D. Review and recommendation of a municipal petition to the State of Alaska's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restau-

residential district. The property is also known as Lot Seventeen A (17A).

rant and eating place licenses in Sitka. E. Recommendation of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Planning Office at 100 Lincoln Street. Individuals having concerns or comments on any item are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cityofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID**

SENIOR CENTER SPRINKLER REPLACEMENT The City and Borough of Sitka will receive bids no later than 2:00PM AKST Thursday, October 16, 2025.

Bid must be submitted electronically using bidexpress.com. Bids received after the deadline will not be accepted or considered. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud shortly after the deadline in the office of the Municipal Clerk, City and Borough of Šitka, 100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, Alaska 99835. This project consists of the replacement of the fire sprinkler system at the

Swan Lake Senior Center 402 Lake Street, Sitka. All Bidders are encouraged to attend a Pre-Bid Conference at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 1,2025, at the Swan Lake Senior Center, 402 Lake Street, Sitka, Alaska. A site visit will follow. This contract is subject to the provisions of State of Alaska, Title 36, Minimum Wage Rates. The contract

will require certificates of insurance and performance and payment bonds. A Bid Bond in the amount of 5 percent of the total bid price must accompany each bid that exceeds \$100,000. The Bid Bond may be in the form of a certified check made payable to the City and Borough of Sitka or a Bid Bond ssued by a surety licensed to do business in Alaska.

Questions can be directed to Michael Stenberg, Project Manager, at publicworks@cityofsitka.org. Inquiries shall be submitted to later than Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 5:00:00 PM Alaska Time Zone.

Specifications and Bid documents are available to be downloaded from the web: www.cityofsitka.com. (Click on the Bids & RFP link)

It is the responsibility of the bidder to regularly check the website for addenda to the project for which they are bidding. The City and Borough of Sitka reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities.

Mark Seavey Public Works Director Published: September 24, 26, 2025

## CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Meeting Agenda Planning Commission Wednesday, October 1, 2025 7:00 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

A. Approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.)

V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. REPORTS

VII. THE EVENING BUSINESS

B. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for multifamily housing (four-plex) at 200 Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The property is also known as Lot 1, Jones-OJA Street Subdivision. The request is filed by Jake Trierschield. The owners of record are Peter and Linda Jones.

C. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive in the R-2 multifamily residential district. The property is also known as Lot Seventeen A (17A), Knutson Subdivision Phase III Lot Line Adjustment. The request is filed by Michael Finn. The owners of record are Michael and Elizabeth Finn.

D. Review and recommendation of a municipal petition to the State of Alaska's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restaurant and eating place licenses in Sitka.

E. Recommendation of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Planning Office at 100 Lincoln Street. Individuals having concerns or comments on any item are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cit-yofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814.

Published: September 26, 29, 2025

## SENTINEL Classifieds

Sentinel Classifieds: your BEST BUY for the Sitka market Your print ad here runs free at www.sitkasentinel.com Email us at news@sitkasentinel.com or go to 112 Barracks St.

#### **Help Wanted**

POSITION VACANCY: Sitka School District is accepting applications for Boys C Team Basketball Coach at Sitka High School for the 2025-26 school year. Completion of the Alaska Coaches Education Program and other district training are required. Applicants must be able to travel during the work week and on weekends. Apply online at sitkaschools.org and click on 'Employment.' For more information call 907-621-8154, or email Krupar@sitkaschools.org. Alaska Natives are encouraged to apply.

POSITION VACANCY: Sitka School District is accepting applications for an Assistant Girls Basketball Coach at Blatchley Middle School. Temporary position: 10/13/25–11/21/25. Stipend: \$1,200. Apply online at sitkaschools.org and click on 'Employment.' For more information call 907-621-8114, or email sheltonk@sitkaschools.org.

#### Benefit Dinner, **Auction Oct. 5**

A fundraising dinner and auction for Sitka Cancer Survivor's Society will be held 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, at the Sitka Elks Lodge.

The event is sponsored by Sitka Emblem Club 142

Spaghetti will be served. A live auction including desserts is planned. Tickets on a chance to win a queen-

size quilt donated by Ocean Wave Quilters, earrings by Charlie Skultka and \$250 from Tongass FCU will be sold. The drawing is to be held at noon

#### Calendar of Events

**MONDAY** 

5:30-6:30 p.m. AA, Sitka Pioneers Home Recreation Kitchen, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information 6-7 p.m. Sitka Tribe of Alaska's Kayaani Commission annual meeting and elections, Sheet'ka Kwaan Naa

6 p.m. White Elephant Shop open TUESDAY

6-8 a.m. MEHS Aquatic Center pool

10:30 a.m. Sitka Sprouts, ages 3-5 free, Sitka Sound Science Center Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information Noon Rotary Club, UAS-Sitka Campus Room 230

3:45 p.m. School Technology Committee, Blatchley Middle School 6 p.m. Proposition 1 Meet and Greet, Harbor Mountain Brewery WEDNESDAY

6-8 a.m. MEHS Aquatic Center pool

10 a.m. Tongass Tots, Playgroup, St. Peter's Episcopal Church See

11-2 Salvation Army Little Store

Noon White Elephant Shop open Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information Noon STA Tribal Council, via Tele-

conference 4:30 p.m. Sitka Parkinson's Support Group, 1212 Seward Ave. (the old

BOQ) 907 747-3461 5-7 p.m. 4-H Family Skate Open House, registration, Blatchley Middle School

5:45 p.m. Sitka School Board, Sitka High School library

6 p.m. Sitka Planning Commission, Harrigan Centennial Hall

6 p.m. Sitka Library Commission,

Harrigan Centennial Hall 7 p.m. Sitka Sportsman's Association Indoor Range open

7 p.m. AA, St. Gregory's Church, 606 Etolin Street, info: 907-747

## **Help Wanted**

LOCAL SEAFOOD Processor, year-round. Any individual who is energetic, and able to perform variety of manual labor tasks. Job responsibilities, include, but not limited to offloading products from vessels, sorting, butchering, cleaning, cutting, filleting, trimming, and boxing various seafood products. Job details and application: https://www.northpacificseafoods.com/ job-openings--oportunidadesde-trabajo.html

THE SENTINEL has newspaper delivery routes available on: Katlian St., Price St., Lance / Wolff Anna & Jamestown Drive, Call Hayley or Sarah at 747-3219 for more information.

#### **Business Services**

OCEANSIDE EXCAVATION. One-stop source for all excavation and concrete work. Land development, grading, driveway work, rock walls, concrete foundation, retaining walls, patios, concrete driveways, curbs, gutters, and much more. Call for estinate, 738-1027.

#### **School Board** Meets Oct. 1

The Sitka School District School Board will hold its regular monthly meeting 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, in the Sitka High School library.

The meeting will be preceded by student and staff recognitions at 5:45

The full meeting agenda can be found by following the link on the District's website: www.sitkaschools. org. Those who wish to submit written public comment on an agenda item must submit it by 5 p.m. Sept. 30 to the District Office at 300 Kostrometinoff Street, or by emailing: info@sitkaschools.org.

#### New Archangel Dancers Show Time

New Archangel Dancers' big show will be presented 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

Tickets are: adults \$10; ages 6-12 years \$5; and ages 5 and younger free. Tickets are available at Harrigan Centennial Hall. All proceeds benefit the Alaska Day Committee.

Contact: newarchangeldancer@ gmail.com or 907 747-5516 for infor-

#### Adopt a Ghost is Library Program

Sitka Public Library invites ages 6 in the library collection and adopt a Library Ghost.

Participants will receive an adoption certificate, and directions on how to take care of their adopted ghost.

The program opens Oct. 4 and runs until all the library stuffed ghosts have found a new home.

#### **Seasonal Sales Tax Rate Changes**

The City and Borough of Sitka tax office reminds Sitkans the seasonal sales tax rate will decrease to 5% on Oct. 1. It will be in effect through March 31.

Bed tax for rentals less than 30 days remains at 6% year-round. Those who have questions can contact the tax office at 907 747-1840 or tax@cityofsitka.org.

**CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA** 

LEGAL NOTICE

**Meeting Agenda Planning Commission** 

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

7:00 PM

(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not

B. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use per-

Lot 1, Jones-OJA Street Subdivision. The request is filed by Jake Trierschield.

C. Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use per-

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are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make

comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be

dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cit-

Michael Finn. The owners of record are Michael and Elizabeth Finn.

NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at

E. Recommendation of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan.

yofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814. **Published: September 26, 29, 2025** 

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to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time

**Harrigan Centennial Hall** I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A. Approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

VII. THE EVENING BUSINESS

rant and eating place licenses in Sitka.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

VI. REPORTS

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.)

The owners of record are Peter and Linda Jones.

V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT



AMERICORPS – Clare Sheedy will spend her time AmeriCorps year serving as a resident teaching artist at Blatchley Middle School. She has a bachelor's degree in English literature summa cum laude, from the University of Pittsburgh, and is pursuing a master's in image and text at Cornell University. Her skills include printmaking, bookmaking, photography, papermaking, paper dyeing, collage, and writing. (Photo by Bobbi Jordan)

#### **School Technology Committee to Meet**

Sitka School District's Technology Committee will meet 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30, in the Blatchley Middle School Library.

A link to a tentative meeting agenda may be found on the district website. No action will be taken at this open

#### **Hazardous Waste** Collection Oct. 4-5

The City and Borough of Sitka will hold a Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection event 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 4; and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 5.

Households are eligible to participate free of charge, and items can be delivered to the Wastewater Treatment Plant at 100 Alice Loop off Airport

Small businesses and government agencies may participate for a fee with rior arrangements by contacting the Public Works Office at 907 747-1804.

Acceptable items include solvents, oils, paints, antifreeze, cleaners, poisons, acids, lead acid batteries (excluding lithium ion and nickel-metal hydride), caustics, furniture stripper, herbicides, pesticides, flares, and printing or photographic chemicals.

For information, visit www.cityofsitka.com or contact Public Works at 907.747.1804 or publicworks@cityof-

#### STA's Kayaaní Panel to Meet

Sitka Tribe of Alaska's Kayaani Commission will host its annual meeting and elections 6-7:30 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Sheet'ká Kwáan Naa Kahídi.

The meeting will include a potluck-style dinner celebrating Sheet'ká's locally grown and gathered plants. The public is invited to learn more about the Kayaaní Commission and get involved. Virtual attendance is available.

The Zoom link is: https://us06web. zoom.us/j/88624216884?pwd=czqN-8qTuZmMG4NJPVRTIbrYiV3QaIN; Meeting ID: 886 2421 6884; Passcode:

#### **Marine Safety Instructor Class Set**

Alaska Marine Safety Education Association will conduct a six-day U.S. Coast Guard-accepted Marine Safety Instructor Training 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Oct. 6-11 at the Public Safety Training Academy.

The intensive, hands-on course prepares participants to become U.S. Coast Guard-accepted Marine Safety Instructors and provides the skills needed to teach Emergency Drill Conductor training for commercial fishermen.

AMSEA said the course is ideal for anyone with a marine background who is interested in training commercial fishermen, improving maritime safety, or leading drill conductor courses.

To register, go to www.amsea.org. Call 907 747-3287 for further information.

#### Marine Safety Fair, **Open House Slated**

A First Responder Open House and Marine Safety Fair is planned 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Sitka hangar.

It will feature aircraft and equipment on display, and food trucks on site. Admission is free to the family-friendly event.

The intent is for the public to meet their first responders, see first-hand some of the equipment used in providing assistance, and learn how to safely work and recreate in local waters and wilderness including preparation for emergencies such as medical equipment and signaling devices, organizers

Attendees also can speak with rescuers about the challenges in search and rescue in Southeast Alaska.

## **Police Blotter**

Sitka Police Department logged the following calls over the weekend. September 26

At 10:07 a.m. a man said his vehicle was missing at the Crescent Harbor parking area. He located it shortly af-

September 27

At 2 a.m. a verbal altercation was reported at Pioneer Park as a party was winding up. Police found nothing criminal had occurred.

At 4:49 a.m. the gates at the Coast Guard air station were reported open. Police found the gates had been left open because of possible high wind occurring At 12:24 p.m. a driver was reported

swerving on the O'Connell Bridge. An officer found the driver was not im-A woman reported losing money

in an online gambling operation. She later found the package of money had reached its destination, and police gave her the i3c.gov number to call. A woman said she was suspicious

about who had knocked on her door a couple of hours before. An officer checked out a report of a family fight and found nothing crimi-

nal had occurred. September 28

At 5:13 a.m. a man and woman were reported screaming and yelling on a porch at SMC and Baranof Street. After police arrived they agreed to separate for the time being.

At 11:36 a.m. a plane was reported coming in on one engine at the airport. It landed safely. (See story on page 1.)

A man said he was being harassed on social media. He was advised of his

A caller complained someone was parked in a no-parking area on Merrill Street. The caller was told the owner of the property must be the one to com-

September 29

At 1:36 a.m. a caller complained about men making a lot of noise in the 400 block of Katlian Street. The men were gone when police arrived.

At 6 a.m. a caller said his bike was missing from Rudolph Fulton Circle.

## **Emergency Calls**

Sitka Fire Department received one ambulance call Friday, five on Saturday and three on Sunday. It also received a call to the airport, where a plane was landing on one engine. (See story, page 1.)

#### Sitka Police

Miguel Garcia, 27, was charged Friday with assault in the fourth degree, domestic violence.

Arlanda Pete, 32, was charged Friday with criminal trespass in the first

#### Mr. Scarecrow at Pumpkin' Patch

Mr. Scarecrow will be standing in the 3 to 5 Preschool's Pumpkin' Patch at AC Lakeside Grocery parking lot on Sunday, Oct. 19, rain or shine.

The preschool fundraising event, which includes picking a favorite pumpkin, is 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Attendees can sit or stand beside Mr. Scarecrow in the patch or go up behind Blatchley Middle School along the fence for more photo opportunities. Jessie's Uptown Dogs will be sell-

ing her hot dogs and the Donut Lady will have special treats. The preschool expressed appreciation to its sponsors, AC Lakeside, Sit-

## ka Bottling, Sitka Swirls and the Donut **Centennial Hall**

To be Closed

Harrigan Centennial Hall will be closed Sunday, Oct. 5, for maintenance. Regular business hours will resume

Contact the Harrigan Centennial Hall manager at 907 747-4090 for information.

# on Monday, Oct. 6.

# 'Mo' Fredrickson Dies; Lifelong Sitkan was 64

Maureen "Mo" Fredrickson, a lifelong Sitka resident, passed away peacefully on September 10, 2025, at Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. She was 64.

Born in Sitka on April 26, 1961, Mo's love for Alaska's natural beauty shaped her life. She found joy in the wild - bears, geese, swans, whales and spent countless hours at Starrigavan and Harbor Mountain. In the summer, she had the TV tuned in to watch the bears of Katmai. She and her partner of 31 years, Bill Peters, rarely missed their annual Whalefest Cruise. She loved thunder and lightning storms and would turn off all the lights to get the full effect, and she would celebrate the first snow on the mountains.

Mo had a flair for the whimsical and the spooky. If it was pink, frilly, fluffy, or flower-filled, it was Mo! She loved scary movies - especially "The Birds' and "The Blair Witch Project" - and loved decorating for every holiday and

She attended Sitka schools and graduated from Sitka High in 1979. Mo was a citizen of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska and a member of Shee Atika Inc. She worked at SEARHC for over 25 years.

She is survived by Bill and their four cherished kitties; her mother, Opal Olsen, of Des Moines, Washington; and her sisters: Rhonda Bowen (Mike) of Port Angeles, Washington; Robin Bergey (Guy) of Juneau; Florence Woodbury (Scott) of Portland, Oregon; and Amy Fredrickson of Des Moines, Washington.

She was beloved Auntie Mo to Matt Bowen, Wes Bowen (Mandi), Jeff Wolfe, Joel Wolfe (Jeannie), Kate Bergey, Max Woodbury, Jake Woodbury, and Aleksia Fredrickson. Her great-nieces and nephews - Karley

**Monthly Grind** 

**Set for Saturday** 

Sitka Monthly Grind will begin its

31st season Saturday, Oct. 4, at the Sheet'ka Kwaan Naa Kahidi. Doors

open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts

Sitka Monthly Grind philosophy

Attendees are encouraged to take a

PROP 2

remains affordable, non-political, and

family oriented. Tickets at Old Harbor

beverage cup to help reduce the trash.

Those with questions can call Jeff at

Books are \$5 for everyone.



Maureen "Mo" Fredrickson

Bowen-Wyant, Tyler Bowen, Claire Wolfe, Emma and Eli Wolfe - will forever treasure the time spent with their Auntie Mo.

She is also survived by her aunts and uncles, Virginia Travis, Connie (Jerry) Simpson, Thor and Gerard Helgesen, Judy Helgesen, Irene Fredrickson, Eleanor Kmetic and their families and sisters-in-law Mary Christoffersen (Charlie) and Linda (Jim) Walters and

She was preceded in death by her father, Martin Fredrickson.

Her memory lives on in the hearts of those who loved her and in the places she held dear, her family said.

A private memorial will be held lat-

Memorials may be made to the Sitka Animal Shelter or Bears of Katmai.

#### 4-H Family Skate Open House Slated

Enrollment for Sitka Spruce Tips 4-H Club for the upcoming year opens Wednesday, Oct. 1, for all youths ages 5-18 years.

An open house will be held 5-7 p.m. Oct. 1 at Blatchley Middle School.

Staff will be available to assist in enrolling youths and provide information about hands-on learning experiences. Enrolled families are invited to skate. Snacks and skates will be provided. For information contact Jasmine Shaw at jdshaw2@alaska.edu or call



## Sitka Fine Arts Camp Presents The Zaniac Comedy Show with Alex Zerbe

Friday, October 3 at 7pm

Sitka Performing Arts Center Beatboxing, juggling, dancing, singing, music, magic, and more!

TICKETS AT WWW.FINEARTSCAMP.ORG/SHOWS

# **VOTE YES** PROP 1 YES

To keep our young families and working residents in Sitka, we need more than just jobs, we need quality of life. Recreation keeps us healthy, and informed decision-making protects the opportunities that support us all. On October 7th, Vote Yes on Proposition 1 and Proposition 2.

