



Laurie Gere, Mayor

CITY OF ANACORTES

904 6th Street

Anacortes, WA 98221

www.anacorteswa.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Mayor Laurie Gere awarded with Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership

September 11, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OLYMPIA, WA – Laurie Gere, the City of Anacortes Mayor was recently received an Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC).

AWC's Certificate of Municipal Leadership program recognizes city and town elected officials for accomplishing training in four core areas:

- Roles, responsibilities and legal requirements
- Public sector resource management
- Community planning and development
- Effective local leadership

Those who earn the advanced certificate continue to strive for excellence by attending conferences and trainings, serving their community, and further developing leadership skills.

“Cities and towns around the state are continually transforming in light of changing laws and the need to meet new challenges and opportunities,” said AWC Chief Executive Officer Peter B. King.

“Our Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership recognizes mayors and councilmembers who continue to enhance the tools they need today to understand the legal landscape, plan for the future, manage their resources, and foster strong relationships. The elected officials who earn this certificate demonstrate a commitment to continuous learning and a desire to bring new ideas back to their community.”

To earn the Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership, Mayor Gere completed more than 60 hours of training credits and demonstrated community service.

Laurie Gere was elected Mayor of the City of Anacortes in November of 2013. She was elected to this position after serving on the City's Planning Commission for 20 years and as an Island Hospital Commissioner for 12 years. In 2015, Mayor Gere created the Anacortes Community Task Force to bring together stakeholders in the community to work to serve Anacortes youth and families. In addition to daily administration of the City's business the Mayor also oversees the Regional Water System. Mayor Gere serves on the Board of Directors for SCOG, Skagit Transit, the Solid Waste



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Governance Board, Skagit 911, the Emergency Operations Center, and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She works closely with the Skagit County Board of Commissioners, other Mayors across Skagit County, the Skagit County Public Health Department, and our state and federally elected legislators to best serve the community of Anacortes.

AWC serves its members through advocacy, education and services. Founded in 1933, AWC is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan corporation that represents Washington's 281 cities and towns before the state legislature, the state executive branch, and with regulatory agencies. AWC also provides training, data and publications, and programs such as the AWC Employee Benefit Trust, AWC Risk Management Service Agency, AWC Workers' Comp Retro, AWC Drug and Alcohol Consortium, and AWC GIS Consortium.