



# BALLOT REVIEW

Prepared by the **League of Women Voters of Anchorage**  
for the Anchorage Municipal Election, Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
Assembly • School Board • Bond Propositions • Charter Amendment • Service Areas

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**Election:  
Tuesday,  
April 1, 2008**

**On Tuesday, April 1, 2008, qualified voters within the Municipality of Anchorage will:**

- Elect six Assembly Members and two School Board members and
- Vote areawide on seven bond propositions and one Charter amendment.

In addition, voters in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) will vote to consolidate two areas into the ARDSA (Props. 10 and 12). Voters residing in designated service areas will vote on issues that apply only to their service area (Props 9, 11, 13 – 20). Voters residing in some service areas will also elect members to their respective service area boards.

This Ballot Review lists the names of Assembly and School Board candidates and offices sought, as well as information about the ballot propositions.

**More information?**

The Municipality will also publish the list of polling places, the list of service area candidates, the ballot propositions, and current bonded indebtedness in the *Anchorage Daily News* on Monday, March 31, 2008. This information is now on the web at [www.muni.org/elections](http://www.muni.org/elections).

**Who may vote?**

Anyone who was registered to vote in Alaska by March 2, 2008, and who has lived within the Municipality of Anchorage for at least 30 days.

**When do I vote?**

Vote on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. You will need identification with your signature.

**Where do I vote?**

**Vote at the polling place for the precinct where you live.**

Check your voter registration card to find your precinct number, then check the list of polling places in the *Anchorage Daily News* on Monday, March 31, 2008, or on the Municipality's web site ([www.muni.org/elections](http://www.muni.org/elections)). If you have your social security number or voter identification number (on your voter registration card), call the State's automated Polling Place locator at 269-8683. You may also type your street address at MyNeighborhood ([neighborhood.muni.org](http://neighborhood.muni.org)) and select Political from the pull down menu. Or you may call the Municipal Clerk's Office at 343-4311, State Elections Office at 522-8683, or the League of Women Voters at 274-8477.

**Absentee voting  
in person or by  
mail or fax**

If you know you will be unable to vote at your polling place on election day or wish to vote early, you may cast an absentee ballot in person (beginning March 17, 2008), through the mail, or by fax. Applications for absentee by mail ballots or absentee by fax ballots must be

received by the Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. March 25, 2008. Applications are available online at [www.muni.org/elections](http://www.muni.org/elections).

In person absentee voting begins March 17, 2008. Hours and days are listed below.

In-Person Absentee Voting Locations	Dates	Hours
<b>Municipal Clerk's Office, City Hall</b> 632 W 6th Avenue, 2nd floor, Suite 250 (All Municipal ballots will be available)	March 17 - March 31, 2008 Monday through Friday (ends before Election Day)	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
<b>Z.J. Loussac Library</b> 3600 Denali St, first floor (All Municipal ballots will be available)	March 17 - March 29, 2008 Monday through Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
	Sunday, March 30, 2008	noon to 5:00 p.m.
	Monday, March 31, 2008 (ends before Election Day)	10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
<b>Chugiak Senior Center</b> 22424 N Birchwood Loop, Chugiak (Only ballots for Eagle River/Chugiak/Eklutna will be available)	March 24 - March 31, 2008 Monday through Friday (ends before Election Day)	8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
<b>Ted Stevens International Airport</b> Domestic (South) Terminal, in the car rental area (All Municipal ballots will be available)	<i>Election Day only</i> Tuesday, April 1, 2008	7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
<b>UAA Campus Center</b> 3211 Providence Drive (All Municipal ballots will be available)	<i>Election Day only</i> Tuesday, April 1, 2008	7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### Voting by personal representative

Anchorage voters hospitalized on election day may request, by 11:00 a.m., delivery of a ballot by an elections official. Voters with a disability may designate a person to pickup and deliver their ballot. Call the Clerk's office at 343-4311 for more information.

### Voting on service area bonds

Bond-related projects such as roads and parks are organized into service areas with various geographic boundaries; only taxpayers in those service areas pay for the bonded projects. However, the law requires what is called the "full faith and credit" of the Municipality, which means that a bond proposition in a service area must be approved by a majority of voters throughout the Municipality as well as by a majority of voters in the service area. For example, all qualified voters vote on the Anchorage road (ARDSA) bonds but only taxpayers in the ARDSA pay for them. In this election, this applies to Propositions 4 (APRSA parks), 5 (ARDSA roads), and 7 (AFSA fire). Other bond-related projects, like public safety and schools [Propositions 1 (public facilities), 2 and 3 (schools), and 6 (public safety)], are funded areawide and paid for by all Anchorage taxpayers.