Paid for by Safeguard Silka's Future P.O. Box 718 Silka, Alaska 99835. Chris McGraw, Chair, approves this message. Top contributors are Silka Dock Company, LLC, Silka, AK, Allen Marine Tours, Silka, AK, and Beverly Jean Caldwell, Silka, AK.



# Regular Municipal Election Tuesday, October 7, 2025

VOTING OPTIONS

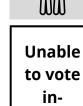


Apply to receive ballot by mail

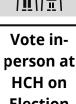


8:30am -

vote by fax email



to vote person? Vote by personal rep



Election Day 7am -8pm

For more information, visit www.cityofsitka.com or contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 907.747.1826 or 907.747.1811.

HCH 9/22-10/6

Early voting at

4:30pm M-F **Saturdays** 9am - noon

Apply to



#### CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### **Minutes - Final**

#### **Planning Commission**

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

7:00 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

#### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Darrell Windsor (Chair), Katie Riley, Wendy Alderson, Margaret Frank, Thor

Christianson (Assembly Liaison, left 8:24 p.m.)

Excused: Robin Sherman

Staff: Amy Ainslie, Kim Davis, Ariadne Will

Public: Mike Finn, Liz Finn, Jake Trierschield, Luke Bruckert, Jay Erie, Mary

Magnuson, Peter Menendez, Patricia MacPike, Michelle Kavouras, Christian Litten, JJ

Carlson, Kevin Mosher, Sara Peterson, Cathy Li (Sitka Sentinel)

Chair Windsor called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

#### II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

#### III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

A PM 25-16 Approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes.

M/Riley-S/Alderson moved to approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

#### IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

#### V. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ainslie informed the commission that the body would again discuss cruise docks at the following meeting. She said also the Office of Administrative Hearings had issued its decision regarding VAR 25-01, the height variance request related to a telecommunications tower on Nancy Court.

#### VI. REPORTS

#### VII. THE EVENING BUSINESS

#### **B** CUP 25-14

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for multifamily housing (four-plex) at 200 Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The property is also known as Lot 1, Jones-OJA Street Subdivision. The request is filed by Jake Trierschield. The owners of record are Peter and Linda Jones.

Davis introduced a request for a conditional use permit for multifamily housing at 200

Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The applicant was looking to place two more apartments in the building, the site of the old Etolin Street School. The building had two apartments already.

Davis said the applicant expected small increases in noise and traffic, in line with typical residential use. Applicant Jake Trierschield said he did not have anything to add and no public comment was received. The commission noted during deliberation that the property was adjacent to a grocery store with several dwelling units on its second floor. The commission also added a condition of approval prohibiting the apartments from being rented as short-term rentals. Trierschield said he was amendable to the condition.

M/Riley-S/Alderson moved to approve the conditional use permit for multifamily housing (four-plex) at 200 Baranof Street in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district subject to the attached conditions of approval as amended, with a requirement for prohibition of short-term rental uses. The property was also known as Lot One (1), Jones-Oja Street Subdivision. The request was filed by Jake Trierschield. The owners of record were Peter and Linda Jones. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

M/Riley-S/Alderson moved to adopt and approve the required findings for conditional use permits as listed in the staff report. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

**C** CUP 25-15

Public hearing and consideration of a request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive in the R-2 multifamily residential district. The property is also known as Lot Seventeen A (17A), Knutson Subdivision Phase III Lot Line Adjustment. The request is filed by Michael Finn. The owners of record are Michael and Elizabeth Finn.

Davis reviewed a request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive. Davis said the applicant planned to host up to six guests in three rooms. Guests were to be picked up by the applicant/owner and would stay only one night per week in the summers. Applicant Mike Finn said that the guests were to be clients for his son's charter business.

No public comment was received and the commission did not deliberate prior to voting on the motion.

M/Riley-S/Alderson moved to approve the request for a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at 116 Knutson Drive in the R-2 multifamily residential district. The property was also known as Lot Seventeen A (17A), Knutson Subdivision Phase III Lot Line Adjustment. The request was filed by Mlchael Finn. The owners of record were Michael and Elizabeth Finn. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

M/Riley-S/Alderson moved to adopt the required findings for conditional use permits as listed in the staff report. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

**D** MISC 25-13

Review and recommendation of a municipal petition to the State of Alaska's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to increase the number of restaurant and eating place licenses in Sitka.

Ainslie presented a memo to the commission regarding a draft resolution to be approved by the Assembly petitioning the State of Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for three additional Restaurant and Eating Place Licenses (REPLs). As was,

Sitka had eight REPLs, two of which were seasonal licenses. REPLs were only be available to "bona fide restaurants" and only applied to "brewed beverages and wine." The petition to request for more licenses was permitted given that state law required visitor and nonresident numbers to be considered alongside resident population numbers. With the proposed petition requesting three additional licenses, one REPL would serve around 61,000 people, including visitors. Ainslie noted that among Alaska communities that had requested additional REPLs and received them, this was by far the lowest ratio of REPL-to-person ratio.

The Assembly was to again consider the resolution and petition at its October 28 meeting. Ainslie explained that the commission was being asked to consider the resolution, and specifically the adequacy of community and economic growth to warrant an increase of REPLs, public health and safety concerns associated with additional REPLs, economic impacts associated with additional REPLs, consistency of the petition with the Comprehensive Plan, and any other considerations the Assembly should make in determining whether to move forward with the petition.

The commission asked whether a third seasonal REPL could be requested from the state. It was determined that this was a possibility. Ainslie clarified that seasonal licenses could only operate for six months of the year. Ainslie said the license filing fee with the state was \$1500 or \$2000 and that no further price was paid by recipients, but that licenses were resold at "market rate," which seemed to transfer for "tens of thousands" of dollars. Ainslie noted that more money was typically paid for full liquor licenses than for REPLs.

Michelle Kavouras, Patricia MacPike, Luke Bruckert, Mary Magnuson, Peter Menendez, and Christian Litten all spoke under public comment. Letters from Stan Filler and Amy Zanuzoski were read into the record. Kavouras, MacPike, Magnuson, Menendez, Filler, and Zanuzoski were opposed to the petition for additional REPLs. Bruckert and Litten were in favor of the petition and identified themselves as business owners interested in acquiring REPLs for their eating establishments.

Those opposed cited public health, competition, and the devaluation of existing licenses as reasons to against recommendation of the petition. Those opposed also said that police presence was not robust enough to appropriately respond to an increased number of REPLs. Those in favor said the additional licenses would not meaningfully contribute to competition with liquor licenses--which were held by some public commenters--or increased rates of alcohol abuse.

During deliberation, the commission said it felt that the population numbers shown supported the petition and that additional REPLs could support local economic growth of year-round restaurants. Commissioner Riley said that she had spoken with the police chief about the health impacts of REPLs, and that the chief had said the biggest public health concern regarding the consumption of alcohol was not establishments that held REPLs or even bars, but package stores that allowed people to "take liquor home."

The commission requested the Assembly ask the state to give deference to REPL applicants who owned year-round, local businesses, should the state grant additional REPLs. Following the vote, Ainslie said that this recommendation would be routed through the city's legal department before it was returned to the Assembly.

M/Alderson-S/Riley moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2025-11A, petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant and eating place licenses (REPLs) in Sitka, with the

addition that established, year-round businesses be prioritized in cases of mutually exclusive, i.e. competing applications. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

#### **E** MISC 25-15

Recommendation of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan.

Will introduced the draft Sitka Historic Preservation Plan, which she explained had been approved by the Historic Preservation Commission on August 13. The next steps were for the plan to receive recommendation from the Planning Commission before forwarding to the Assembly for approval and adoption. Will said the plan was part of the Historic Preservation Commission's duties as outlined in Sitka General Code, and said the body had not updated the plan since 1994. She explained the plan's contents and read through the plan's goals and actions. She also explained the public process the plan had undergone, including a recent public input meeting and feedback from Sitka Tribe of Alaska's Cultural Resources Committee.

The Planning Commission asked how the plan related to its goals. Will and Ainslie explained the concept of adaptive reuse to the commission and how the continued use of a building allowed for its preservation, which related to Planning Commission goals and actions. Ainslie said that the goals of both commissions were largely intertwined, including the use of legal nonconforming structures and certain rezoning efforts.

No public comment was received.

M/Alderson-S/Frank moved to recommend Assembly approval of the Sitka Historic Preservation Plan. Motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Windsor adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.



113 Metlakatla St Sitka, AK 99835 T 907-747-3636 F 907-747-5316 info@scpsak.org sitkacounseling.org

September 30, 2025

Mayor and Members of the Sitka Assembly City and Borough of Sitka Sitka, Alaska

Re: Opposition to Expansion of Liquor Licenses in Sitka

Dear Mayor and Assembly Members,

On behalf of Sitka Counseling and Prevention, I am writing to express our opposition to expanding the number of Restaurant/Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in Sitka.

Under Alaska Statute Title 4, AS 04.11.405, the legislature established strict population-based limits on the number of alcohol licenses in a community. This framework is not arbitrary—it is a public health safeguard designed to balance economic opportunity with the health and safety of Alaska residents. The law recognizes that excessive alcohol availability increases risks to community wellbeing, especially for youth.

Expanding licenses beyond these statutory quotas is not in the public interest for Sitka. Alcohol already contributes significantly to the harms we face as a community:

- Youth Risk: Local surveys show alcohol is one of the top substances used by Sitka youth, with about one-third of high school students reporting recent use. Increased availability—particularly in family-centered venues such as the movie theater—normalizes alcohol for young people and undermines prevention efforts.
- **Health Impacts**: Alcohol misuse is linked to liver disease, cancers, heart problems, depression, and suicide. Sitka residents continue to experience these harms, which are compounded by the high rates of alcohol-related injuries in Alaska.
- Community Costs: Increased availability drives up demands on law enforcement, healthcare, and social services—costs borne by the entire community.
- Conflict with State Goals: Expansion contradicts the prevention priorities outlined in Healthy Alaskans 2030, which include reducing youth and adult binge drinking and lowering alcohol-related injury deaths.

By petitioning the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for more licenses, the Assembly is asking to bypass the very safeguards created under AS 04.11.405. Doing so may serve the economic interests of a few, but it directly harms the broader public interest of community health and safety.

We strongly urge the Assembly to reconsider this request. Sitka has invested years of effort into prevention and youth support. Expanding alcohol availability undercuts that progress and places our most vulnerable populations at risk.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. We stand ready to support the Assembly in identifying healthier strategies to balance economic development with community wellbeing.

Respectfully,

Amy Zanuzoski

**Executive Director** 

From: Patricia MacPike
To: Planning Department

Cc: Stan Filler
Subject: REPL

**Date:** Wednesday, October 1, 2025 10:15:30 AM

You don't often get email from sitkacharr@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Dear Members of the Planning Commission, Please refer to the statute set below.

It is my understanding that even using the 665,000 visitors and dividing that by the 182 we would be eligible for two seasonal licenses. We are already over licensed both on the permanent licenses and the seasonal.

The statutes are set to protect public interest and help communities find economic balance and sustainability. Adding more licenses with our small year-round population will strain our existing businesses. There is a breaking point at which too much competition does no favors to any business, folks will lose jobs due to closures and sales tax will decrease.

Additionally, as a community that supports its youth, even to the point that we have Ballot Proposition 1 where we will invest millions in their health, what kind of mixed message would we be sending the youth by allowing for more liquor licenses? We need to have options for our youth as well.

Restaurants that sell alcohol cannot sell food to youth under 16 without a parent present. Likewise, a 16 or 17 year old can't be in a restaurant that has entertainment without buying food. As we have many student visitors in our town during the winter months, as a community, we should make sure we have a variety of options available. After all these visitors collectively spend more time in our town and with more frequency. Example- a Freshman basketball player will come no less that four times not including tournaments. This is more time than one tourist for six hours.

As community members appointed to plan for our future, I respectfully ask you to find that we already have plenty of REPL's in our community and do not need to add additional licenses.

Sincerely,

Stan Filler, President Sitka CHARR

AAC 305.305. Seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism license. (a) Subject to the limitations of licenses as set out under 3 AAC 305.900, the board may approve an application for a seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism license under AS 04.09.360. The board may approve an application for the transfer of ownership of a seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism license to a person who files a license application under AS 04.11.260, if the applicant's

licensed premises qualify as a bona fide restaurant or eating place under the sole control of the applicant and is

- (1) located in a municipality or established village that has a population of 40,000 or less; and
- (2) receives more than 4,000 visitors a year as determined under 3 AAC 305.910.
- (b) The holder of a seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism license may provide entertainment as set out and identified in AS 04.09.360. (Eff. 1/1/2024, Register 248) 3 AAC 305.310. Determining available seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism licenses. (a) The board will not issue seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism licenses in municipalities or established villages that qualify for this license type if the issuance results in more than one seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism license per 1,500 visitors per visitor day.
- (b) Visitor count or fraction of visitor per visitor day is calculated by dividing the total annual visitor count as set out under 3 AAC 305.910 by 182.
- (c) The board may further limit the available seasonal restaurant or eating place tourism licenses upon application if the number of restaurant and eating place licenses issued under AS 04.09.210 exceed the restaurant and eating place licenses permissible under AS 04.11.400(a), or as public interest requires. (Eff. 1/1/2024, Register 248)

SUBMITTED BY MARY MAGNUSON AT 10/1/2025 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING



### LEGAL NOTICE

## **Health Needs and Human Services Commission**

The Health Needs and Human Services Commission will meet 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 15, 2025, in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: Discussion/Decision on amendments to Sitka General Code Chapter 2.30 "Health Needs and Human Services Commission," Updates from working groups, and Discussion/Decision/Direction on a resolution of the City and Borough of Sitka's petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses under Alaska Statute 04.11.405. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Published: October 10, 2025

# Trump Fails Again In **Quest for Peace Prize**

By MIKE PESOLI and MICHELLE L. PRICE **Associated Press** 

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump was passed over for the Nobel Peace Prize today despite jockeying from his fellow Republicans, various world leaders and — most vocally himself.

Venezuelan opposition leader María Corina Machado was awarded the prize, after she was nominated last year by a group that included then-Sen. Marco Rubio, who is now Trump's secretary of state. The Norwegian Nobel Committee said it was honoring Machado "for her tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy.'

Machado, however, said she wanted to dedicate the win to Trump, along with the people of her country, as she praised

the president for support of her cause.

Trump congratulated Machado in a phone call today, her campaign manager Magalli Meda confirmed to The Associ-

The White House responded to the news of the award today, with communications director Steven Cheung saying members of "the Nobel Committee proved they place politics over peace" because they didn't recognize Trump, especially after the Gaza ceasefire deal his administration helped strike this week.

"He has the heart of a humanitarian, and there will never be anyone like him who can move mountains with the sheer force of his will," Cheung wrote on so-

The White House did not comment on Machado's recognition, but Trump on social media shared Machado's post praising him.

Her opposition to President Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela aligns with the Trump administration's own stance on Venezuela, and Secretary of State Marco Rubio previously praised her as "the personification of resilience, tenacity, and

Trump, who has long coveted the prestigious prize, has been outspoken about his desire for the honor during both of his presidential terms, particularly lately as he takes credit for ending conflicts around the world. The Republican president had expressed doubts that the Nobel committee would ever grant him the award.

"They'll have to do what they do. Whatever they do is fine. I know this: I didn't do it for that. I did it because I saved a lot of lives," Trump said Thurs-

Although Trump received nominations for the prize, many of them occurred after the Feb. 1 deadline for the 2025 award, which fell just a week and a half into his second term. His name was, however, put forward in December by Republican Rep. Claudia Tenney of New York, her office said in a statement, for his brokering of the Abraham Accords, which normalized relations between Israel and several Arab states in 2020.

#### A long history of lobbying for the prize

Jørgen Watne Frydnes, chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, said the committee has seen various campaigns in its long history of awarding the peace

"We receive thousands and thousands of letters every year of people wanting to say what for them leads to peace," he said. "This committee sits in a room filled with the portraits of all laureates, and that room is filled with both courage and integrity. So we base only our decision on the work and the will of Alfred

The peace prize, first awarded in 1901, was created partly to encourage ongoing peace efforts. Alfred Nobel stipulated in his will that the prize should go to someone "who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations. for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses.'

Three sitting U.S. presidents have won the Nobel Peace Prize: Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, Woodrow Wilson in 1919 and Barack Obama in 2009. Jimmy Carter won the prize in 2002, a full two decades after leaving office. Former Vice President Al Gore received the

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Obama, a Democrat who was a focus of Trump's attacks well before the Republican was elected, won the prize early in his tenure as president.

"They gave it to Obama for doing absolutely nothing but destroying our country," Trump said Thursday.

#### Wars in Gaza and elsewhere

As one of his reasons for deserving the award, Trump often says he has ended seven wars, though some of the conflicts the president claims to have resolved were merely tensions and his role in easing them is disputed.

But while there is hope for the end to Israel and Hamas' war, with Israel saying a ceasefire agreement with Hamas came into effect today, much remains uncertain about the aspects of the broader plan, including whether and how Hamas will disarm and who will govern Gaza. And little progress seems to have been made in the Russia-Ukraine war, a conflict Trump claimed during the 2024 campaign that he could end in one day.

As Trump pushes for peaceful resolutions to conflicts abroad, the country he governs remains deeply divided and politically fraught. Trump has kicked off what he hopes to be the largest deportation program in American history to remove immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. He is using the levers of government, including the Justice Department, to go after his perceived political enemies. He has sent the military into U.S. cities over local opposition to stop crime and crack down on immigration

He withdrew the United States from the landmark Paris climate agreement, dealing a blow to worldwide efforts to combat global warming. He touched off global trade wars with his on-again, offagain tariffs, which he wields as a threat to bend other countries and companies to his will. He asserted presidential war powers by declaring cartels to be unlawful combatants and launching lethal strikes on boats in the Caribbean that he alleged were carrying drugs.

The full list of people nominated is secret, but anyone who submits a nomination is free to talk about it. Trump's detractors say supporters, foreign leaders and others are submitting Trump's name for nomination for the prize — and announcing it publicly — not because he deserves it but because they see it as a way to manipulate him and stay in his good graces.

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who this summer said he was nominating Trump for the prize, today reposted Cheung's response with the comment: "The Nobel Committee talks about peace. President @real-DonaldTrump makes it happen."

"The facts speak for themselves," Netanyahu's office said on X. "President #Trump deserves it."

The authoritarian president of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, said Trump deserved the prize and said it was "sheer stupidity" for him not to receive it.

