



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Natalie Muruato named 2017 Outstanding City Appointed Official

Natalie Muruato, Belfield City Auditor, was named 2017 Outstanding City Appointed Official by the North Dakota League of Cities (NDLC) during the League's 2017 Annual Conference, Sept. 30, in Fargo.

Natalie Muruato was appointed auditor of Belfield in September 2014 and has already secured funding for new streets, a new water transmission line, a new police department building, a new ambulance building and grants for the fire department and local cemeteries. In total, her efforts have saved the city over \$3 million dollars.

She has also started a city website, an online payment option for citizens, new employee handbook, initiation of an infant-friendly workplace, encouraged City Council to offer employee dental and vision insurance and started a wellness program.

Above all of this, Muruato's most significant contribution to the community is the resurrection of the local theater. It started with a new roof, new sound and movie equipment, new floorings, ADA bathrooms, new lighting, painting, VIP area and concessions area. The theater not only shows movies but has live performances of concerts and plays including some by the local high school chorus and band.

She has garnered local business support by implementing the "Outstanding Business of the Month", coordinates a beautiful yard contest, initiated "City Government Week" and has organized the "Main Street Christmas".

Muruato will be a graduate of the North Dakota Rural Leadership program this November and

is a representative on the North Dakota Municipal Finance Officers Association. She has also been active in numerous other city and regional organizations.

The Outstanding City Appointed Official award was established by the League to honor an individual's accomplishments and their quality of service as a city official.



Photo L to R: Chris West, NDLC Past President; Katie Andersen, NDLC President; Natalie Muruato; Blake Crosby, NDLC Executive Director

The North Dakota League of Cities provides service, advocacy, leadership, education and support to the state's 357 cities. The League's mission - Strong. Dynamic. Cities. - expresses the value of services offered by the League.