### On the Web

The **Ballot Review** is available on the League of Women Voters' web page at [www.lwvanorage.org](http://www.lwvanorage.org) or on the Municipality's site at [www.muni.org/elections](http://www.muni.org/elections) (click on Ballot Propositions/Review).

### Candidates

Qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage may vote for a candidate listed by filling in the oval next to the name or write in the name of a person qualified to hold that office **and** fill in the oval next to the name. All are three-year terms ending in 2011. Assembly members are elected to specific area seats; School Board members are elected at



large, meaning each represents all areas of the Municipality. Candidates win with a simple majority.

<b>Assembly</b>	Section 1 – Seat B (Downtown):	Chris Blankenship, Patrick Flynn
	Section 2 – Seat C (ER/Chugiak):	Bill Starr, Anthony Lemons
	Section 3 – Seat E (West):	Harriet A. Drummond, Bert Hoak, Sherri R. Jackson
	Section 4 – Seat G (Midtown):	Dick Traini, Elvi Gray-Jackson
	Section 5 – Seat I (East):	Paul Bauer, Mike Gutierrez
	Section 6 – Seat K (South):	Chris Birch, Jesse Busick, Mike Kenny

<b>School Board</b>	Seat C:	Jim Bailey, David Boyle, David Dunsmore, Pat Higgins, Leigh Carrigan, Gilbert Sanchez, Steve Pratt, Kathleen Plunkett, Scott Pryde
	Seat D:	Toni L. Truelove, John Steiner, James Labelle

## Prop. 1: \$6,900,000 Public Facility Major Roof Repair and Capital Improvement Bonds

These bonds would pay for roof repair and replacement, HVAC upgrades, and terrace and sidewalk repairs at Anchorage libraries, the Sullivan Arena, and the existing museum building. For property assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$1.78 to retire the debt and \$2.43 to pay for new annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs. The new O&M costs would increase the Municipal tax cap by up to \$756,000, including up to \$340,000 as a capital reserve for required repairs.

**Property owners throughout the Municipality would be taxed for these bonds.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

## Prop. 2: \$34,300,000 Schools Addition, Renewal, and Design Bonds

These bonds would affect three schools. The bonds would pay to completely renovate Chester Valley and Sand Lake Elementary Schools. The bonds would also pay for a building design plan to meet the anticipated future needs at Girdwood K-8 School. The projects qualify for 60% State debt reimbursement, which is subject to annual legislative appropriation. More information about these bonds is available at [www.asdk12.org/bonds](http://www.asdk12.org/bonds) or 742-4153.

For property assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$8.84 to retire the debt. If the State chooses to make the full 60% reimbursement, the estimated annual cost to retire the debt would be \$3.54 per \$100,000 assessed value.

**Property owners throughout the Municipality would be taxed for these bonds.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Projects expected to be funded include, but are not limited to:

	Estimated Costs
Chester Valley Elementary School – renovation	\$16,500,000
Sand Lake Elementary School – renovation	\$17,500,000
Girdwood K-8 School – design plan	\$300,000



## Prop. 3: \$9,410,000 Educational Capital Improvements Districtwide Major Building Systems Renewal Bonds

These bonds would pay for capital improvements across the Anchorage School District. The projects qualify for 70% State debt reimbursement, which is subject to annual legislative appropriation. More information about these bonds is available at [www.asdk12.org/bonds](http://www.asdk12.org/bonds) or 742-4153.

For property assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$2.43 to retire the debt. If the State chooses to make the full 70% reimbursement, the estimated annual cost to retire the debt would be \$0.73 per \$100,000 assessed value.

**Property owners throughout the Municipality would be taxed for these bonds.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Projects expected to be funded include, but are not limited to:

	Estimated Costs
<b>Roof replacement or repairs</b> – Susitna Elementary, Gruening Middle	\$950,000
<b>Emergency communications systems</b> – Central, Mirror Lake, Romig Middle Schools	\$480,000
<b>Building renewal projects</b> – Baxter, Campbell, Klatt, Northwood, & Turnagain Elementary, Gruening & Mears Middle	\$1,240,000
<b>Traffic safety projects</b> – Huffman Elementary, Mears Middle	\$600,000
<b>Track renewal</b> – Central, Gruening, & Hanshew Middle	\$2,250,000
<b>Electrical projects</b> – Alpenglow, Bear Valley, Birchwood, Inlet View, North Star, & O’Malley Elementary, Gruening Middle, Whaley School	\$1,475,000
<b>Mechanical projects</b> – Campbell, Eagle River, & Klatt Elementary, Bartlett High, Maintenance Building	\$1,950,000
<b>Code/Hazmat/ADA/sprinkler projects</b> – Rabbit Creek Elementary, Romig Middle	\$465,000