Lukashenko, whose government has faced sweeping Western sanctions for its brutal crackdown on critics after a contested 2020 election, had a phone call with Trump in August that sparked speculation of a possible thaw in relations.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, who sent troops to Ukraine in 2022 and has sought to show alignment with Trump, told reporters in Taijikistan today that it's not up to him to judge whether Trump should have received the prize, but he praised the ceasefire deal for Gaza.

He also criticized the Nobel Committee's prior decisions, saying it has in the past awarded the prize to those who have done little to advance global peace.

# Sitka Yesterday

#### 20 YEARS AGO October 2005

From the Police Blotter: At 10:49 p.m. a downtown bartender said a patron she had kicked out had stated he would return with an AK-47. The bartender said she wasn't too worried about the statement but wanted police to know the situation. Officers patrolled the area.

# **50 YEARS AGO**

October 1975 Monday Night Mixed Bowling. High games for the men were by Ralph Dahlquist, Tony Hrebar, Ed Venneberg. High games for the women were by Kathy Thoreson, Jan Turner and Vicky Odell.

# Weather

# Sitka Forecast

For tonight expect a low of 42 degrees, mostly cloudy skies, and wind 5-10 mph. On Saturday, a high of 53 degrees and sunny with an overnight low of 40 and mostly clear skies. On Sunday, a high of 53 and mostly sunny followed by an overnight low of 44 degrees and a 50 percent chance of rain. Then on Monday, Indigenous Peoples Day, a state holiday, expect a high of 53 degrees with rain and an overnight low of 48 with, yes, rain.

# Sitka Weather

Temperatures ranged from 41 to 55 degrees, the wind hit 12 mph out of the west at 1:53 p.m., and .05 inch of rain was measured in the 24 hours ending at midnight last night, the National Weather Service claims.

# **Congress Advances Plan** For Alaska Road Project

**By JAMES BROOKS** 

Alaska Beacon Three days after President Donald Trump signed an order approving federal permits for a proposed mining road through the Brooks Range, the U.S. Congress put the finishing touch on a resolution intended to further aid the Ambler

Road project. In a 50-46 vote on Thursday, the U.S. Senate approved a resolution that overturns the Biden administration's decision to enact a land management plan for Interior Alaska that would have limited development in order to encourage the growth of declining caribou herds, salmon, dall sheep and other wildlife.

That vote followed one in early September by the U.S. House of Representatives. The resolution now goes to Trump's desk, and the president is expected to sign it. The Central Yukon Resource Management Plan was the result of a 10-year project to determine how 13.3 million acres of federal land in Interior Alaska should be used, including public access or subsistence and recreation, as well as opportunities for development. But the final result dissatisfied members of Alaska's congressional delegation and Alaskans who favor mining and resource development, including Doyon Ltd., the regional Alaska Native corporation for Interior Alaska.

Those opponents worried that the plan would hamper projects like the 211-mile Ambler Road, which is intended to connect the Dalton Highway with potential mine sites in the Brooks Range. They also expressed concern that the plan could derail construction of the proposed trans-Alaska natural gas pipeline.

Environmental groups praised the blan, noting that local residents and Alasa Native tribes participated in shaping the result. Opponents urged the delegation to seek the repeal of the plan, and Rep. Nick Begich, R-Alaska, introduced a resolution to do so. Begich guided it through the House and on to the Senate, where it was supported by Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska.

'The Biden administration's Central Yukon Resource Management Plan was an egregious case of federal overreach and just one of the administration's 70 executive orders and actions singularly focused on harming Alaska, our economy, and our working families," Sullivan said in a written statement. "This particular scheme effectively locked up millions of acres of Alaska's land, ignored Alaska Native voices, undermined long-standing federal law, and blocked access to critical mineral, energy, gravel, and material resources that our local communities, state and nation need."

Murkowski said that reopening the plan for additional changes will allow the Bureau of Land Management "to develop a more balanced plan.'

"I expect a new final plan to address long-standing access issues, provide greater opportunity for economic development, including key energy and mineral resources, and ensure Alaska Native landowners in the region can maximize the use of their own lands while still protecting subsistence and conserving where truly necessary," she said in a statement.

Begich said he is "proud to see this legislation head to the President's desk and grateful for the work of Senator Murkowski and Senator Sullivan to get this across the finish line as we continue to unlock Alaska's resource potential."

Environmental groups denounced the decision, with the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society saying that the delegation acted incorrectly.

"The existing plan was vital for both the people in the region and the salmon, caribou and Dall sheep that will suffer if migration routes are cut off and habitat isn't protected," said Cooper Freeman, Alaska director of the Center for Biological Diversity. "Our Alaska delegation should stop selling out our communities and public lands to out-of-state corporations that just want to plunder our state for profit."

--https://alaskabeacon.com/james-

# *Climate* CONNECTION

Connecting to the issues, the solutions and each other - a collaborative effort by Sitkans concerned about climate change.

**Inequality Implications for Climate** 

In 1990, 63% of global carbon inequality in greenhouse gas emissions was due to differences among nations. The average citizen of rich countries polluted more than the rest of global inhabitants. Now, 30 years later, within-nation inequality accounts for nearly two-thirds of global carbon emission inequality. This is a result of the increase in economic inequality, with the rich contributing much more to global warming everywhere, and particularly in rich nations.

Based on 2019 data, the U.S. needed to decrease per capita emissions by 11.1 metric tons/year to meet its target emission reductions by 2030. The bottom 50% of the U.S. population is already below this target and would not need to reduce their emissions at all. Those in the next 40% of the population would need to reduce their emissions by 12 tons (54%) per person annually. The top 10% of the population would need to reduce their emissions by 64.7 tons (87%) per person annually.

Globally, the bottom 50% of the population generates an average of 1.6 tons of carbon per person annually. The top 1% generate 110 tons per person annually. The top 0.1% generate 467 tons, and the top 0.01% 2,530 tons annually. The top 10% globally generate 48% of all global carbon emissions. And the top 1% exceed the carbon emissions of the bottom 50% globally by 5 percentage points. Thus, 4 billion people in the world are suffering from global warming caused by a very few

The Paris Agreement involved nations agreeing to cut carbon emissions, but the disproportionate contributions of the wealthy to global warming suggest that the effort must be directed to the top 1-10% of a nation's citizens, particularly in rich countries. As economic wealth is increasingly concen-

trated, governmental action to comply with the 10-year old Paris Agreement is diminished or eliminated. In the U.S., Trump again withdrew our country from the Paris Agreement upon taking office this year.

Action to mitigate global warming can't be successful without addressing the distribution of wealth. National governmental climate action isn't feasible without ensuring that the common good takes precedence over desires and habits of the wealthy. Only a third of nations have submitted their commitments to lower their carbon emissions for nationally determined contributions to lowering greenhouse gas emissions. These were due months ago for the annual Conference of the Parties scheduled in one month in Belem, Brazil. Past such meetings of all nations have been overwhelmed by lobbyists from fossil fuel industries and obstructed by petro-states.

The practice of needing consensus among all attending nations for the meetings' conclusions has delayed progress, such that we have already exceeded the 1.5 degree C target for global warming in the last 2 years. Many are calling for a change in international discussions convened by the United Nations. The increasing concentration of wealth among the few may make nations ineffectual participants in dealing with our existential crisis of global warming.

– Kay Kreiss, Transition Sitka

# Made in Sitka Market Saturday

The Made in Sitka Market, fall edition, will be held 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Harrigan Centennial

It will feature a collection of local artisans and vendors.

# CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

#### LEGAL NOTICE **Parks and Recreation Committee**

The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 14, 2025 in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: Discussion / Direction / Decision on the Cooperative Resource Man-

agement Agreement with Alaska DNR for lands/trails/dock at Baranof Warm Springs, Discussion and public comment on the 2026 Commercial Recreational Land Use Plan, and Discussion / Direction / Decision on rescheduling the November 11 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk Published: October 10, 2025

> PUBLIC NOTICE **Meeting Agenda Planning Commission** Wednesday, October 15, 2025

7:00 PM Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES A. Approve the October 1, 2025 meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the Chair imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.)

IV. PLANNING DIŘECTŎR'S REPORT

V. REPORTS

VI THE EVENING BUSINESS

B. Public hearing and consideration of a final plat for a minor subdivision at 286 Tongass Drive. The property is also known as a portion of Lot 15, U.S. Survey 1496. The applicant is Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC). The property is owned by State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

C. Public hearing and consideration of a tideland lease request for municipal tidelands located seaward of 1604 Sawmill Creek Road in the R-1 single-family and duplex residential district. The property is also known as Alaska Tideland Survey 645. The request is filed by Rose Risley and Brian Blankenship. The owner of record is the City and Borough of Sitka.

D. Discussion on a request for an administrative interpretation of community garden for Sitka Tribe of Alaska at the end of Andrew Hope Street. E. Discussion of zoning code changes for cruise related docks. VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: More information on these agenda items can be found at https:// sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Planning Office at 100 Lincoln Street. Individuals having concerns or comments on any item are encouraged to provide written comments to the Planning Office or make comments at the Planning Commission meeting. Written comments may be dropped off at the Planning Office in City Hall or emailed to planning@cityofsitka.org. Those with questions may call (907) 747-1814. **Published: October 10, 14, 2025** 

LEGAL NOTICE

#### **Health Needs and Human Services Commission** The Health Needs and Human Services Commission will meet 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15, 2025, in Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive. Agenda items include: Discussion/Decision on amendments to Sitka General Code Chapter 2.30 "Health Needs and Human Services Commission," Updates from working groups, and Discussion/Decision/Direction on a resolution of the City and Borough of Sitka's petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses under Alaska Statute 04.11.405. The meeting is open to the public.

Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk Published: October 10, 2025

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Visit Sitka: Convention & Visitor Services

The City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) will receive statements of qualifications (SOQ) until 3:00 PM AKST on Thursday, November 13, 2025, by electronic submission using bidexpress.com, or by mail or a hard copy delivered to City & Borough of Sitka, Attn: Clerk's Office, 100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, Alaska 99835.

The City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) is seeking qualified Firms interested in providing professional services as Visit Sitka, the CBS owned brand for destination marketing, destination management, and convention services in relation to the visitor industry in Sitka. All Firms interested in providing any one or more of the Visit Sitka services as listed in the RFQ are highly encouraged to submit an SOQ.

Documents may be downloaded from the web at: www.cityofsitka.com

(Click on the Bids and RFPs link)

It is the responsibility of respondents to regularly check the website for addenda to the RFQ. Questions can be directed to the Planning and Community

Development Director at (907) 747-1814, amy.ainslie@cityofsitka.org Amy Ainslie, Planning & Community Development Director Published: October 6, 10, 15, 22, 29, 2025

> **PUBLIC NOTICE** City and Borough Assembly CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA Meeting Agenda **Assembly Chambers - 330 Harbor Drive** 6:00 PM Tuesday, October 14, 2025

**REGULAR MEETING** I. CALL TO ORDER II. FLAG SALUTE

III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IV. ROLL CALL V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

VII. SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/ Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)

1) Department Quarterly Reports - Public Works, Harrigan Centennial Hall, and Police VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the mayor imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item. IX. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Item IX Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A. Approve the minutes of the September 23 Assembly meeting X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS See items F and G

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: B. ORD 25-25 Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2026

C. Approve the Municipal Clerk's Certificate of Election

D. Recognize outgoing Assembly Member(s) - followed by a short recess

XII. NEW BUSINESS: E. Oath of Office - Newly Elected Officials F. Appoint 1) Sophia Schwantes to an unexpired term on the Health Needs and Human Services Commission and Reappoint 1) Jorgen Eliason to a three-year term on the Port and Harbors Commission and 2) Aurora Taylor to

a three-year term on the Sustainability Commission G. Appoint one to a three-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commit-

tee: 1) Manoj Battar 2) Mariah Groshek H. Approve a new liquor license endorsement application for Sitka Golf Association, Inc. dba Sea Mountain Restaurant & 19th Hole at 301 Granite

Creek Road I. Approve the following marijuana license renewal applications: 1) a retail marijuana store license renewal for Weed Dudes Incorporated at 1321 Sawmill Creek Road Suite J & K and 2) a standard marijuana cultivation facility license renewal for Jeremy J. Erickson dba Vern's Wicked Weed at 3872 Halibut Point Road Bay One

J. RES 25-12 Authorizing a 50/50 matching grant application to the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for body-worn cameras (1st

K Discussion / Direction / Decision on the City and Borough of Sitka submitting a bid to the State of Alaska to lease a lot at the Sitka Rocky Gutierrez

L. Approve the Cooperative Resource Management Agreement between the City and Borough of Sitka and the State of Alaska Department of Natural

Resources for recreational areas at Baranof Warm Springs M. Discussion / Direction / Decision on rescheduling the November 11 regular Assembly meeting and December 9 & 23 Assembly meetings

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD: Public participation on any item on or off the agenda. Not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.

XIV. REPORTS a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk,

f. Other

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not anticipated. XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Detailed information on these agenda items can be found on the City website at https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street or 907.747.1811. A hard copy of the Assembly packet is available at the Sitka Public Library. Regular and Special Assembly meetings are livestreamed through the City's website and YouTube channel, and aired live on KCAW FM 104.7. To receive Assembly agenda notifications, sign up with GovDelivery on the City web-

Sara Peterson, MMC, Municipal Clerk Published: October 10, 2025

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 4:45 PM

**Subject:** Public Comment Opportunity: Additional REPLs

**Attachments:** 2025-11A Addtl REPLs.pdf

**Importance:** High

#### Good afternoon,

The City and Borough of Sitka is reaching out to all active license holders in Sitka to inform you of an upcoming opportunity for public comment on Resolution 2025-11A, petitioning the State of Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses (REPLs) under AS 04.11.405 in Sitka. Please feel free to forward this message to other interested parties.

The original resolution (Resolution 2025-11) was reviewed by the Assembly on August 12<sup>th</sup>, at which time the Assembly voted to lower the request from six additional licenses to three, and also requested that additional public comment and review take place by the Planning Commission prior to the Assembly considering the amended resolution again at its October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Planning Commission reviewed and took public comment on Resolution 2025-11A at their October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the amended resolution, noting that the population numbers shown supported the petition, and that additional REPLs could support local economic growth of year-round restaurants in particular. There was discussion regarding potential public health/safety impacts, and while there was concern about alcohol use/misuse in Sitka overall, did not find that REPLs in particular were a significant source of alcohol-related public health concerns. The Planning Commission did request that the Assembly ask the ABC Board to give deference to REPL applicants who own established, year-round businesses in the case of mutually exclusive applications (i.e. competing applications in which there are more applicants for the additional licenses than the number of licenses available).

The Assembly will consider the amended resolution and take public comment at their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 28th, beginning at 6:00 PM at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

#### **Meeting Time & Location**

🖣 Harrigan Centennial Hall – 330 Harbor Drive, Room 6

(1) 6:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment Options**

- Attend in person
- Testify via telephone register with the Municipal Clerk's Office by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 27**, by emailing <u>clerk@cityofsitka.org</u> or calling 907-747-1826
- Submit written comments to <u>clerk@cityofsitka.org</u>

#### **Meeting Packet**

Available online by end of day on October 24:

https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Please feel free to contact the Municipal Clerk's Office (clerk@cityofsitka.org) with any questions you may have.



Sara Peterson Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.



October 1, 2025

Mayor and Members of the Sitka Assembly City and Borough of Sitka Sitka, Alaska

Re: Opposition to Expansion of Liquor Licenses in Sitka

Dear Mayor and Assembly Members,

On behalf of The Alliance, a statewide coalition of over 200 community organizations and individuals committed to advancing prevention of the harms of alcohol use and promoting wellness across Alaska, I am writing to express strong opposition to expanding the number of Restaurant/Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in Sitka.

Alaska Statute Title 4, AS 04.11.405, intentionally sets population-based limits on alcohol licenses. These limits are not arbitrary; they are carefully designed public health safeguards to protect the wellbeing of Alaskans. Expanding liquor licenses beyond these statutory quotas risks undermining community health and safety for the sake of short-term economic gain.

Alcohol already plays a significant role in the harms our communities face. In Sitka and across Alaska, these impacts are clear:

- Youth Risk: Local and statewide surveys show alcohol remains one of the top substances
  used by youth, with roughly one-third of Alaska high school students reporting recent
  use. Increased availability—especially in family-oriented venues—normalizes alcohol for
  young people and undermines ongoing prevention efforts.
- **Health Impacts:** Alcohol misuse is directly linked to liver disease, cancers, heart problems, depression, suicide, and injuries. Alaska continues to experience these disproportionate harms, straining individuals, families, and systems of care.
- **Community Costs:** Increased alcohol availability results in higher demand on law enforcement, healthcare, and social services. These costs are borne by the community as a whole.
- Conflict with Statewide Goals: The proposed expansion runs counter to Healthy
   Alaskans 2030 objectives, which prioritize reducing youth and adult binge drinking and lowering alcohol-related injury deaths.



By petitioning the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to expand licenses, the Assembly would be bypassing important safeguards designed to prevent exactly these outcomes. While expansion may serve the economic interests of a few, it does so at the expense of the broader public good.

We urge the Assembly to reconsider this request and to pursue approaches that strengthen, rather than weaken, community health and safety. Sitka has invested years of effort into prevention and youth wellness, and these efforts should be reinforced—not undermined—by local policy decisions.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this issue. The Alliance stands ready to support the Assembly in advancing healthier strategies that balance economic development with the long-term wellbeing of the Sitka community.

Sincerely,

Tesia Bobrycki Tesia Bobrycki

Alliance Coordinator

www.alaska-alliance.org

From:

Phyllis Hackett < hackett.phyllis@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, October 4, 2025 4:26 PM

To: Subject: assembly ABC Board

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from hackett.phyllis@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at https://us-west-

2.protection.sophos.com?d=aka.ms&u=aHR0cHM6Ly9ha2EubXMvTGVhcm5BYm91dFNlbmRlcklkZW50aWZpY2F0aW9u&p=m&i=NjM5YTU1NWZiMzA1MGlxMjQ4ODk0YWYz&t=RlozL3V2bmk2eVJ2MEsvZVQyZm1uMnBBSVNySURiWHp1Y1VDeldQVncrST0=&h=89b7d0d0a6704ed7bb63c7b3719ce833]

Hello Assembly Members,

Regarding the issue of requesting more liquor licenses from the ABC board, I am writing to ask you to think very carefully about this. Trying to "level the field", as was mentioned by a couple of Assembly members at the meeting, can be a very slippery slope indeed. In my estimation it is nearly impossible to gauge the benefits or losses of dollar value over length of time accurately. If an attempt were to be made to actually do that the likelihood of future issues requesting the same "leveling of the field" is high and again a nearly impossible feat.

