



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

October 29, 2025

Re: Letter of Resignation

Honorable Mayor and Assembly Members,

After considerable reflection, I am submitting my notice of resignation as Municipal Administrator for the City and Borough of Sitka, effective May 30, 2026, in accordance with my employment agreement dated October 30, 2019.

Serving as Sitka's Administrator has been the greatest honor of my professional career. During my tenure, we have faced historic challenges and achieved lasting progress, guiding the community through the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing Sitka's first Strategic and Asset Management Plans, securing record levels of external funding, and advancing major infrastructure projects such as the airport terminal, seaplane base, and marine haul-out/shipyard. We have managed rapid tourism growth with careful policy and community involvement, strengthened municipal finances, stabilized staffing, and boosted employee morale.

This decision comes after careful consideration of the personal toll the position has taken on my health, family, and well-being. While I am proud of what we have accomplished, it is the right time for me to step aside and allow new leadership to continue building on this foundation.

Until my departure, I will remain fully committed to ensuring a smooth transition and advancing key initiatives, including hiring a Port Director, solidifying the Assistant Municipal Administrator role, stabilizing the Police Department with a new Chief, and completing the FY27 operating and capital budgets.

I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and for the opportunity to serve this extraordinary community. I will continue to work diligently through my final day to support Sitka's continued success.

Sincerely,

John M. Leach
Municipal Administrator