

**CITY OF RENTON
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Renton City Councilmember Valerie O'Halloran earns Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership from Association of Washington Cities



Renton City Councilmember Valerie O'Halloran accepts her Advanced Certification of Municipal Leadership certificate from Renton Mayor Armondo Pavone (right). At left is Councilmember O'Halloran's husband Michael.

RENTON, WA – City of Renton Councilmember Valerie O'Halloran has earned an Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership (CML) from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC). The award was presented by Renton Mayor Armondo Pavone at Monday night's Renton City Council meeting.

"My congratulations to Councilmember O'Halloran for earning her advanced certification," said Mayor Pavone. "This achievement reflects her strong desire to serve our residents as she goes beyond her normal councilmember duties."

Councilmember O'Halloran is in her first term on the city council, winning the election in November 2019.

"When I was elected, I made it a goal to learn what it means to be a city councilmember," said Councilmember O'Halloran. "More specifically, to learn what it takes to be an effective councilmember. This Advanced Certification is a product of my commitment to serve the Renton community as best I can. I thank you for trusting me to do the people's work."

She chairs the Finance Committee, is vice-chair of the Community Services Committee and is a member of the Utility Committee. She also serves on the Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board, Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee, King County Flood District Advisory Committee, the I-405/I-167 Executive Advisory Group, and WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council.

She joins fellow Councilmember Ruth Pérez (2019) in earning this Advanced distinction.

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

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

To earn the Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership, Councilmember O'Halloran completed more than 60 hours of training and demonstrated local community service. She earned her Certificate of Municipal Leadership during the pandemic in 2020.

"Being a city leader in Washington is a complex job," said AWC CEO Deanna Dawson. "Through our Advanced CML program, we are providing our elected officials with the knowledge they need to operate effectively within the law, plan, secure and manage funds, foster strong relationships, and work to build more equitable communities."

City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, with a population of 107,500 (2022), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace, and favorable business climate have attracted nationally recognized companies wishing to provide employees and their families with an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, Super Bowl Champion (2014) Seattle Seahawks, two-time (2016 & 2019) MLS champion and CONCACAF Champion (2022) Seattle Sounders FC (in 2024), and the eternal resting place of rock icon Jimi Hendrix. You can find more information on our [website](#), [news releases](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Nextdoor](#) pages.

Association of Washington Cities

Association of Washington Cities (AWC) serves its members through advocacy, education, and services. Founded in 1933, AWC is a private, non-profit, nonpartisan corporation representing Washington's 281 cities and towns before the state legislature, executive branch, and regulatory agencies. AWC 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.

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