The cause of this situation rests on the ABC board making these permits transferable in the beginning. They have become a commodity in Sitka and holders can ask any amount they'd like. It is wrong and unfair in every way. We need to encourage new, local, year round young family businesses! We need to help make the path easier for them to walk and not put up road blocks to their success, and even perhaps incentivize those planning to remain open year round!

Please, please help Sitka thrive year round and keep young family, year round business startups an option for those brave enough to accept that challenge.

Perhaps you could consider only offering permits to those with a plan to operate year round.

If you choose to vote against this request to the ABC board realize that you are creating a situation where only the wealthy will be able to operate a new restaurant wanting to serve Beer or Wine to their clientele, another slippery downward slope.

Thank you for your consideration and all you do for our wonderful community

Phyllis Hackett 907-738-1991

Sent from my iPhone Sent from my iPhone

From: Maury Hackett <mauryhackett@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 12:12 PM
To: Assembly & Department Heads

Subject: Assembly & Department Heads
In Support of Additional REPLs

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mauryhackett@gmail.com. <u>Learn why this is important</u> Hello,

I'm writing in support of allowing more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses in Sitka. It's important that we continue creating spaces where year-round residents can gather and enjoy time together.

Campfire Kitchen's plan for a full-service restaurant at the movie theater would be a great addition downtown. Offering beer and wine would only help make it a welcoming spot for more people. I envision being able to have an extended dinner with friends while our kids watch a movie or play arcades across the street or have dinner and watch a movie as a family- truly family friendly experiences.

Please vote yes on additional REPLs to support a vibrant, year-round community in Sitka.

Thank you,

Maury

From: Marsh Skeele <marsh@sitkaseafoodmarket.com>

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 12:20 PM
To: Assembly & Department Heads
Subject: Restaurant eating place licenses

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from marsh@sitkaseafoodmarket.com. Learn why this is important at https://us-west-

2.protection.sophos.com?d=aka.ms&u=aHR0cHM6Ly9ha2EubXMvTGVhcm5BYm91dFNlbmRlcklkZW50aWZpY2F0aW9u&p=m&i=NjM1OTlhM2lwNWJmYmUxMjcwOTQwYjdi&t=NlZ5Q2lvaEsrait6UDYrR0kwc2dpZlBzaVhKOWt4MG9TNEI1Z2l4ZnhJaz0=&h=6b89c8c60fe04483a45ff0e72ebb77c0]

Dear assembly,

It would be a benefit to our community if there were more year round Restaurant Eating Place Licenses that allow new businesses to serve beer and wine. Please consider voting to add more of these licenses to help Sitka's restaurant industry.

Thank you,

Marsh Skeele

Sent from my iPhone

From: Cathryn Klusmeier < cathrynklusmeier@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 12:54 PM
To: Assembly & Department Heads

Subject: In Support of Adding More REPLs

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cathrynklusmeier@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

#### Hello!

My name is Cathryn Klusmeier and I am a Sitkan who is writing to support adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) to the city of Sitka! I am deeply interested in supporting local business here in Sitka, and I'm really confused as to why it isn't easier for local businesses to get these beer and wine licenses in the first place. In my mind, we as a city should be doing everything we can to support these year-round restaurants, not putting more barriers in place. I wholeheartedly support adding more REPLS to Sitka to support our local restaurants!

Thank you, Cathryn Klusmeier

From: Jacob Metzger < jacob.ryan.metzger@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 2:04 PM
To: Assembly & Department Heads

Subject: In support of adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jacob.ryan.metzger@gmail.com. Learn why this is important Dear City of Sitka Assembly Members,

I am writing to express my support for adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in the City of Sitka. I believe that issuing more REPLs would help Sitka's year-round restaurants survive and thrive. Allowing restaurants to serve beer and wine with meals will boost revenue and open the door for local, full-service restaurants to grow, and create jobs. Enhancing our city for residents and visitors. So, again, I support adding of REPLs for the benefit our City's restaurant industry and overall livability.

Thank you, Jacob Metzger

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Eva Fish <evafish3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 9:46 PM
To: Assembly & Department Heads

Subject: REPLs

Some people who received this message don't often get email from evafish3@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses. Due to there being very limited restaurant availability with beer and wine service, I believe this would allow more of our year-round local restaurants to expand their offerings and ability to remain open through the winter months. I do not believe that this would hurt current businesses that hold beer/wine licenses as they already have established and thriving businesses and there is always more demand for a variety of places to eat and drink in town. In addition, our restaurant and food offerings continue to grow, particularly in the summer with a large increase in visitors, and so it feels only right that the offering of beer and wine be allowed to increase proportionally. I hope that you will please consider this when voting on the addition of more REPLs for the city of Sitka.

Best,

Eva

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2025 11:46 AM

**To:** Amy Ainslie

**Subject:** FW: In Support of Adding more REPLs

From: JJ Carlson <assemblycarlson@cityofsitka.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 11:38 AM

**To:** Sara Peterson <sara.peterson@cityofsitka.org> **Subject:** Fw: In Support of Adding more REPLs

Hi Sara,

For the record.

Thank you,



## JJ Carlson

Assembly Member
Vice Deputy Mayor
City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska
100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, AK, 99835
(907)738-4190
assemblycarlson@cityofsitka.org

From: Andrew Jylkka <amjylkka787@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 9:27:43 PM
To: assembly <assembly@cityofsitka.org>
Subject: In Support of Adding more REPLs

Some people who received this message don't often get email from <a href="mailto:amjylkka787@gmail.com">amjylkka787@gmail.com</a>. <a href="mailto:Learn">Learn</a> why this is important

Hello,

My name is Andrew Jylkka and I'm a citizen of Sitka. I'm writing in support of adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses (REPLs). I've worked in and around the food industry for most of my adult life. Due to all the costs of running a restaurant, it is incredibly difficult to break even without beer and wine sales. I constantly hear and see people complaining about the price of eating out in Sitka, and allowing more restaurants to offset rising food prices with beer and wine sales is an easy way to help more of our food establishments succeed.

Additionally, beer and wine are much easier to monitor and control than hard liquor. I'd love to know the SPD statistics on disorderly conduct calls to the brewery or other beer/wine only establishments as compared to the bars and other restaurants with a full alcohol complement.

Petitioning for additional REPLs is an easy and low cost way for the city to support businesses and increase tax revenue.

I hope you'll take this into consideration.

Thank you, Andrew Jylkka 503 O Cain Ave B, Sitka, AK 99835

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Sara Peterson

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 22, 2025 9:57 AM

**To:** Amy Ainslie

**Subject:** FW: Support of increased REPLs



Sara Peterson Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.

From: JJ Carlson <assemblycarlson@cityofsitka.org> Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 9:48 AM To: Sara Peterson <sara.peterson@cityofsitka.org>

**Subject:** Fw: Support of increased REPLs

FYI for the record



**JJ Carlson** 

Assembly Member
Vice Deputy Mayor
City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska
100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, AK, 99835
(907)738-4190
assemblycarlson@cityofsitka.org

From: Luke Johnson < luke@lukej.net>

Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 7:51:04 AM

To: assembly <assembly@cityofsitka.org>
Subject: Support of increased REPLs

Some people who received this message don't often get email from <a href="mailto:luke@lukej.net">luke@lukej.net</a>. <a href="mailto:Learn why this is important">Learn why this is important</a>

Just a simple note that I'm in favor of increasing the REPL limit within Sitka. I have no personal affiliation with any business in town that serves alcohol, other than being a patron of nearly any and all of them.

As always, contrasting Alaska with any other state, it seems like we are in the minority with some restrictive regulation. Observationally, in many other states you can buy beer/wine at nearly every

restaurant, sometimes even at fast food (e.g. Qdoba in SEATAC). I'd think you'd be hard pressed to say that these types of locations are attempting to become 'bars', or are somehow promoting vice to a new level.

(A completely personal opinion: To some degree I think Alaska is still burdened with this 'frontier state' mentality, and has regulation aimed at curbing out-of-date fears, like hordes of drunken miners/fishermen/loggers from stumbling up and down the streets. I truly think times have changed. Locals and visitors just want to have a beer with dinner or lunch, quasi-european. We are not going to need a paddywagon to drive around and haul dozens to the drunk tank every day.)

Likewise, I have some small sympathy for the businesses that have for many years struggled to keep or fought to get access to either a REPL or a full liquor license, and now see the potential for expansion as a threat. However, I don't think 'wrongs of the past' or keeping regulations status quo to ensure that incumbents are protected is a justification for no action or improving the situation. The city needs to consider how to help all businesses thrive, and clearly there are many restaurants that have expressed they feel their business (especially in light of our tourism population) would benefit from a REPL.

Thanks for your consideration.

From: Tim Holder <timbo5929@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 3:53 PM

To: Sara Peterson

Subject: Re: Public Comment Opportunity: Additional REPLs

Hello

This is Tim Holder owner of the Nugget Restaurant in Sitka
I just wanted to let it be known I support the request to grant additional alcohol licenses in Sitka.

Tim Holder

On Oct 20, 2025 at 4:45 PM, <Sara Peterson> wrote:

Good afternoon,

The City and Borough of Sitka is reaching out to all active license holders in Sitka to inform you of an upcoming opportunity for public comment on Resolution 2025-11A, petitioning the State of Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to issue up to three additional restaurant or eating place licenses (REPLs) under AS 04.11.405 in Sitka. Please feel free to forward this message to other interested parties.

The original resolution (Resolution 2025-11) was reviewed by the Assembly on August 12<sup>th</sup>, at which time the Assembly voted to lower the request from six additional licenses to three, and also requested that additional public comment and review take place by the Planning Commission prior to the Assembly considering the amended resolution again at its October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Planning Commission reviewed and took public comment on Resolution 2025-11A at their October 1st meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the amended resolution, noting that the population numbers shown supported the petition, and that additional REPLs could support local economic growth of year-round restaurants in particular. There was discussion regarding potential public health/safety impacts, and while there was concern about alcohol use/misuse in Sitka overall, did not find that REPLs in particular were a significant source of alcohol-related public health concerns. The Planning Commission did request that the Assembly ask the ABC Board to give deference to REPL applicants who own established, year-round businesses in the case of mutually exclusive applications (i.e. competing applications in which there are more applicants for the additional licenses than the number of licenses available).

The Assembly will consider the amended resolution and take public comment at their regular meeting on **Tuesday, October 28th, beginning at 6:00 PM** at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

#### **Meeting Time & Location**

P Harrigan Centennial Hall – 330 Harbor Drive, Room 6

① 6:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment Options**

- · Attend in person
- Testify via telephone register with the Municipal Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 27, by emailing clerk@cityofsitka.org or calling 907-747-1826
- · Submit written comments to clerk@cityofsitka.org

#### **Meeting Packet**

Available online by end of day on October 24:

https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Please feel free to contact the Municipal Clerk's Office (clerk@cityofsitka.org) with any questions you may have.



Sara Peterson Municipal Clerk, MMC City and Borough of Sitka

Phone: 907-747-1811 Fax: 907-747-7403 Web: www.cityofsitka.com

100 Lincoln Street Sitka, AK 99835

Messages to and from this email address may be available to the public under the Alaska Public Records Law.

From:

JJ Carlson

Sent:

Thursday, October 23, 2025 9:39 AM

To: Subject:

Sara Peterson Fw: REPL Support

Hi Sara, FYI



#### JJ Carlson

Assembly Member
Vice Deputy Mayor
City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska
100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, AK, 99835
(907)738-4190
assemblycarlson@cityofsitka.org

From: Hannah Cummiskey < hannah.cummiskey@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 4:08:35 PM

To: assembly <assembly@cityofsitka.org>

Subject: REPL Support

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from hannah.cummiskey@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at https://us-west-

2.protection.sophos.com?d=aka.ms&u=aHR0cHM6Ly9ha2EubXMvTGVhcm5BYm91dFNlbmRlcklkZW50aWZpY2F 0aW9u&p=m&i=NjM5YTU1NWZiMzA1MGlxMjQ4ODk0YWYz&t=RlozL3V2bmk2eVJ2MEsvZVQyZm1uMnBBSVNySU RiWHp1Y1VDeldQVncrST0=&h=0244db9cae604642bdd0bcc5573ee70b ]

Hello,

My name is Hannah and I am a Sitka resident. I support the city adding more Restaurant Eating Place Licenses to allow restaurants to serve beer and wine with meals. This will help our local restaurants keep business and thrive, especially during the Winter months.

Thank you for your consideration,

Hannah Jylkka

# **Attachment B: Cited Sources**

#### Index

- 1. Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office. "Population as of July 2024." February 2025.
- 2. SEARHC. "2024 Year in Numbers." March 2025.
- 3. Visit Sitka. "Sitka Historic Cruise Passenger Visitation." December 2021.
- 4. Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2023 Cruise Passenger Count." November 2023.
- 5. Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2024 Cruise Passenger Count." January 2025.
- 6. Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. "2025 Cruise Passenger Count." October 2025.
- 7. Daily Sitka Sentinel. "Cruise Dock Owner Hails Progress Over Season." September 2025.
- 8. City and Borough of Sitka. "2024 Annual Short-Term Rental Report." April 2025.
- 9. Visit Sitka. "Annual Workplan & Budget Request FY25." April 2024. Page 19.
- 10. Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. "Nonresidents Working in Alaska, 2023." February 2025. Page 24.

Population as of July 2024 License Count 2/25/2025 3 AAC 305.900

					ACTUAL NUMBER OF LICENSES ISSUED*												
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				•			AMO	CO for lic				re you a	apply)				
		1 per/3000	1 per/1500	1 per/9000					Lic	ense Ty	oes	,					
Local Governing Body	Net Population Prison Population Removed	Number of licenses allowed that are <u>not</u> REPL	allowed	Number of Brewery/Wi nery/Distille ry <u>Retail</u> licenses allowed	Beverage Dic.	Package Sto	Club	14504.09.220) Fair (45.	Golf Co	Destination B	Rest. / Eatin	Sporting A	Brewery Ro.	Winery Res	Distillery Retail		
Aleutians East Borough	38	1	1	1		1											
Akutan	1,594	1	2	1	1												
Cold Bay	56	1	1	1	1	1											
False Pass - local option (PS only)	379	1	1	1		0											
King Cove	866	1	1	1	1	1											
Sand Point	605	1	1	1		1					1						
		l															
Anchorage, Municipality of	289,572	97	194	33	117	95*	19		1		121*	1*	7*	3*	0*		
Bristol Bay Borough	777	1	1	1	5	4					1						
Denali Borough	1,381	1	1	1	5	6			1		3						
Anderson	232	1	1	1	1												
Fairbanks North Star Borough	63,685	22	43	8	23	24	2		2		12*		0*	2	0*		
Fairbanks	31,002	11	21	4	40	16	5				22		2	1	0*		
North Pole	2,404	1	2	1	2	3	1				1						
Haines Borough	2,537	1	5+	1	3	4	1	0*			3		1	0*	1		
Juneau, City and Borough	31,336	11	30+	4	20	16	4			1	22		4	1	2*		
Kenai Peninsula Borough	40,193	14	27	5	19	29	5		2		16*		3*	1*			
Homer	5,648	2	20+	1	9	8	2				15		1*	0*			

Population as of July 2024 License Count 2/25/2025 3 AAC 305.900

			ACTUAL NUMBER OF LICENSES ISSUED*												
	Not all communities allow for all license types. Check with the local community (Not all lice					et all license types limited by population are listed. Not all communities arelisted. Contact									
							AMC	O for lice	ense type			re you a	oply)		
		1 per/3000	1 per/1500	1 per/9000		,	,		Lic	ense Typ	oes	,	,		
Local Governing Body	Net Population Prison Population Removed	Number of licenses allowed that are <u>not</u> REPL	Number of REPL licenses allowed	Number of Brewery/Wi nery/Distille ry <u>Retail</u> licenses allowed	Beverage Dic.	Package Sto.	Club (45)	Fair (45.2	Golf Cours	Destination R	Rest. / Eating	Sporting Act	Brewery Res	Winery Ret	Distillery Retail
Kachemak	677	1	1	1	1									1	
Kenai	7,118	3	5	1	5	5	3		1		3				
Seldovia	242	1	1	1	1	2					1				
Seward	2,113	1	2	1	7	4	1				13				
Soldotna	4,552	2	26†	1	4	3	1		1		5*		0*	0*	
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	5,397	2	4	1	4	5				1	2				
Ketchikan	7,610	3	6	1	15	11	4			1	6		1*	1*	0*
Saxman	362	1	1	1	1	1					1				
Kodiak Island Borough	6,707	3	5	1	2	2	1								
Kodiak	5,288	2	4	1	11	4	2				4		1	0*	
Lake and Peninsula Borough	808	1	1	1	3	2									
Egegik	29	1	1	1		1									
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	96,758	33	65	11	31	32	4		1		20*		3*	2*	0*
Houston	2,214	1	2	1	1	1			_		1				
Palmer	5,908	2	4	1	5	3	1	0*	1		5		1*	0*	1
		4	35 †	2	7	7	3	-	_		16*		1		-
l Wasilla	961/				,	,	,						-		
Wasilla	9,617	7													
North Slope Borough	3,090	2	3	1											

