Two commissioners from the Alameda Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) received 2017 Achievement Awards from the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) at the statewide group’s annual conference in October.

Sblend Sblendorio of Livermore, an Alameda LAFCo commissioner for 11 years, was named this year’s Outstanding CALAFCO Member for accomplishments during his two years representing the Coastal Region on the CALAFCO Board. Sblendorio’s achievements include chairing the successful 2016 CALAFCO Annual Conference held in Santa Barbara, involvement in planning CALAFCO’s Annual Conferences for more than a decade, serving on the CALAFCO Legislative Committee, and soliciting a record number of sponsorships for a statewide conference held in Alameda County in 2014.

Commissioner John Marchand, also the Mayor of Livermore, was named Outstanding Commissioner for his exceptional leadership over the past year, during which he served as Alameda LAFCo Chair. A surge of activity over the past year meant Alameda LAFCo held more than double the typical amount of annual public meetings, and Marchand was lauded for his “calm manner” and “respectful demeanor” that enabled the Commission to handle and resolve a range of longstanding, controversial issues.

In recognition of the need for a more coordinated and efficient public service structure to support California’s rapid growth following World War II, the State Legislature established local agency formation commissions in the mid-1960s. Both Sblendorio and Marchand are among Alameda LAFCo’s 11 commissioners working to encourage efficient municipal service provision in Alameda County and balance infrastructure needs for sustainable growth with preservation of agricultural and open space lands.

For more information about Alameda LAFCo, go to www.acgov.org/lafco, or contact Mona Palacios, Executive Officer of Alameda LAFCo at mona.palacios@acgov.org or (510) 272-3894.