## Prop. 4: \$2,000,000 Anchorage Parks and Recreation Service Area Pool Improvement Bonds

These bonds would pay to replace and repair pool facilities at Bartlett, Dimond, East, Service, and West High Schools within the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Service Area (APRSA). The APRSA **includes** the Anchorage bowl and most of the Hillside. The APRSA **does not include** Eagle River/Chugiak, Birchwood, Peters Creek, Girdwood, Indian, Bird Creek, and portions of Glen Alps, Rabbit Creek, and Bear Valley. These bonds will be issued only if the Municipality receives a matching grant from the State of Alaska.

For property in the APRSA assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$0.60 to retire the debt and \$0.83 to pay for new annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs. The new O&M costs would increase the Municipal tax cap by up to \$223,000, including up to \$100,000 as a reserve for required repairs.

**Only property owners in the APRSA would be taxed for these bonds. There would be no cost to property owners in Eagle River/Chugiak, Birchwood, Peters Creek, Girdwood, Indian, Bird Creek, and portions of Glen Alps, Rabbit Creek, and Bear Valley.** However, the full faith and credit of the Municipality must guarantee the

bonds. Consequently, passage requires approval by voters residing in the APRSA as well as by voters in the entire Municipality.

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

## Prop. 5: \$44,800,000 Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area Road and Storm Drainage Bonds

These bonds would pay for road construction, roadway safety improvements, drainage collection and treatment, and related capital improvements in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA). The ARDSA **includes** much of the Anchorage Bowl. The ARDSA **does not include** Girdwood, Eagle River/Chugiak, and most of the Hillside. The Municipality has obtained over \$66 million in matching State grants for these projects and is requesting an additional \$51 million from the State.

For property in the ARDSA assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$14.70 to retire the debt and \$7.77 to pay for new annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs. The new O&M costs would increase the Municipal tax cap by up to \$1,899,000.

**Only property owners in the ARDSA would be taxed for these bonds. There would be no cost to property owners in Girdwood, Indian, Bird Creek, Eagle River/Chugiak, and most of the Hillside.** However, the full faith and credit of the Municipality must guarantee the bonds. Consequently, passage requires approval by voters residing in the ARDSA as well as by voters in the entire Municipality.

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Projects expected to receive design, easement, utility, and/or construction funding from the bonds include, but are not limited to:

6th Ave reconstruction – Patterson St to Muldoon*	Dowling Rd upgrade (east) – Lake Otis Pkwy to Elmore*
16th Ave/Chance Ct area circulation improvements – Medfra St to Orca St*	Downtown pedestrian, lighting, and safety improvements/E St corridor enhancements phase I – 4th/5th alley to 7th/8th alley*
32nd Ave upgrade – Muldoon Rd to Brookridge Dr*	Electrical local center upgrades
35th Ave/McRae St upgrade – Wisconsin St to Spenard Rd	F St and G St connectivity*
40th Ave extension – Lake Otis Pkwy to Dale St*	Fairview area pedestrian and street amenities*
40th Ave signal at Arctic Blvd	Flooding/glaciation/drainage improvements*
48th Ave/Boniface Pkwy extension – Tudor Rd to Elmore Rd*	Independence Dr reconstruction – Abbott Rd to Ridgemont Dr*
58th Ave reconstruction RID – Arctic Blvd to Silverado Way	Intersection safety improvements*
72nd Ave upgrade – Brayton Dr to Lake Otis Pkwy*	Little Campbell Creek drainage improvements – west of Lake Otis Pkwy*
72nd Ave/Spruce St/Lore Rd upgrade (RTP) – Lake Otis Pkwy to Elmore Rd*	Local road RID reconstruction and upgrades*
80th Ave upgrade (RTP) – Lake Otis to Spruce St*	Marston Dr/Foraker Dr RID construction*
88th Ave upgrade – Lake Otis Pkwy to South Cir*	Pavement rehab matching program*
100th Ave reconstruction (RTP) – Pointe Resolution Dr to Victor Rd*	Pedestrian safety and rehab improvements*
ADA improvements*	Peninsula Dr extension*
Alaska Railroad crossing rehabs*	Pine St/4th Ave storm reconstruction – Debarr Rd to Boniface Pkwy*
Anchorage signal system, signage, and safety improvements*	Raspberry Rd upgrade – Arctic Blvd to C Street*
ARDSA road and drainage system rehabilitation*	Recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) and chip seal upgrades*
ARDSA street light improvements	Spruce St upgrade/extension – Dowling to 68th Ave*
Arlene St/Pelican Dr/Pelican Cir/Kingfisher Dr area road reconstruction RID	Traffic calming and safety improvements*
B St reconstruction RID – 40th Ave to Tudor Rd	Van Buren St/48th Ave circulation and access improvements – south of 48th Ave*
Bayshore West Subd area reconstruction RID*	Water quality upgrades on storm drain outfalls*
Chester Creek improvements – Boniface Pkwy to military boundary*	