Population as of July 2024 License Count 2/25/2025 3 AAC 305.900

	Not all communities allow for all license types.  with the local community  1 per/3000  1 per/1500  1 per/500  1 per/500					(Not all license types limited by population are listed. Not all communities are listed. Contact  AMCO for license types not listed before you apply)									
Local Governing Body	Net Population Prison Population Removed	Number of licenses allowed that are not REPL	Number of REPL licenses allowed	1 per/9000  Number of Brewery/Wi nery/Distille ry Retail licenses allowed	Beverage Dic.	Package St.	Club	<sup>145</sup> 0409.220) <b>Fair</b>	Solf Con.	000	/	Sporting Act	Brewery Ros	Winery Ret	Distillery Refail
Northwest Arctic Borough	838	1	1	1											
Kotzebue (local option community)	2,863	1	2	1		1									
Petersburg Borough	3,379	2	3	1	3	4	2				2				
Sitka, City and Borough	8,063	3	6	1	8	5	3				8		1	1	0*
Skagway, Municipality of	1,123	1	1	1	2	2	2				6		0*		1*
Wrangell, City and Borough	2,030	1	2	1	3	5	1		1						
Yakutat, City and Borough	637	1	1	1	2	2									
Cities in unorganized boroughs															
Adak	67	1	1	1	1	1					0*				
Bethel (local option only allows REPL)	5,887	2	4	1							2				
Bettles	17	1	1	1	1	1									
Coffman Cove	209	1	1	1	1	1									
Cordova	2,506	1	2	1	4	4	1				2		1		
Craig	972	1	1	1	2	3	1				1				
Delta Junction	977	1	1	1	2	2	1				1			0*	
Dillingham	2,086	1	2	1	2	2					1				
Galena	454	1	1	1	1	1									

Population as of July 2024 License Count 2/25/2025 3 AAC 305.900

	Not all communities allow for all license types. Che with the local community				(Not all license types limited by population are listed. Not all communities arelisted. Contact  AMCO for license types not listed before you apply)											
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		1 per/3000	1 per/1500	1 per/9000	License Types											
Local Governing Body	Net Population Prison Population Removed	Number of licenses allowed that are <u>not</u> REPL	Number of	Number of Brewery/Wi nery/Distille ry <u>Retail</u> licenses allowed	Beverage Dic.	Package Sto.	Club (1)	Fair (45.	Goff Coll.	Destination B.	Rest./ Fatin	Sporting Ar.	Brewen Ros	Winery Ret	Distillery Retail	
Gustavus	659	1	1	1	1	1					2					
Hoonah	835	1	1	1	1	1				1	1		1			
McGrath	264	1	1	1	1	2										
Nenana	381	1	1	1	1	2					1					
Nome	3,327	2	3	1	5	4	2				3					
Pelican	89	1	1	1	1	1					1					
Ruby	137	1	1	1		1										
St. George	42	1	1	1		1										
St. Paul	375	1	1	1	1	1										
Tenakee Springs	123	1	1	1		1										
Thorne Bay	497	1	1	1	1	1										
Unalaska	4,120	2	3	1	2	2					2					
Valdez	3,793	2	16 †	1	2	2	2				7		2			
Whittier	263	1	1	1	1	1					3					

Note: Since the 2017 population count was published, staff has reviewed the census data for students and military personnel. In accordance with the Census Bureau "Residence Rule"

(https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/resid\_rules/resid\_rules. html), students and military personnel are counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time. Thus these populations are counted by the Census in the appropriate population areas and no populations of students or military personnel need be discounted per 3 AAC 305.900(a)(3)

† this community was approved by the ABC board for additional Restaurant or Eating Place licenses in accordance with AS 04.11.405

\* pending applications in process

#### Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office

Population/License Counts Posted

Date
April 16, 2025

Updated Allowed REPL's

Date



# YEAR IN NUMBERS

# Who We Are

For 50 years, SEARHC has been more than a healthcare provider—we've been a trusted partner in the well-being of Southeast Alaska. Across the region, our primary and specialty care, dental and behavioral health clinics ensure individuals and families receive the comprehensive support they need.

Our critical access hospitals provide emergency and inpatient care, including best-in-class specialty services. We offer long-term care for elders, telehealth services connecting remote communities to specialists, and rehabilitation programs that help patients regain independence. From opioid treatment and recovery services in Ketchikan to advanced imaging and diagnostics in Wrangell, SEARHC remains a vital part of Southeast Alaska's communities.

# 1,200 patients

COME THROUGH OUR DOORS EVERY DAY

2,100 WORKFORCE 26
COMMUNITIES
SERVED

41,000+

PATIENTS CARED FOR

Clinic Visits



126,498
TOTAL CLINIC VISITS\*

TS\*

47,459

**DENTAL & OPTOMETRY** 



79,296

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



43,870

REHABILITATION SERVICES

# 300,000+

**COMBINED VISITS** 

\*Includes Primary/Urgent/Specialty Care, Telehealth and other clinic visits

## **Hospital Services**



9,000+

COMBINED VISITS
ACROSS ER, SURGICAL
PROCEDURES
AND INPATIENT
ADMISSIONS

### Long-Term Care



11,461

DAYS OF CARE

### **Ancillary Services**



## 1 million+

SERVICES PROVIDED ACROSS LABORATORY, PHARMACY AND IMAGING

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

OUTPATIENT CLINICS

TRAVELING CLINIC SERVICES

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

oint Baker
Whale Pass
ction
Thorne Bay
Ketchikan
Kasaan
Craig
Metlakatla

2024 reflects SEARHC fiscal year, Oct. 1, 2023 - Sept. 30, 2024

# Sitka Historical Cruise Ship Numbers Provided by Visit Sitka to the City and Borough Sitka Sent via email December 1, 2021

# Cruise ship passenger arrivals Sitka, Alaska

Year 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007	Passengers Column1 53,600 60,100 101,600 110,400 102,500 100,700 107,000 128,600 156,000 167,200 174,000 200,000 221,000 252,256 183,562 161,351 168,024 156,019 206,279 250,241 256,782 232,399 229,793 267,026 233,936 289,753
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2007	233,936
2008	289,753
2009	224,335
2010	144,383
2011	129,380
2012	110,714
2013 2014	103,420 90,182
2015	117,546
2016	122,944
2017	172,678
2018	151,259
2019	213,610
2020	0 230,000 Projected
2021	250,000 Projected
2022	400,000 Projected

# 2023 Cruise Passenger Count Provided by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska to the City and Borough of Sitka Sent via email November 6, 2023

		2023 9	eason (Data Points &	Calendar)			
#	~	DATE	SHIP	DOCK	ARR/DEP	PAX EST	РАХ АСТ
1	April	Tuesday, April 25th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,262
2	April	Thursday, April 27th, 2023	Carnival Miracle Brilliance of the Seas	STO	09:30/18:00	2,124	2,070
3	May May	Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023 Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023	Eurodam	STO	11:30/19:00 07:30/17:00	2,100 2,100	2,289 1,983
5	May	Thursday, May 4th, 2023	Discovery Princess	STO	07:30/17:00	3,660	3,171
6	May	Thursday, May 4th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/17:15	1,848	1,684
7	May	Sunday, May 7th, 2023	Sapphire Princess	STO	07:30/17:00	2,600	2,223
8	May	Monday, May 8th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,244
9	May	Tuesday, May 9th, 2023	Noordam	STI	09:30/18:00	1,924	2,008
10	May	Tuesday, May 9th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,323
11	May	Wednesday, May 10th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,038
12	May	Wednesday, May 10th, 2023	Majestic Princess	STO	08:30/18:00	3,560	3,088
14	May May	Thursday, May 11th, 2023 Thursday, May 11th, 2023	Westerdam Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/16:00 09:30/17:00	1,848 4,180	1,899 4,379
15	May	Saturday, May 13th, 2023	NG Venture	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	108
16	May	Saturday, May 13th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STI	10:30/19:00	4,180	4,333
17	May	Saturday, May 13th, 2023	Norwegian Sun	STO	11:30/20:00	2,002	1,817
18	May	Sunday, May 14th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	09:30/18:00	3,082	2,326
19	May	Monday, May 15th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	394
20	May	Monday, May 15th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	494
21	May	Monday, May 15th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,295
22	May	Tuesday, May 16th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	05:30/17:00	200	120
23	May	Tuesday, May 16th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	06:30/20:00	60	56
24	May	Tuesday, May 16th, 2023	Nieuw Amsterdam	STI	07:30/17:00	2,100	1,964
25	May	Tuesday, May 16th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,335
26	May	Wednesday, May 17th, 2023	Viking Orion	STI	07:00/16:00	930	714
27	May	Wednesday, May 17th, 2023	Eurodam Sania Falinaa	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100 228	1,952
28 29	May May	Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 Thursday, May 18th, 2023	Scenic Eclipse NG Sea Bird	2BR PET	07:30/18:00 05:30/18:00	60	76
30	May	Thursday, May 18th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STI	06:30/17:00	4,180	4,404
31	May	Thursday, May 18th, 2023	Westerdam	STO	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,942
32	May	Sunday, May 21st, 2023	NG Quest	STO	05:30/18:00	100	111
33	May	Monday, May 22nd, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	311
34	May	Monday, May 22nd, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,396
35	May	Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/16:30	2,100	2,146
36	May	Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023	Roald Amundsen	2BR	07:30/16:00	530	281
37	May	Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023	Silver Muse	3CR	08:30/16:00	596	514
38	May	Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,353
39	May	Wednesday, May 24th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,103
40	May	Wednesday, May 24th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,521
41 42	May May	Wednesday, May 24th, 2023 Wednesday, May 24th, 2023	Norwegian Sun Oceania Regatta	2BR 3CR	11:30/20:00 13:30/21:00	<i>2,002</i> <i>700</i>	1,923 438
43	May	Thursday, May 25th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,970
44	May	Thursday, May 25th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	10:30/18:00	3,082	2,917
45	May	Friday, May 26th, 2023	Viking Orion	STO	07:30/17:00	930	878
46	May	Saturday, May 27th, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	139
47	May	Monday, May 29th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	371
48	May	Monday, May 29th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	519
49	May	Monday, May 29th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,634
50	May	Tuesday, May 30th, 2023	Ruby Princess	STI	09:30/18:00	3,082	3,182
51	May	Tuesday, May 30th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,481
52	May	Wednesday, May 31st, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,147
53	June	Thursday, June 1st, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STI	06:30/17:00	4,180	4,810
54 55	June	Thursday, June 1st, 2023	Westerdam  Poold Amundson	STO 1CP	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,896
56	June June	Saturday, June 3rd, 2023 Sunday, June 4th, 2023	Roald Amundsen  NG Quest	1CR PIP	08:30/18:00 05:30/18:00	530 100	261 155
57	June	Sunday, June 4th, 2023 Sunday, June 4th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STO	09:30/17:00	4,180	4,654
58	June	Sunday, June 4th, 2023	Crown Princess	STI	09:00/18:00	3,082	2,905
59	June	Monday, June 5th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	05:30/20:00	60	103
60	June	Monday, June 5th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STI	06:30/19:00	2,092	1,345
61	June	Monday, June 5th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	1BR	07:30/17:00	700	385
62	June	Monday, June 5th, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	327
63	June	Monday, June 5th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,568
64	June	Tuesday, June 6th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	05:30/17:00	200	248
65	June	Tuesday, June 6th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/16:30	2,100	2,350
66	June	Tuesday, June 6th, 2023	Viking Orion	2BR	07:30/16:00	930	897
67	June	Tuesday, June 6th, 2023	Silver Muse	3CR	08:30/16:00	596	559
68	June	Tuesday, June 6th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,470
69 70	June June	Wednesday, June 7th, 2023	NG Sea Bird	PET	05:30/18:00	2 002	2 042
70	June	Wednesday, June 7th, 2023 Wednesday, June 7th, 2023	Norwegian Sun Eurodam	STO	07:00/17:15 07:30/17:00	2,002 2,100	2,042 2,156
14	June	vvcunesuay, June 7th, 2023	Luiouaiii	310	07.30/17:00	2,100	2,130

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72	June	Thursday, June 8th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	2,106
73	June	Thursday, June 8th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,818
74	June	Friday, June 9th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STO	07:30/16:00	700	738
75	June	Saturday, June 10th, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	85
76	June	Monday, June 12th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	349
77	June	Monday, June 12th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STI	07:30/19:00	2,092	1,918
78	June	Monday, June 12th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:00/16:00	596	402
79	June	Monday, June 12th, 2023	Star Breeze	3BR	08:30/16:00	312	237
80	June	Monday, June 12th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,829
81	June	Tuesday, June 13th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STI	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,823
82	June	Tuesday, June 13th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,577
83	June	Wednesday, June 14th, 2023	Viking Orion	STI	07:30/16:00	930	904
84	June	Wednesday, June 14th, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,198
85	June	Thursday, June 15th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	06:30/17:00	4,180	4,757
86	June	Thursday, June 15th, 2023	Westerdam	STO	07:30/16:00	1,848	2,136
87	June	Friday, June 16th, 2023	Roald Amundsen	1CR	07:30/16:00	530	218
88	June	Sunday, June 18th, 2023	NG Quest	STO	05:30/18:00	100	176
89	June	Sunday, June 18th, 2023	Crown Princess	STI	06:30/16:00	3,082	2,878
90	June	Monday, June 19th, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	327
91	June	Monday, June 19th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,801
92	June	Tuesday, June 20th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/16:30	2,100	2,398
93	June	Tuesday, June 20th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	571
94	June	Tuesday, June 20th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	3BR	10:00/17:00	700	655
95	June	Tuesday, June 20th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,555
96	June	Wednesday, June 20th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,333
96	June	Wednesday, June 21st, 2023 Wednesday, June 21st, 2023	Ruby Princess	2BR	07:30/17:15	3,082	3,280
_			Quantum of the Seas			-	
98 99	June	Wednesday, June 21st, 2023		STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,852
	June	Thursday, June 22nd, 2023	Westerdam Ougan Flinghoth	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	2,116
100	June	Thursday, June 22nd, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STO	08:30/17:00	2,092	1,966
101	June	Friday, June 23rd, 2023	Norwegian Spirit	STO	11:00/18:00	2,335	1,734
102	June	Friday, June 23rd, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STI	08:30/17:00	700	686
103	June	Saturday, June 24th, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	192
104	June	Sunday, June 25th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	05:30/20:00	60	114
105	June	Sunday, June 25th, 2023	Star Breeze	STO	07:30/16:00	312	269
106	June	Monday, June 26th, 2023	Viking Orion	STI	07:30/16:00	930	911
107	June	Monday, June 26th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	362
108	June	Monday, June 26th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	<i>596</i>	405
109	June	Monday, June 26th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,837
110	June	Tuesday, June 27th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	05:30/17:00	200	341
111	June	Tuesday, June 27th, 2023	NG Sea Bird	PET	05:30/18:00	60	121
112	June	Tuesday, June 27th, 2023	Celebrity Eclipse	STI	10:30/20:30	2,850	2,978
113	June	Tuesday, June 27th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,555
114	June	Wednesday, June 28th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	2CR	07:30/16:00	700	610
115	June	Wednesday, June 28th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,264
116	June	Wednesday, June 28th, 2023	Roald Amundsen	3BR	08:30/18:00	530	269
117	June	Wednesday, June 28th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,867
118	June	Thursday, June 29th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	2.138
119	June	Thursday, June 29th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	07:30/17:00	3,082	2,994
120	June	Friday, June 30th, 2023	Carnival Luminosa	STO	09:00/18:00	2,300	2,500
121	July	Sunday, July 2nd, 2023	NG Quest	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	178
122					09:30/17:00		
122	July	Sunday, July 2nd, 2023	Ovation of the Seas  Queen Elizabeth	STO		4,180 2,092	4,833
		Monday, July 3rd, 2023			07:30/17:00	•	1,920
124	July	Monday, July 3rd, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	366
125	July	Monday, July 3rd, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	315
126	July	Monday, July 3rd, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,643
127	July	Tuesday, July 4th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/15:00	2,100	2,369
128	July	Tuesday, July 4th, 2023	Silver Muse	2BR	08:30/16:00	596	532
129	July	Tuesday, July 4th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,577
130	July	Wednesday, July 5th, 2023	Norwegian Sun	STI	07:00/17:15	2,002	2,050
131	July	Wednesday, July 5th, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,158
132	July	Wednesday, July 5th, 2023	Viking Orion	2CR	07:30/17:00	930	834
133	July	Wednesday, July 5th, 2023	Oceania Insignia	3BR	10:00/20:00	700	611
134	July	Thursday, July 6th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	2,072
135	July	Thursday, July 6th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,925
136	July	Friday, July 7th, 2023	Roald Amundsen	1CR	07:30/16:00	530	228
137	July	Friday, July 7th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STI	08:30/17:00	700	736
138	July	Friday, July 7th, 2024	Norwegian Spirit	STO	11:00/18:00	2,335	1,963
139	July	Saturday, July 8th, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	214
140	July	Saturday, July 8th, 2023	Crown Princess	STI	07:30/17:00	3,082	3,054
141	July	Sunday, July 9th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STI	11:30/18:00	2,092	1,996
142	July	Sunday, July 9th, 2023	Ruby Princess	STO	12:30/20:00	<del>3,082</del>	CANCELED
143	July	Monday, July 10th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	STI	05:30/14:00	700	625
144	July	Monday, July 10th, 2023	Silver Muse	2BR	08:30/14:00	596	532
	July	Monday, July 10th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,727
145							

