



PRESS RELEASE

Chair Suzanne LaFrance | Vice Chair Christopher Constant

Assembly Leadership Statement on 2022 Elections Risk Limiting Audits

October 11, 2022

At the September 27 Regular Assembly Meeting, the Assembly approved the Risk Limiting Audits for the 2022 municipal elections, which showed that the municipal election scanning, adjudication, and tabulation system performed as expected and the results of the elections reflected the will of the voters. **Assembly Chair Suzanne LaFrance and Assembly Vice-Chair Constant issued the following statement on the audits:**

“While this action passed without much fanfare due to the routine and frankly boring nature of the process, we feel it is an important milestone for our community to celebrate. In this time where election integrity and security are frequently questioned, Anchorage voters can rest assured that our municipal elections are held with the highest degree of integrity and that elections are managed under a rigorous system of security checks and balances.

“Post-election audits such as this, where the paper ballots are checked against the results produced by the vote tallying equipment to ensure accuracy, are a critical piece of our checks and balances to ensure that the will of the voters has been respected. They are also an industry best practice to test and protect the accuracy and integrity of an election.

“This year, audits were performed on both the April 5 Regular Election and the June 21 Special Election. The final reports that were approved by the Assembly can be found at <https://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Clerk/Elections/Pages/ResultsAndHistory.aspx>. The audits used statistically developed audit techniques that allow random selection of a number of ballots to be audited that provide statistical confidence that the tabulation system performed as expected. The audits were publicly noticed and candidates were invited to attend. The results were also presented to the public at an Assembly worksession on September 23: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NowBCB7gtg8>.

“This is just another example of the strength of our local election system, and we can all be proud in knowing that our local municipal elections are accessible, transparent and fair. We salute our Municipal Elections team, the Anchorage Elections Commission, and all of the election workers, community volunteers, candidates, observers and voters who work hard each year to conduct accessible and transparent elections.”

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