\*State matching grants requested and/or received



## Prop. 6: \$1,688,000 Areawide Public Safety and Transportation Capital Improvement Bonds

These bonds would pay to purchase ambulances, replace paratransit (AnchorRIDES) and service vehicles, and make other transit fleet and facility improvements. \$650,000 of these bonds are eligible for a 4 to 1 Federal-to-local match. The Municipality would apply for \$2,600,000 in Federal funds and use these bonds for the required local match.

For property assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$0.44 to retire the debt and \$0.29 to pay for new annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs. The new O&M costs would increase the Municipal tax cap by up to \$90,000.

**Property owners throughout the Municipality would be taxed for these bonds.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

## Prop. 7: \$3,622,000 Anchorage Fire Service Area Fire Protection Bonds

These bonds would pay for fire safety projects within the Anchorage Fire Service Area (AFSA). The bonds would purchase replacement firefighter equipment and airpacks and improve and equip the fire training center.

The Anchorage Fire Service Area (AFSA) **includes** the Anchorage bowl, Eagle River, and most of the Hillside, but it **does not include** Chugiak, Birchwood, Peters Creek, Girdwood, and portions of Glen Alps and Rabbit Creek.

For property in the AFSA assessed at \$100,000, estimated annual costs are \$0.99 to retire the debt and \$3.47 to pay for additional annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs. The new O&M costs would increase the Municipal tax cap by up to \$1,015,025.

**Only property owners in the AFSA would be taxed for these bonds. There would be no cost to property owners in Chugiak, Birchwood, Peters Creek, Girdwood, and portions of Glen Alps and Rabbit Creek.** However, the full faith and credit of the Municipality must guarantee the bonds. Consequently, passage requires approval by voters residing in the AFSA as well as by voters in the entire Municipality.

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.

## Prop. 8: 2002 Taxi, Limousine, & Vehicle for Hire Reformation Act Initiative Petition (Charter Amendment)

Proposition 8 was placed on the ballot through an initiative petition. This proposition asks voters to amend Article XVII of the Anchorage Municipal Charter by adding two new sections. Section 17.14, Regulated vehicle permits, would direct that the Municipality issue a non-transferable taxi permit to any qualified applicant. Annual and renewal fees would be equivalent to the real administrative costs of issuing the permit. Permits for taxicabs that are fully wheelchair accessible would be exempt from fees. Section 17.15, Regulated vehicle rates and terms of service, would prohibit the Municipality from establishing rates for limousine or executive sedan service. Any vehicle dispatch service licensed by the Municipality shall be allowed to dispatch any vehicle.

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the Municipality of Anchorage.



For information about Prop. 9, which would consolidate the Paradise Valley South LRSA into the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA), see the section on Service Areas on pages 7-8.

### **Prop. 10: Approving Consolidation of the Paradise Valley South LRSA into Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA)**

Proposition 10 asks voters residing in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) to approve the consolidation of the Paradise Valley South Limited Road Service Area (LRSA) into the ARDSA. The ARDSA includes much of the Anchorage Bowl. The ARDSA does not include Girdwood, Eagle River/Chugiak, and most of the Hillside. Consolidation is contingent on approval by the majority of voters (1) within the ARDSA and (2) within the LRSA (see Prop. 9 in the section on Service Area Propositions); (3) it is also contingent upon the establishment of a Road Improvement District by the property owners within the LRSA. **There would be no change in mill rate in the ARDSA.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the ARDSA.