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-	July	Tuesday, July 11th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STI	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,822
147	July	Tuesday, July 11th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,643
148	July	Wednesday, July 12th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,229
149 150	July	Thursday, July 13th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas Westerdam	STO	06:30/17:00	4,180 1,848	4,869
150	July	Thursday, July 13th, 2023 Saturday, July 15th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	07:30/16:00 05:30/20:00	60	2,065 125
152	July	Sunday, July 16th, 2023	NG Quest	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	217
153	July	Sunday, July 16th, 2023	Viking Orion	STI	07:30/16:00	930	909
154	July	Sunday, July 16th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	09:30/18:00	3,082	2,967
155	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	NG Sea Bird	PET	05:30/18:00	60	111
156	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	Star Breeze	3BR	07:30/17:00	312	217
157	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:00/17:00	450	379
158	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	344
159	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	STI	09:30/17:00	700	652
160	July	Monday, July 17th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,591
161	July	Tuesday, July 18th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	05:30/17:00	200	244
162	July	Tuesday, July 18th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/15:00	2,100	2,463
163	July	Tuesday, July 18th, 2023	Silver Muse	2BR	08:30/16:00	596	550
164	July	Tuesday, July 18th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,597
165	July	Wednesday, July 19th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,172
166	July	Wednesday, July 19th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,870
167	July	Wednesday, July 19th, 2023	Ruby Princess	2BR	12:30/20:00	3,082	3,252
168	July	Thursday, July 20th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,976
169	July	Thursday, July 20th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STO	09:00/17:00	2,092	2,019
170	July	Friday, July 21st, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STI	08:30/17:00	700	695
171	July	Friday, July 21st, 2023	Norwegian Spirit	STO	11:00/18:00	2,335	2,019
172	July	Saturday, July 22nd, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	191
173	July	Saturday, July 22nd, 2023	Viking Orion	STI	07:00/16:00	930	921
-	July	Sunday, July 23rd, 2023	Star Breeze	1CR	06:30/13:00	312	288
175	July	Monday, July 24th, 2023	Silver Muse	2BR	08:30/16:00	596	536
176	July	Monday, July 24th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	STI	08:30/18:15	700	631
177	July	Monday, July 24th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO STI	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,680
178 179	July	Tuesday, July 25th, 2023	Celebrity Eclipse		10:30/20:30	2,850	3,044
180	July	Tuesday, July 25th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas Eurodam	STO	11:30/19:00 07:30/17:15	2,100 2,100	2,657 2.242
181	July	Wednesday, July 26th, 2023 Wednesday, July 26th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,839
182	July	Thursday, July 27th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	2,063
183	July	Thursday, July 27th, 2023	Carnival Miracle	STO	09:30/18:00	2,124	2,529
184	July	Saturday, July 29th, 2023	Crown Princess	STI	07:30/17:00	3,082	3,115
185	July	Saturday, July 29th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STO	08:00/18:00	2,092	1,975
186	July	Sunday, July 30th, 2023	NG Quest	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	203
187	July	Sunday, July 30th, 2023	Disney Wonder	STI	07:30/17:15	2,400	2,326
188	July	Sunday, July 30th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STO	09:30/17:00	4,180	4,802
189	July	Sunday, July 30th, 2023	Roald Amundsen	1BR	12:30/21:00	530	197
190	July	Monday, July 31st, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	406
191	July	Monday, July 31st, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	352
192	July	Monday, July 31st, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,721
193	August	Tuesday, August 1st, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/15:00	2,100	2,403
194	August	Tuesday, August 1st, 2023	Star Breeze	1BR	07:30/16:00	312	228
195	August	Tuesday, August 1st, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	587
196	August	Tuesday, August 1st, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,654
	August	Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023	Norwegian Sun	STI	07:00/17:15	2,002	2,165
-	August	Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,237
	August	Thursday, August 3rd, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	2,105
	August	Thursday, August 3rd, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,838
	August	Friday, August 4th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	05:30/20:00	60	119
-	August	Friday, August 4th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STI	08:30/17:00	700	764
	August	Friday, August 4th, 2023	Norwegian Spirit	STO	11:00/18:00	2,335	1,994
-	August	Saturday, August 5th, 2023	NG Venture	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	198
205	August	Saturday, August 5th, 2023 Saturday, August 5th, 2023	Viking Orion	STO	07:30/16:00	930	901
206	August	,, ,	Oceania Regatta	STO	09:30/17:30	700	658
207	August August	Sunday, August 6th, 2023 Sunday, August 6th, 2023	NG Sea Bird Crown Princess	PET STO	05:30/18:00 10:30/19:00	60 3,082	133 3 072
208	August	Monday, August 7th, 2023	Roald Amundsen	3BR	07:30/19:00	530	3,072 222
-	August	Monday, August 7th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	582
-	August	Monday, August 7th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,690
	August	Tuesday, August 8th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	05:30/17:00	200	231
-	August	Tuesday, August 8th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,874
	August	Tuesday, August 8th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STI	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,630
	August	Wednesday, August 9th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,211
215		Thursday, August 10th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	06:30/17:00	4,180	4,842
	August						
216	August August	Thursday, August 10th, 2023	Westerdam	STO	07:30/16:00	1,848	2,066
216 217			Westerdam Viking Orion	STO STO	07:30/16:00 07:30/16:00	1,848 930	2,066 912

	1		T				
220	August	Monday, August 14th, 2023	Queen Elizabeth	STI	06:30/15:00	2,092	1,921
221	August	Monday, August 14th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:00/17:00	450	415
222	August	Monday, August 14th, 2023	Silver Whisper	3CR	08:30/16:00	382	351
223	August August	Monday, August 14th, 2023 Monday, August 14th, 2023	Oceania Regatta Norwegian Bliss	STO STO	08:30/17:00 10:30/18:00	700 4,174	644 4,789
224	August	Tuesday, August 15th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI	06:30/15:00	2,100	2,344
226	August	Tuesday, August 15th, 2023	Silver Muse	2BR	08:30/15:00	596	2,344 549
227	August	Tuesday, August 15th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,625
228	August	Wednesday, August 15th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,023
229	August	Wednesday, August 16th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,702
230	August	Thursday, August 17th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,935
231	August	Thursday, August 17th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	09:30/18:00	3,082	CANCELLED
232	August	Friday, August 18th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STI	08:30/17:00	700	745
233	August	Friday, August 18th, 2023	Norwegian Spirit	STO	11:00/18:00	2,335	1,966
234	August	Saturday, August 19th, 2023	NG Venture	STO	05:30/18:00	100	201
235	August	Monday, August 21st, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	557
236	August	Monday, August 21st, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,548
237	August	Tuesday, August 22nd, 2023	Celebrity Eclipse	STI	10:30/20:30	2,850	3,001
238	August	Tuesday, August 22nd, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,529
239	August	Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,155
240	August	Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:00/17:00	4,180	4,720
241	August	Thursday, August 24th, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	05:30/20:00	60	115
242	August	Thursday, August 24th, 2023	Westerdam	STO	07:30/16:00	1,848	2,009
243	August	Friday, August 25th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	STI	06:30/15:00	700	644
244	August	Friday, August 25th, 2023	Viking Orion	STO	07:30/16:00	930	908
245	August	Saturday, August 26th, 2023	NG Sea Bird	PET	05:30/18:00	60	117
246	August	Sunday, August 27th, 2023	NG Quest	PIP	05:30/18:00	100	193
247	August	Sunday, August 27th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STO	09:30/17:00	4,180	4,528
248	August	Sunday, August 27th, 2023	Crown Princess	STI	09:00/18:00	3,082	3,017
249	August	Monday, August 28th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	2BR	07:30/17:00	450	414
250	August	Monday, August 28th, 2023	Silver Whisper	2CR	08:30/16:00	382	367
251	August	Monday, August 28th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	<i>4,174</i> <i>200</i>	4,502
252 253	August	Tuesday, August 29th, 2023	Ocean Victory		05:30/17:00		271
253	August August	Tuesday, August 20th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas Silver Muse	STI 2CR	06:30/15:00 08:30/16:00	2,100 596	2,186 535
255	August	Tuesday, August 29th, 2023 Tuesday, August 29th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,605
256	August	Wednesday, August 29th, 2023	Ruby Princess	STI	07:00/18:00	3,082	3.034
257	August	Wednesday, August 30th, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,092
258	August	Wednesday, August 30th, 2023	Norwegian Sun	2BR	07:30/17:00	2,002	1,946
259	August	Thursday, August 31st, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	1,992
260	August	Thursday, August 31st, 2023	Viking Orion	2BR	07:30/16:00	930	900
261	August	Thursday, August 31st, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,450
262	September	Friday, September 1st, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STO	08:30/1700	700	711
263	September	Saturday, September 2nd, 2023	Star Breeze	STI	07:30/16:00	312	261
264	September	Saturday, September 2nd, 2023	NG Venture	STO	06:30/18:00	100	104
265	September	Sunday, September 3rd, 2023	NG Sea Lion	PET	05:30/20:00	60	97
266	September	Monday, Septemeber 4th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	STI	06:30/15:00	700	633
267	September	Monday, Septemeber 4th, 2023	Silver Muse	3BR	08:30/16:00	596	554
268	September	Monday, Septemeber 4th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,268
269	September	Tuesday, September 5th, 2023	NG Sea Bird	PET	05:30/18:00	60	107
270	September	Tuesday, September 5th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STI	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,331
271	September	Tuesday, September 5th, 2023	Norwegian Spirit	2BR	08:30/19:00	2,335	1,921
272	September	Tuesday, September 5th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,337
273	September	Wednesday, September 6th, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,067
274	September	Thursday, September 7th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,970
275	September	Thursday, September 7th, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	11:30/20:00	3,082	2,848
276	September	Sunday, September 10th, 2023	NG Quest	STI	05:30/18:00	100	182
277	September	Sunday, September 10th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STO	09:30/17:00	4,180	4,282
278	September	Monday, September 11th, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	1BR	07:30/17:00	450	406
279	September	Monday, September 11th, 2023	Silver Muse	2CR	08:30/16:00	596	424
280	September	Monday, September 11th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,159
281	September	Tuesday, September 12th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STI STO	06:30/15:00 11:30/10:00	<del>2,100</del>	CANCELLED 2 264
282	September September	Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 Wednesday, September 13th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas Oceania Regatta	2BR	11:30/19:00	2,100 700	2,264 651
283	September September	Wednesday, September 13th, 2023 Wednesday, September 13th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	06:30/15:00 07:30/17:15	2,100	2,078
285	September	Wednesday, September 13th, 2023 Wednesday, September 13th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	07:30/17:15	2,100 4,180	4,270
286	September	Thursday, September 14th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,978
287	September	Thursday, September 14th, 2023	Viking Orion	2BR	07:30/16:00	930	891
288	September	Thursday, September 14th, 2023	Carnival Miracle	STO	09:30/18:00	2,124	2,066
289	September	Friday, September 15th, 2023	Seven Seas Explorer	STO	08:30/17:00	700	672
290	September	Saturday, September 16th, 2023	Disney Wonder	STO	08:15/17:00	2,400	1,919
291	September	Monday, September 18th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,113
292	September	Tuesday, September 19th, 2023	Ocean Victory	PIP	06:00/17:00	200	233
_	September	Tuesday, September 19th, 2023	Celebrity Eclipse	STI	10:30/20:30	2,850	2,835
293	September						

294	September	Tuesday, September 19th, 2023	Brilliance of the Seas	STO	11:30/19:00	2,100	2,250
295	September	Tuesday, September 19th, 2023	Nansen	2BR	12:30/21:00	530	301
296	September	Wednesday, September 20th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:15	2,100	2,106
297	September	Wednesday, September 20th, 2023	Viking Orion	2BR	07:30/18:00	930	711
298	September	Wednesday, September 20th, 2023	Quantum of the Seas	STO	09:30/17:00	4,180	4,293
299	September	Thursday, September 21st, 2023	Westerdam	STO	07:30/16:00	1,848	1,921
300	September	Friday, Septemeber 22nd, 2023	Crown Princess	STO	09:30/18:00	3,082	2,862
301	September	Friday, Septemeber 22nd, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	STO	07:30/17:00	450	406
302	September	Sunday, September 24th, 2023	Seabourn Venture	2BR	08:30/18:00	264	185
303	September	Sunday, September 24th, 2023	Radiance of the Seas	STO	13:30/20:00	2,100	2,185
304	September	Monday, September 25th, 2023	Norwegian Bliss	STO	10:30/18:00	4,174	4,227
305	September	Tuesday, September 26th, 2023	Ovation of the Seas	STI	07:30/17:00	4,180	4,387
306	September	Tuesday, September 26th, 2023	L'Austral	2BR	11:30/18:00	260	170
307	September	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023	Eurodam	STI	07:30/17:00	2,100	2,057
308	September	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023	Noordam	STO	11:30/21:00	1,924	1,890
309	September	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	Norwegian Sun	STO	07:30/16:15	2,002	1,777
310	September	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	Westerdam	STI	07:00/16:00	1,848	1,903
311	September	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	Silver Wind	2BR	11:30/18:00	294	236
312	October	Monday, October 2nd, 2023	Seabourn Odyssey	STO	07:30/17:00	450	404
313	October	Wednesday, Ocotber 4th, 2023	Eurodam	STO	07:30/17:00	2,100	1,970
314	October	Thursday, Ocotber 12th, 2023	Oceania Regatta	2CR	07:30/16:00	700	CANCELLED
315	October	Sunday, Ocotber 22nd, 2023	Norwegian Sun	2CR	11:15/20:00	2,002	1,698
							585,544

TOTAL

#### **Amy Ainslie**

From: Noah Rogers <noahr@claalaska.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 1:14 PM

To: Amy Ainslie

**Subject:** RE: 2024 Cruise Passengers

Hey Amy,

The final Sitka cruise passenger count for the 2024 season, as collected by our agency, was 600,787.

#### Some stipulations:

- This is a count of the cruise lines/partners that our agency is associated with. This number does not
  include some of the smaller cruise lines that make port calls to Sitka (Alaskan Dream Cruises, UnCruise,
  American Cruise Lines, among others)
- This also does not include yachts that we service via Yacht Services of Alaska
  - If I were to offer a rough estimate as to passengers numbers not included, I'd say give or take
     ~5,000 more passengers but still well within the 600,000 range and certainly under 610,000

Thanks for the inquiry Amy, hope all is well at City Hall, and please let me know if you have any further questions. Happy to help.

#### Very Respectfully,



Noah Rogers Port Manager Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska

Main Office: (907) 228-2830
Fax: (907) 228-2839
Email: noahr@claalaska.com
4513 Halibut Point Road
Suite D201
Sitka, AK 99835
www.claalaska.com

From: Amy Ainslie <amy.ainslie@cityofsitka.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:06 PM
To: Noah Rogers <noahr@claalaska.com>

Subject: 2024 Cruise Passengers

[External] Received from outside the organization.

Please do not click links or open attachments if you do not recognize the sender.

Hi Noah,

Could I get the final, actual cruise passenger count for 2024?

Thank you,

Amy Ainslie
Planning & Community Development Director
City and Borough of Sitka
100 Lincoln Street, Sitka, AK 99835
907-747-1814
amy.ainslie@cityofsitka.org

#### 2025 Cruise Passenger Count

#### Provided by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska to the City and Borough of Sitka Sent via email October 23, 2025

	Day-by-Day Passenger Count							
#	Month	Day of Week	DATE	# OF VESSELS	PAX EST	PAX ON ARRIVAL TOTAL		
1	April	Tuesday	April 29th, 2025	2	3,947	3,900		
2	May	Thursday	May 1st, 2025	1	1,848	1,897		
3	May	Monday	May 5th, 2025	3	5,662	5,174		
4	May	Tuesday	May 6th, 2025	2	4,206	4,320		
5	May	Wednesday	May 7th, 2025	2	5,186	5,365		
6	May	Thursday	May 8th,2025	2	5,735	5,670		
7	May	Friday	May 9th, 2025	3	6,232	6,530		
8	May	Saturday	May 10th, 2025	2	850	768		
9	May	Monday	May 12th, 2025	3	6,612	6,439		
10	May	Tuesday	May 13th, 2025	5	7,466	7,574		
11	May	Wednesday	May 14th, 2025	3	7,214	7,388		
12	May	Thursday	May 15th, 2025	1	1,848	1,899		
13	May	Friday	May 16th, 2025	1	2,600	2,344		
14	May		May 18th, 2025	2	8,067	8,378		
15	May		May 19th, 2025	6	7,088	6,807		
16	May		May 20th, 2025	2	4,243	4,598		
17	May		May 21st, 2025	2	6,284	6,700		
18	May		May 22nd, 2025	2	1,908	2,002		
19	May		May 23rd, 2025	3	5,167	4,983		
20	May		May 24th, 2025	1	100	110		
21	May		May 25th, 2025	2	1,350	1,169		
22	May		May 26th, 2025	3	6,758	7,048		
23	May		May 27th, 2025	3	7,210	7,909		
24	May		May 28th, 2025	2	2,804	2,719		
25	May		May 29th, 2025	2	6,028	6,913		
26	June		June 1st, 2025	1	4,180	4,693		
27	June	•	June 2nd, 2025	5	5,992	6,339		
28	June	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	June 3rd, 2025	4	5,769	6,121		
29	June		June 4th, 2025	2	6,284	7,118		
30	June		June 5th, 2025	2	5,735	6,171		
31	June		June 6th, 2025	3	2,710	2,255		
32	June	·	June 7th, 2025	1	100	110		
33	June		June 8th, 2025	2	2,192	1,996		
34	June	-	June 9th, 2025	3	6,758	7,381		
35	June		June 10th, 2025	2	3,030	3,413		
36	June		June 11th, 2025	4	8,192	9,062		
37	June		June 12th, 2025	2	6,969	7,248		
38	June		June 15th, 2025	2	6,182	6,638		
39	June		June 16th, 2025	4	5,712	6,032		
40	June	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	June 17th, 2025	4	5,769	6,491		
41	June	·	June 18th, 2025	2	6,284	7,189		
41	Julie	vveunesuay	Julie Totil, 2023		0,204	7,103		

				1	1	1
42	June		June 19th, 2025	1	2,092	1,923
43	June		June 20th, 2025	1	<i>750</i>	<b>728</b>
44	June		June 21st, 2025	1	100	112
45	June	-	June 22nd, 2025	2	160	178
46	June	Monday	June 23rd, 2025	4	7,688	8,392
47	June		June 24th, 2025	2	5,987	6,940
48	June	Wednesday	June 25th, 2025	2	4,106	4,255
49	June	Thursday	June 26th, 2025	3	5,640	6,140
50	June	Sunday	June 29th, 2025	1	4,180	4,776
51	June	Monday	June 30th, 2025	4	6,112	<i>6,729</i>
52	July	Tuesday	July 1st, 2025	4	4,899	5,867
53	July	Wednesday	July 2nd, 2025	2	6,284	7,248
54	July	Thursday	July 3rd, 2025	2	5,137	5,312
55	July	Friday	July 4th, 2025	1	750	<i>76</i> 1
56	July	Saturday	July 5th, 2025	1	100	110
57	July	Sunday	July 6th, 2025	1	100	107
58	July	Monday	July 7th, 2025	4	7,688	8,524
59	July	Tuesday	July 8th, 2025	1	2,100	0
60	July	Wednesday	July 9th, 2025	2	6,284	7,192
61	July	Thursday	July 10th, 2025	2	5,735	6,441
62	July	Friday	July 11th, 2025	1	60	66
63	July	Saturday	July 12th, 2025	1	60	58
64	July	Sunday	July 13th, 2025	3	7,510	7,973
65	July	Monday	July 14th, 2025	4	6,432	6,921
66	July	Tuesday	July 15th, 2025	3	4,839	5,711
67	July	Wednesday	July 16th, 2025	3	7,214	8,038
68	July	Thursday	July 17th, 2025	2	3,940	4,008
69	July	Friday	July 18th, 2025	1	750	748
70	July	Saturday	July 19th, 2025	2	1,030	1,020
71	July	Sunday	July 20th, 2025	2	630	395
72	July	Monday	July 21st, 2025	4	6,818	7,652
73	July	Tuesday	July 22nd, 2025	2	5,987	6,922
74	July	Wednesday	July 23rd, 2025	2	4,196	4,227
75	July		July 24th, 2025	3	7,278	8,137
76	July	Friday	July 25th, 2025	1	1,950	1,624
77	July		July 27th, 2025	2	5,110	5,707
78	July	Monday	July 28th, 2025	4	5,712	6,078
79	July	Tuesday	July 29th, 2025	3	4,839	5,815
80	July		July 30th, 2025	2	6,284	7,126
81	July		July 31st, 2025	2	3,947	4,342
82	August		August 1st, 2025	2	810	802
83	August	Saturday	August 2nd, 2025	3	1,960	1,924
84	August		August 3rd, 2025	1	100	112
85	August	•	August 4th, 2025	3	6,758	7,549
86	August		August 5th, 2025	2	3,350	3,844
87	August	-	August 6th, 2025	2	6,284	7,120
88	August	•	August 7th, 2025	2	5,735	6,464
89	August		August 8th, 2025	2	3,022	2,861
				_	-,	_,

