

Cal Cities Lifetime Achievement Award Winners

2024 – Jim Beall, former San Jose Council Member, Santa Clara County Supervisor, and California State Assemblymember and Senator

2023 – Betsy Strauss, Special Counsel to League of California Cities, Former City Attorney for Napa, Fairfield, and Rohnert Park

2022 – Sedalia Sanders, former Mayor of El Centro, and former Cal Cities president

2021 – Willie Brown Jr., former Mayor of San Francisco, and Speaker of the California State Assembly

2020 – John Russo, former city manager and council member, Oakland and former Cal Cities president

2019 – Judy Corbett, former executive director, Local Government Commission

2018 – JoAnne Speers, former staff attorney and general counsel, Cal Cities and former executive director, Institute for Local Government

2017 – Don Benninghoven, former executive director, Cal Cities; and Chris McKenzie, former executive director, Cal Cities

2016 – Gov. Pete Wilson, former mayor, San Diego; Cal Cities president; former U.S. senator and state senator

2015 – Anna Cabellero, state senator; former mayor and council member, Salinas; former secretary of the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

2014 – Hal Conklin, former mayor, Santa Barbara

2013 – Beverly O'Neil, former mayor, Long Beach

2012 – Ron Loverage, mayor, Riverside

2011 – Dianne Feinstein, U.S. senator and former mayor, San Francisco

2010 – Ray Remy, former director, California EDD; former deputy mayor, Los Angeles; former assistant director, Cal Cities

2009 – Kevin Starr, author, historian, and former state librarian

2008 – Harriet Miller, former mayor, Santa Barbara; former president of the Institute for Local Government

2007 – A. Alan Post, former chief legislative analyst, state of California

2006 – Rosario Marin, secretary, California State and Consumer Services Agency; former mayor, Huntington Park; former U.S. treasurer

2005 – Jerry Patterson, president, Institute for Local Government; former mayor, Santa Ana; former member, U.S. Congress

2004 – Norman Mineta, secretary of transportation, Bush Administration White House Cabinet; former mayor, San Jose

2003 – Dan Walters, newspaper columnist, Sacramento Bee

2002 – Carol Whiteside, former mayor, Modesto

2001 – Joseph Rattigan, former state senator and District Court of Appeals justice

2000 – Wes McClure, former city manager, San Leandro

1999 – Jack Maltester, former mayor, San Leandro

1998 – Bud Carpenter, former executive director, Cal Cities

1997 – Tom Bradley, former mayor, Los Angeles

1996 – Robert Beverly, former state senator and assembly member