For information about Prop. 11, which would remove a portion of Goldenview Drive Right-of-Way from the South Goldenview RRSA and annex it to the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA), see the section on Service Areas on pages 7-8.

### **Prop. 12: Approving Annexation of Goldenview Drive Right-of-Way to Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA)**

Proposition 12 asks voters residing in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) to approve the annexation of the Goldenview Drive Right-of-Way, between Rabbit Creek Road and Bulgaria Drive, from the South Goldenview Rural Road Service Area (RRSA) into the ARDSA. The ARDSA includes much of the Anchorage Bowl. The ARDSA does not include Girdwood, Eagle River/Chugiak, and most of the Hillside. Consolidation is contingent on approval by the majority of voters (1) within the ARDSA and (2) within the RRSA (see Prop. 11 in the section on Service Area Propositions). **There would be no change in mill rate in either the RRSA or the ARDSA.**

To be voted on by qualified voters residing in the ARDSA.

### **Service Area Propositions, including consolidation with the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA)**

Propositions 9, 11, and 13 – 20 apply only to specific Limited or Rural Road Service Areas (LRSA or RRSAs) within the Municipality. In the past, service area residents have been asked every three years whether they wish to continue the service area; to reduce costs, residents are now asked to approve their service area until altered or abolished. **Only voters residing in their service area vote on these propositions. Residents in some service areas will elect representatives to their service area boards.**

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*Service Area Propositions, continued*

**Prop. 9:** Consolidates the *Paradise Valley South LRSA* into the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA). Passage is contingent on (1) approval by a majority of voters in the ARDSA (see Prop. 10), (2) approval by a majority of voters in the LRSA, and (3) establishment of a Road Improvement District (RID) by the property owners within the Paradise Valley South LRSA. There would be a change in mill rate, from 1.0 mills, to the ARDSA rate, currently 2.54 mills, beginning in tax year 2009. For property in the LRSA assessed at \$100,000, estimated additional annual costs are \$154 for road maintenance. Passage of Prop. 9 would not change the mill rate or taxes in the existing ARDSA.

**Prop. 11:** Removes Goldenview Drive Right-of-Way, between Rabbit Creek Road and Bulgaria Drive, from the *South Goldenview RRSA* and annexes it to the ARDSA. Passage is (1) contingent upon approval of the removal by the majority of voters within the RRSA and (2) contingent upon approval of the annexation by a majority of the voters within the ARDSA (Prop. 12). There would be no change in mill rate in either the RRSA or the ARDSA.

**Prop. 13:** Reduces the required number of members on the *Mountain Park/Robin Hill LRSA* board of supervisors from six to five, while maintaining the requirement that at least one member reside in the Sun Valley Heights area.

**Prop. 14:** Continues the *Bear Valley LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.5 mills.

**Prop. 15:** Continues the *Birch Tree/Elmore Road LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.5 mills.

**Prop. 16:** Continues the *Section 6/Campbell Airstrip Road LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.5 mills.

**Prop. 17:** Continues the *Sequoia Estates LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.5 mills.

**Prop. 18:** Continues the *SRW Homeowner's LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.5 mills.

**Prop. 19:** Continues the *Upper O'Malley LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 2.0 mills.

**Prop. 20:** Continues the *Villages Scenic Parkway LRSA* indefinitely, subject to a levy not to exceed 1.0 mills.

## Bonded Indebtedness

The current General Obligation (G.O.) bonded indebtedness of the Municipality of Anchorage, including authorized but un-issued bonds, based on bonds outstanding as of December 31, 2007, is as follows:

General Obligation Bonds	General Purpose	School	Total
<b>Issued and outstanding</b>	\$437,540,000	\$794,225,000	\$1,231,765,000
<b>Authorized but un-issued</b>	39,470,000	20,000,000	59,470,000
<b>Total</b>	\$477,010,000	\$814,225,000	\$1,291,235,000
<b>Bonds paid off in 2007</b>	\$26,490,000	\$43,915,000	\$70,405,000

Debt Service Payments	Principal	Interest	Total
<b>To be made in 2008 on all G.O. bonds</b>	\$73,000,000	\$57,761,039	\$130,761,039

## League of Women Voters of Anchorage

The **League of Women Voters of Anchorage** is a non-partisan organization that promotes political responsibility through information and active participation in government. For more information, call 274-8477 or go to [www.lwvanorage.org](http://www.lwvanorage.org). This **Ballot Review** was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Anchorage with major funding from the Municipality of Anchorage, with additional support from the *Anchorage Daily News*.