00		<u> </u>	IA		1 2 2 2 2	4.054
	August		August 10th, 2025	2	4,240	4,854
	August		August 11th, 2025	4	6,432	5,551
	August		August 12th, 2025	3	4,839	5,616
	August		August 13th, 2025	2	6,284	7,006
	August		August 14th, 2025	2	3,940	4,017
	August		August 15th, 2025	1	750	721
	August	,	August 16th, 2025	2	1,030	1,021
	August		August 17th, 2025	1	100	111
	August		August 18th, 2025	3	6,758	7,105
99	August		August 19th, 2025	2	5,987	6,656
100	August		August 20th, 2025	2	2,164	2,147
101	August	Thursday	August 21st, 2025	3	6,088	6,661
102	August	Friday	August 22nd, 2025	2	1,860	1,798
103	August	Saturday	August 23rd, 2025	1	2,092	1,957
104	August	,	August 24th, 2025	1	4,180	4,556
105	August		August 25th, 2025	3	5,204	5,478
106	August		August 26th, 2025	3	4,839	5,353
107	August		August 27th, 2025	2	5,991	5,942
108	August	Thursday	August 28th, 2025	3	5,860	5,915
109	August	Saturday	August 30th, 2025	2	160	164
110	August	Sunday	August 31st, 2025	2	160	174
111	September	Monday	September 1st, 2025	3	6,758	6,884
112	September	Tuesday	September 2nd, 2025	2	6,280	6,825
113	September	Wednesday	September 3rd, 2025	3	8,132	8,480
114	September	Thursday	September 4th, 2025	1	1,250	1,193
115	September	Friday	September 5th, 2025	2	3,022	2,851
116	September	Sunday	September 7th, 2025	2	6,780	6,863
117	September	Monday	September 8th, 2025	2	4,454	4,458
118	September	Tuesday	September 9th, 2025	4	4,899	4,462
119	September	Wednesday	September 10th, 2025	1	4,180	4,387
120	September		September 11th, 2025	1	930	902
121	September	Friday	September 12th, 2025	2	4,637	4,525
122	September	Saturday	September 13th, 2025	2	1,030	993
123	September	Sunday	September 14th, 2025	1	100	103
124	September	Monday	September 15th, 2025	3	5,850	5,745
125	September	Tuesday	September 16th, 2025	2	6,152	0
126	September	Wednesday	September 17th, 2025	3	7,214	0
127	September	Thursday	September 18th, 2025	1	2,376	2,258
128	September	Friday	September 19th, 2025	1	3,082	3,051
129	September	Saturday	September 20th, 2025	2	3,150	2,688
130	September	Sunday	September 21st, 2025	2	1,780	1,359
131	September	Monday	September 22nd, 2025	2	4,216	0
132	September	Tuesday	September 23rd, 2025	1	4,180	4,480
133	September	Wednesday	September 24th, 2025	2	2,554	2,487
134	September	Thursday	September 25th, 2025	1	3,887	3,849
135	September	_	September 30th, 2025	1	4,180	4,438
136	October	•	October 1st, 2025	1	2,104	2,057
		•				<b>579,981</b> T



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# Cruise Dock Owner Hails Progress Over Season

Posted Tuesday, September 30, 2025 7:22 pm

#### SHANNON HAUGLAND Sentinel Staff Writer

Sitka will finish its 2025 cruise season Wednesday with a visit by Holland America's 2,000-passenger Eurodam, the final ship of the season.

That will bring the total number of cruise visitors this year to 579,900 passengers, a slight drop from last year's record of 600,780, said Chris McGraw, owner of the Sitka Sound Cruise Terminal.

The total represents the actual number of passengers aboard, not the capacity, as reported by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. The count includes small cruise ships.

McGraw spoke today about how the season went for his cruise terminal business, the changes in the shuttle bus service, what he's heard from tenant businesses at the terminal, and feedback he's received from Sitkans. Other members of the businesses community weighed in about how their season went.

"It actually went really well from an operational standpoint," McGraw said. "We learn more and more every year, how to better provide transportation, shuttle queuing and staging, just from a passenger flow standpoint."

McGraw said staggering the arrival of two ships has been key to resolving the problem of the mid-morning rush, with all the passengers trying to get into town all at once.

"Typically we'll have them both arrive early before eight, or we'll have one at 8 and one at 9:30 or 10," he said.

Another improvement has been an online shuttle reservation system which has helped with anticipating the number of buses needed for inbound and outbound trips. This has reduced the number of buses on the road, which has been a complaint by citizens.

"In years' past," he said, "we would have a tendency to have buses on a loop and not knowing when the increase in demand was going to come. This year, we would hold buses at the terminal. If we knew the peak (in demand) was coming at 2, for example, we would start dispatching those buses on a more frequent basis. ... The goal was to have fewer buses on the road."

The other result was fewer long lines, and queuing, for the passengers at Centennial Hall and at the terminal. McGraw is continuing to replace the larger white buses with smaller school-bus style buses, which have updated and better emissions systems. His plan is to "no longer use any of the large motor coaches" within the next two years.

The number of canceled ships this year was nine, one up from last year, and generally caused by stormy September weather. The largest passenger numbers at the dock were generally on Wednesdays, with two large ships totaling 6,100 passengers at the dock. On a handful of days, that coincided with a large vessel tendering passengers to Crescent Harbor. With the implementation of the agreement between the city and the cruise dock, the number of days with three large ship was reduced.

"Next year we will not have any days with two large ships at the dock and a ship with over 1,000 passengers tendering to Crescent Harbor," McGraw said.

McGraw not only runs the dock but rents space at the terminal to two dozen vendors, and has had feedback from businesses. Sales were flat from 2024 to 2025 with businesses at the cruise dock, but that's based on a lower number of visitors overall.

"I feel like travelers were upbeat ... I've heard fewer complaints," he said. "The last week and the week before with our not very nice weather, passengers did seem to be a little tired of the rain. We didn't see a significant softening of spending on retail, food and beverages. We had more tour operators at the dock, which helped disperse people better."

He said the reviews from the ships for the year are not yet available, and are expected sometime in the winter.

"i do know for '24 we had good ratings from all the ships – we are one of the higher-rated ports," he said.

McGraw opened the dock in 2012, with only a few ships using the terminal. It ramped up in 2015 with the addition of Holland America. The terminal was expanded in 2020, and cruise numbers increased dramatically with Norwegian and Royal Caribbean lines deploying more vessels to Sitka starting in 2022.

In terms of plans for next year, McGraw said the number of visitors is expected to be above 600,000. He's working on a plan for a new bus turnaround area at the corner of Oja Way and Monastery Street that would avoid conflicts at Centennial Hall.

"From a passenger standpoint there's a lot of conflict with the independent tour sales, cross traffic, food traffic, and we were in their way a lot," McGraw said. "It's very congested – I think at the new location we would do away with the jaywalking issue across Harbor Drive."

The plan is still in the works, with final details yet to be determined, including the removal of a building on Oja Way, he added.

Chamber of Commerce Director Rachel Roy said reviews from the business community have been solid for the season.

"We've seen businesses expanding, and new businesses open up this season or this year," she said.

In contrast to past seasons, she said, businesses seem to be coming up with solutions to staffing challenges, which has "lifted some of the pressures we've felt as a business community with the rapid growth after COVID. I felt like everyone this year was able to run at full capacity, and it just made it a successful season."

The three rising Sitka High School seniors were a popular addition to the Visit Sitka office, since they were well-versed with the community, and worked well with the team of mostly "seasoned Sitkans." Visit Sitka is a service provided by the Chamber.

"I enjoyed seeing our young people working in the visitor industry, which helped support Sitka's workforce needs," Roy said.

Sherri Blankenship just finished her first summer as owner of Highliner Coffee Co. and found the season was a bit of a learning experience as a business owner but was positive overall. She said the summer was busy, and she focused a lot on employee training, building a culture of self-advocacy, and employee retention.

"There were days that we did feel a little overwhelmed, but that was maybe 10 days the entire season," Blankenship said. "We did have a day we felt overwhelmed and a lot of that had to do with the bathroom, which got a lot of use." She reported tipping was down for whatever reason, but the tourists were by and large "friendly, and really nice."

Joe Ieremia, co-owner of Work & Rugged Gear Store finishing his third visitor season here, said his season went "great," from both a business and customer flow standpoint.

"One of the biggest differences is that the flow of folks through town didn't feel like it was overwhelming," he said. "The schedule of berthing, and offloading, changed the flow (of customers) for good. In the past, sometimes it was so busy the customers would just walk in and walk out. This year, the flow of folks hitting downtown; it wasn't a fire hose, it was more even."

leremia said the more moderated arrivals and departures of passengers through the revised shuttle system should have made it easier for residents to access downtown than in the past.

#### OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU

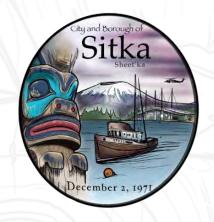
Metropolitan Visit (/stories/metropolitan-visit,82647)

Alaska Day Traditions (/stories/alaska-day-traditions,82648)

New Troupe to Present Play 'In the Round' (/stories/new-troupe-to-present-play-in-the-round,82651)

Historical Society Gives Award, Shows Photos (/stories/historical-society-gives-award-shows-photos,82653)

#### **E-EDITION**



### **CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA**

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## 2024 Annual Short-Term Rental Report

May 7, 2025

Prepared for Chair Windsor and Planning Commission Members
Copies provided to Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members,
John Leach, Municipal Administrator

#### **Report Sections**

- A. Permit & Financial Data
- B. Marketing & Management Data
- C. Visitation Enplanement
- D. Use Data
- E. Short-Term Rental Density Maps

#### Please note the following:

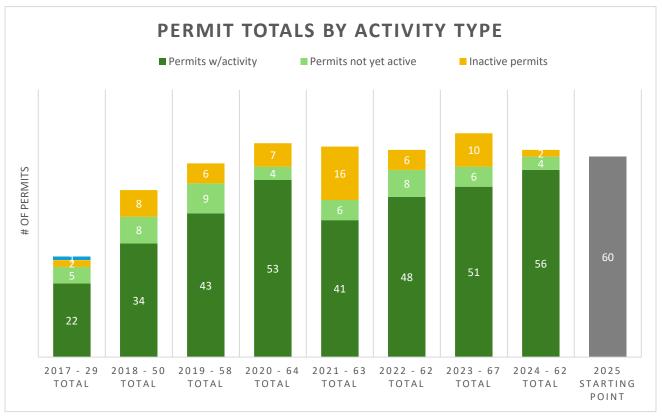
This report only covers short-term rentals or bed and breakfast establishments that operate through the conditional use permit process. This report does not have information about short-term rentals that are operated by right within the Central Business District, Commercial 1 District, Commercial 2 District, Waterfront District, General Island District, and/or Recreational District.

The term "short-term rental" or STR, will also be used to describe bed and breakfast establishments permitted through the conditional use permit (CUP) process.

#### A. PERMIT & FINANCIAL DATA

Permit Data	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Total Permits	50	58	64	63	62	67	62		
Active permits in use	34	43	53	41	48	51	56		
Active permits not yet use	8	9	4	6	8	6	4		
Inactive permits	8	6	7	16	6	10	2		
<b>Rental Data from Active P</b>	ermits								
Total nights rented	2928	3190	1788	2917	4137	3977	4465		
Average nights rented (avg/permit)	86	74	30	71	86	78	72		
Minimum nights rented	2	2	0	1	5	3	0		
Maximum nights rented	446	259	174	205	276	250	232		
Financial Data from Repor	Financial Data from Reporting Permits (\$ USD)								
Total bed tax remitted	27,950	39,137	21,293	47,286	63,997	76,273	90,783		
Total implied revenue	465,838	652,292	354,883	788,100	1,066,617	1,271,234	1,513,057		
Average bed tax remitted	822	910	402	1,153	1,333	1,557	1,745		
Average implied revenue per permit	13,701	15,169	6,695	19,222	22,217	25,944	29,097		
Average implied nightly rental price	159	205	223	271	258	333	351		
Minimum bed tax remitted	0	14	0	6	10	0	46		
Maximum bed tax remitted	3,107	3,776	1,581	2,936	4,538	5,725	4,694		
Maximum implied revenue	51,783	62,933	26,350	48,933	75,633	95,417	78,233		

There were 62 total permits in 2024. Of the seven permits issued in 2024, four began rental activity within the calendar year and three did not. One permit issued in 2022 was given a two-year initiation period and did not begin renting in 2024. These four are the permits considered "Active permits not yet used." Two permits reported activity in 2024 but communicated the intent to deactivate in 2025. The beginning baseline of active permits as of January 1, 2025, was 56. Four permits with reported activity did not remit bed tax; staff will be following up with permit holders to resolve this issue. Those permit holders were excluded from calculations of average implied revenue and nightly price. There was a 100% response rate for all permits.



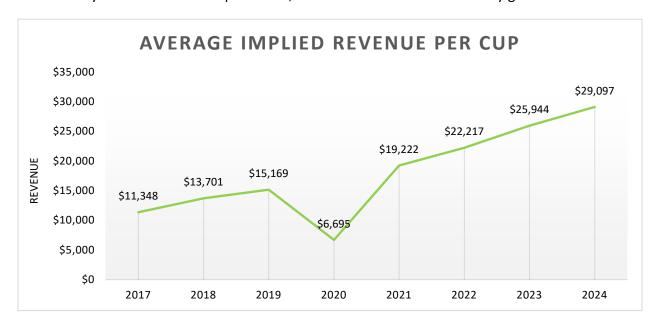
Of the 62 permit holders who responded to the report, 53 reported bed tax remittance. Sitka's bed tax on short-term rentals is 6% and the total reported bed tax remitted was \$90,783; this implies total rental revenue of \$1,513,057, breaking \$1 million for the third year in a row and surpassing \$1.5 million for the first time. Reported STR revenue exceeded 2023 revenues by 19%. Over 4,312 rental days reported by properties also reporting bed tax, the average price per night was approximately \$351.

In 2023, the average nights rented per permit was 78; when considering all nights reported—including nights reported by those who did not report bed tax remittance—that number declined slightly to 72 in 2024. However, when considering only permittees who reported bed tax remittance, that number increased from 78 in 2023 to 83 in 2024.

STRs still represent a significant revenue source that could substantially offset housing expenses. Among permit holders reporting bed tax, the average revenue per permit holder is \$29,097—a sizeable revenue stream for properties owners not otherwise captured at hotels, lodges, or short-term rentals/bed and breakfast establishments in other zoning districts. In comparison to long-term rentals,

the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that the fair market value of a two-bedroom unit in Sitka is \$1,498 per month. Averaging short-term rental revenue (average per permit reporting bed tax) over twelve months, this equates to \$2,425 per month while only having to rent the unit for 83 days a year.

The average implied revenue per CUP increased steadily between 2017 and 2019, dropped dramatically in 2020 due to the pandemic, and has rebounded and steadily grown since 2021.



#### **B. MARKETING & MANAGEMENT DATA**

Marketing platform data is collected to help better understand marketing trends and monitor platforms for compliance. The survey question regarding marketing platforms was optional, and 52 of the 62 permit holders surveyed responded to the question.

Most respondents listed multiple marketing platforms, such as using multiple websites, or a manager as well as a private listing site (such as Airbnb or VRBO). Airbnb was again the most popular marketing platform, followed by VRBO and local company Sitka Travel. "Word of mouth" grew from 26% in 2023 to 28% in 2024, while Airbnb decreased from 32% in 2023 to 30% in 2024.



28% of those with active permits stated that they were using professional services for property management, a slight decline from 31% in 2023, which was a decline from 46% in 2022. 56% of permittees report that they live on the property with the short-term rental and are present when the

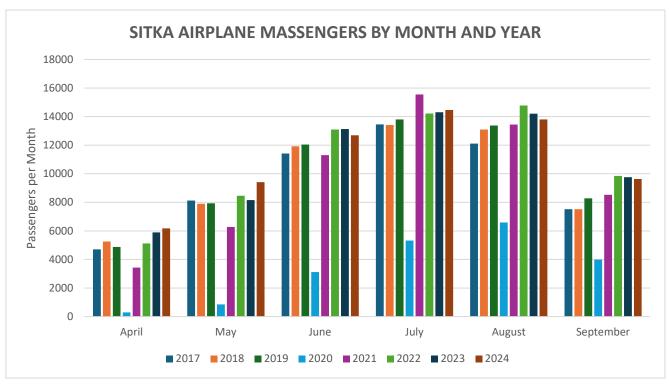
unit is rented—the same proportion as in 2023—18% personally monitor the property when it is rented, and 26% are not present on the property when it is rented.

#### C. VISITATION – ENPLANEMENT

Short-term rentals primarily serve independent travelers who arrive in Sitka via commercial airlines. Beginning in the 2021 report, enplanement data was presented to understand visitation numbers and the strength of the independent travel market.

2024 enplanement from the months of April through September was about 1% higher than enplanement in 2023. Comparing the two years, enplanement was slightly higher in April and July of 2024, with a 15% increase (1,253 additional passengers) in May. Decreases in enplanement were observed in June (438-passenger, or 3% decrease), August (400-passenger, or 3% decrease), and September (123-passenger, or 1% decrease). The consistent level of enplanement between 2022 and 2024 is particularly interesting in the context of the increase in total nights rented (10%) in 2024 from 2023, and more of note as the increase follows a slight decline (4%) in total rental nights in 2023 from 2022. This could imply that in 2024, travel was absorbed more by residential short-term rentals than by hotels, lodges, and short-term rentals in commercial zones; that there was less resident travel; that there was less travel by family and friends of residents who might stay as house guests; that there was less day-travel from nearby communities; and/or that there was a decrease in non-permitted short-term rentals.

Summer enplanement has grown 15% since 2017, and total yearly enplanement has grown by 13%. Enplanement in the summer months as a proportion of total year enplanement was consistently two-thirds 2017-2019, dipped to 53% in 2020, reached a high of 74% in 2021, was 70% in 2022, and 68% in 2023 and 2024.

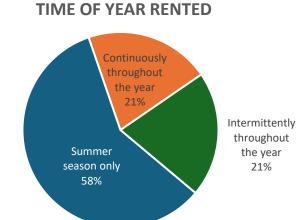


Data Source: https://www.transtats.bts.gov/Data Elements.aspx?Data=2

#### D. USE DATA

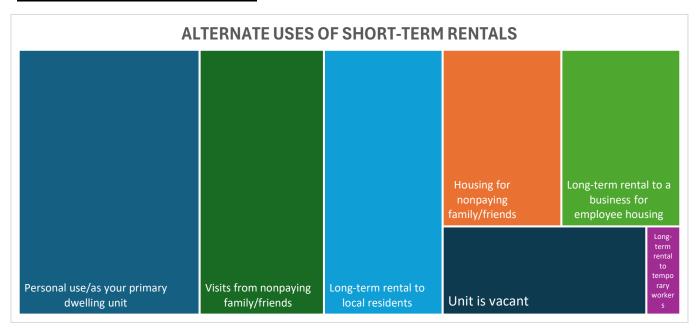
Following the inclusion of information regarding use of units when not short-term rented and the type of visitors utilizing short-term rentals in 2023, an optional portion of the annual report was again included in the 2024 survey. Nearly 97% of permittees elected to participate in this part of the report.

Respondents predominantly short-term rent their units in the summer months (defined as April – September) which was consistent with general assumptions/expectations, and data collected in 2023's report. There was an even



split (21%) between those who rent continuously throughout the year and for intermittent periods throughout the year. Respondents were not asked whether they short-term rent solely in the winter months.

#### Alternate Uses of Short-Term Rentals



As in the 2023 report, respondents were able to select all options they felt applied to alternative uses for their units when not short-term rented.

Personal use, including the unit serving as the permittee's primary dwelling unit, was the highest use. Visits from family and friends received the second-most responses, followed closely by long-term renting to local residents.

A continued area of interest has been whether units are alternatively used as long-term rentals when not rented short-term. In total, 41% of respondents indicated use of the unit as a long-term rental for part of the year; their responses are further detailed below:

Long-Term Rentals To:	
Local residents, no additional uses	23%
Local residents in combination with other uses	18%
Temporary employees, no additional uses	0%
Temporary employees in combination with other uses	18%
Local residents and temporary employees, no additional uses	14%
Local residents, temporary employees, and additional uses	41%

For responses indicating long-term rental use by local residents as their only alternate use of the unit (8% of total permits), of those five permits, four (7% of total permits) are short-term rented in the summer only which means they could potentially provide up to 6 months of housing for local residents. The remaining permit is rented continuously throughout the year.

Use by visiting family and friends was also common at times when units were not short-term rented. A little over one-third of respondents reported using their short-term rental to house nonpaying visitors. Slightly less than three-quarters of respondents who indicated use by houseguests also indicated additional use; 50% reported use as housing for nonpaying family/friends, and 50% reported long-term rental use. Two permit-holders reported using their units solely for housing for nonpaying family and friends when not rented short-term.

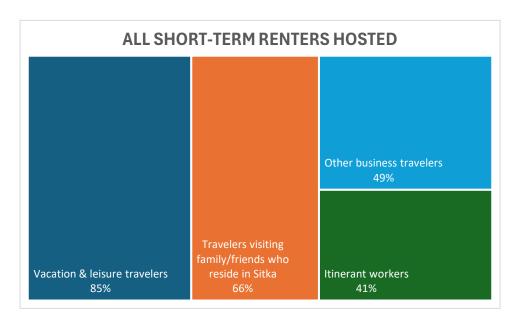
Slightly over a quarter of respondents reported personal use or use as a primary dwelling unit as the only alternative use of a short-term rental unit. Such reporting might be an indication of the use of short-term rentals as a method of subsidizing the high cost of home ownership in Sitka.

There has also been continued interest in understanding how many units are vacant when not used as short-term rentals. Of the 11 respondents who reported that the unit is vacant, slightly less than half indicated no other additional uses. 45% reported use by visitors, 18% reported housing use by other family/friends, and 27% reported occasional long-term rental use.

#### **Visitor Characteristics**

Respondents were asked to characterize the primary users of their short-term rentals, as well as users overall. 79% of respondents said vacation and leisure travelers were their primary users, followed by 14% travelers visiting family/friends who reside in Sitka, 3% business travel, and 3% itinerant workers.

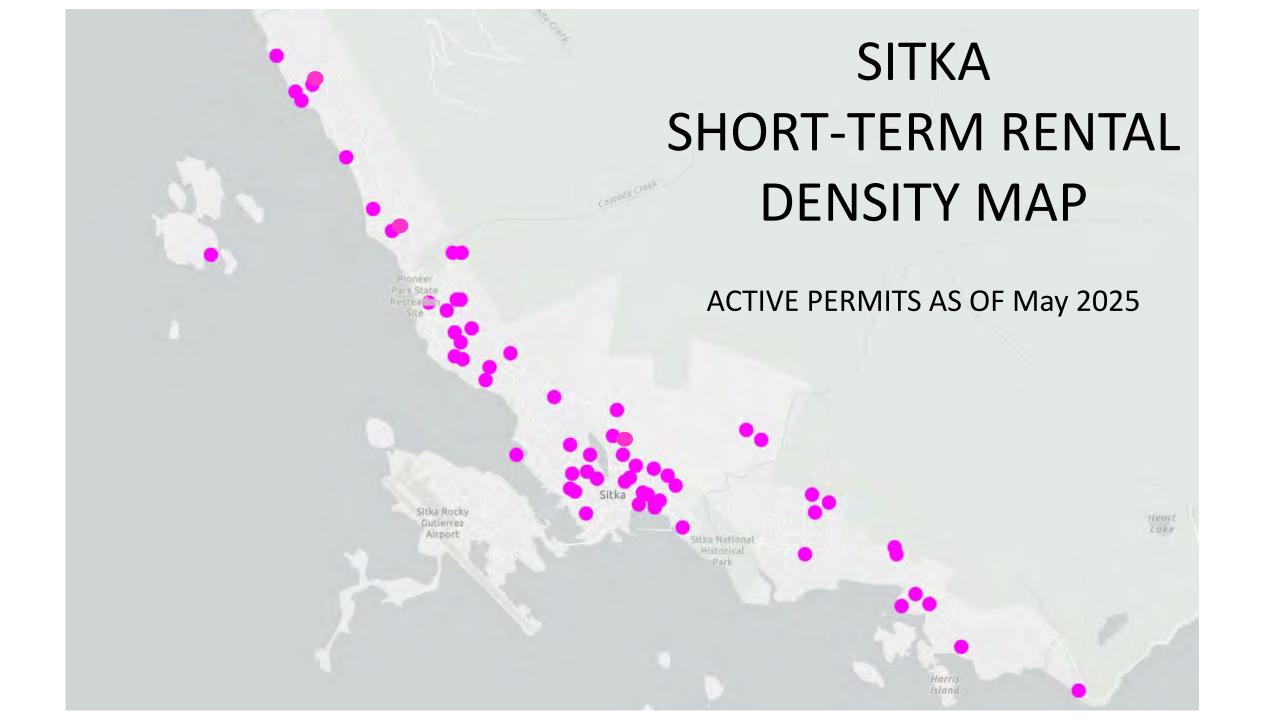
When looking at all short-term renters hosted by permittees, the proportions between vacation and leisure travelers, those visiting Sitkans, and work-related travel is fairly even. The question differentiated between itinerant workers such as those who come to work for Sitka for short, infrequent, or intermittent periods such as a those providing specialized repair services, visiting researchers or artists, etc., temporary employees like traveling nurses, and other business travelers such as those visiting for meetings or conferences.



85% of hosts reported hosting vacation and leisure travelers; 22% reported that these visitors were their only short-term renters. 10% reported only having guests who were visiting Sitkans. 42% reported hosting all four categories of short-term renters.

#### E. SHORT-TERM RENTAL DENSITY MAPS

The density maps produced depicting the locations of active short-term rental permits demonstrate similar trends from previous years—STRs are generally concentrated in the downtown area and the Edgecumbe Drive/connectors area.





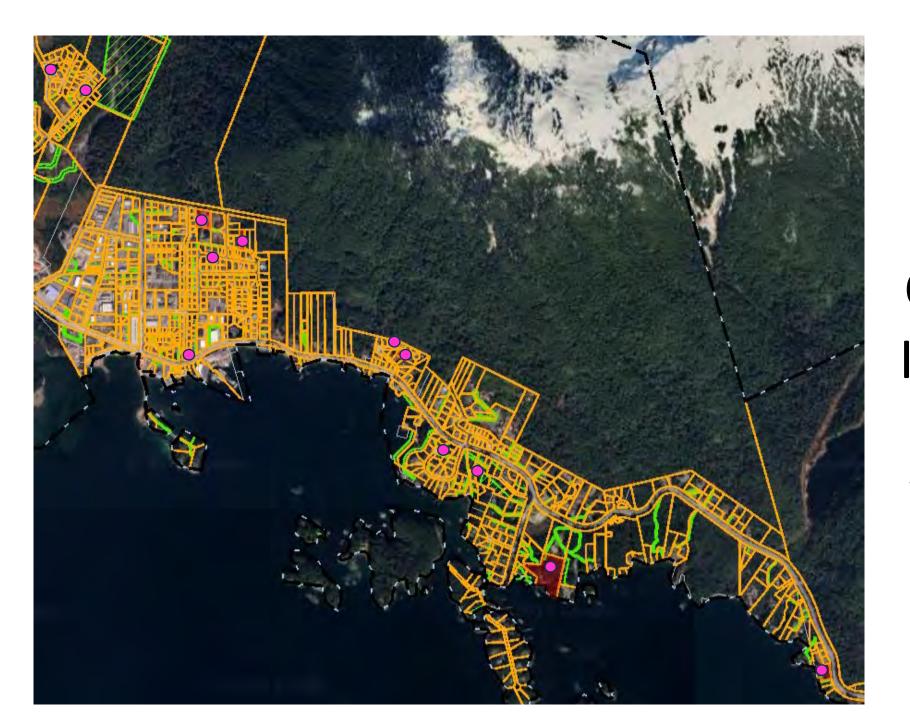
## **DOWNTOWN**



# EDGECUMBE DRIVE & CONNECTORS



HALIBUT POINT ROAD:
KRAMER AVENUE TO
HARBOR MOUNTAIN
&
KASIANA ISLAND



SAWMILL
CREEK ROAD:
INDIAN RIVER
TO
WHALE PARK



## Annual Workplan & Budget Request

**FY25** 

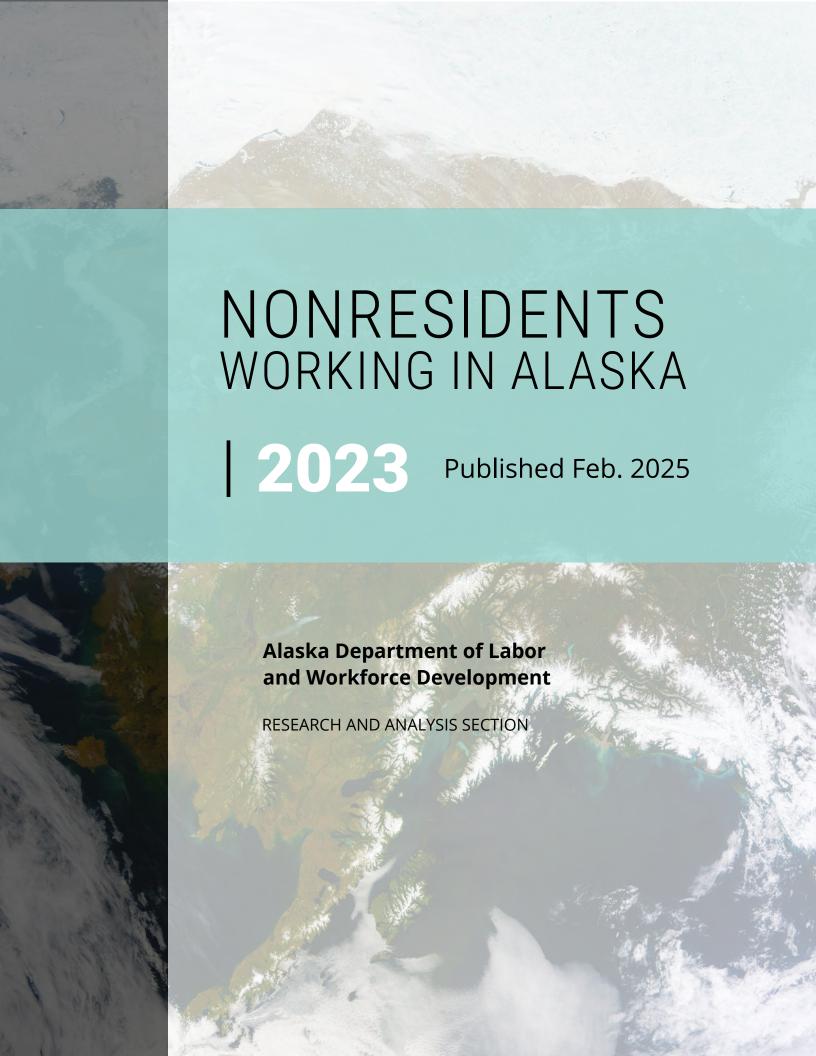


There has been an upward trend in air passengers into Sitka since 2009. While the pandemic hit the travel **Number of passengers to SIT Airport** 

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·	
Year	Airport passengers	Independent Travelers
2023	95,794	66,673
2022	93,550	65,111
2021	79,604	55,404
2020	38,235	26,612
2019	89,518	62,305
2018	87,782	61,096
2017	85,375	59,421

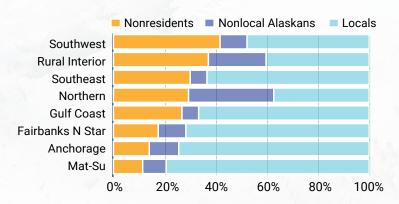
<sup>\*69.6%</sup> of Domestic Air passengers are visitors

Source: <a href="https://www.transtats.bts.gov/Data\_Elements.aspx?Data=1">https://www.transtats.bts.gov/Data\_Elements.aspx?Data=1</a>



## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

#### Worker residency by area



	Local residents	Nonlocal residents	Nonres- idents	Total workers	Percent nonres
Bristol Bay Borough	322	483	3,988	4,793	83.2
Aleutians East Borough	631	238	2,198	3,067	71.7
Denali Borough	610	540	2,648	3,798	69.7
Skagway, Municipality	461	105	1,136	1,702	66.7
Aleutians West Census Area	1,614	401	2,829	4,844	58.4
Lake and Peninsula Borough	528	271	1,064	1,863	57.1
Chugach Census Area	2,537	672	3,048	6,257	48.7
Dillingham Census Area	1,748	332	1,591	3,671	43.3
Sitka, City and Borough	3,498	369	2,815	6,682	42.1
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	696	155	618	1,469	42.1
Petersburg Borough	1,114	93	749	1,956	38.3
Yakutat, City and Borough	256	60	194	510	38.0
North Slope Borough	3,090	7,204	5,832	16,126	36.2
Haines Borough	831	107	415	1,353	30.7
Copper River Census Area	815	244	435	1,494	29.1
Kodiak Island Borough	4,844	431	2,165	7,440	29.1
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	5,915	707	2,675	9,297	28.8
Southeast Fairbanks CA	1,908	968	1,019	3,895	26.2
Prince of Wales-Hyder CA	2,112	200	778	3,090	25.2
Juneau, City and Borough	14,562	1,228	4,672	20,462	22.8
Northwest Arctic Borough	2,742	1,078	1,115	4,935	22.6
Kenai Peninsula Borough	20,872	1,496	6,027	28,395	21.2
Wrangell, City and Borough	693	79	207	979	21.1
Fairbanks North Star Borough	33,043	4,989	8,071	46,103	17.5
Nome Census Area	4,092	593	858	5,543	15.5
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	2,075	1,061	557	3,693	15.1
Anchorage, Municipality	116,794	18,048	21,989	156,831	14.0
Bethel Census Area	7,499	1,311	1,343	10,153	13.2
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	28,780	3,309	4,146	36,235	11.4
Kusilvak Census Area	2,898	324	287	3,509	8.2
Offshore	0	292	3,655	3,947	92.6
Other/Unknown	3	4,141	3,540	7,684	46.1
Total	267,583	51,529	92,664	411,776	22.5

Nonresidents work in every borough and census area, with the largest numbers in the most populated areas and several smaller places with significant seafood processing, tourism, or resource extraction. The North Slope and Bristol Bay boroughs are examples.

Nonresident percentages tend to be highest in areas with small populations and significant seafood processing, tourism, or resource extraction. Nonresidents accounted for a majority of the workers in several areas with small populations and dominant seasonal seafood processing or tourism.

In contrast, nonresidents tend to account for smaller shares of the workforces in rural areas where seafood processing, tourism, and resource extraction are absent and in more populated areas with diversified economies.

The department also uses place of work information from wage records and place of residence from PFD applications to determine whether residents lived and worked in the same borough or census area. Overall, 84 percent of Alaska residents lived and worked in the same area in 2023, and 16 percent lived in one area and worked in another. (Appendix A-2 provides a detailed matrix.)

Locals accounted for at least half of workers in close to two-thirds of the boroughs and census areas, with the highest local worker percentages found in areas with the largest propulations or without significant seafood processing, tourism, or extraction.

The largest group of nonlocals commutes from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to Anchorage. However, the North Slope Borough has the largest nonlocal percentage by far and was the only area where nonlocals were a plurality of workers.