

Submitted by: Assemblymember BIRCH
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel
For reading: January 24, 2006

Postponed Indefinitely 2/24/06

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO NO. 2006-12**

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 4, 2006, A BALLOT PROPOSITION REPEALING AND REENACTING HOME RULE CHARTER ARTICLE XXI, SECTION 11.02, ELECTION PROCEDURES, TO ADOPT INSTANT RUN-OFF VOTING PROCEDURES IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly finds that it is in the public interest to adopt instant run-off voting procedures for municipal elections to ensure that all candidates for the offices of Mayor, Municipal Assembly member, and School Board member are elected with majority support; and

WHEREAS, presently, the Charter allows a mayoral candidate to win without majority support and without a runoff election, so long as the candidate receives a minimum of 45% of the votes cast; and

WHEREAS, instant run-off voting accomplishes the goals of a traditional runoff election without the expense of holding a second election; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 18.01 provides that the Charter may only be amended upon the concurrence of a majority of the qualified voters of Anchorage;

NOW THEREFORE THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That a ballot proposition in substantially the same form as appears in Section 2 below shall be placed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters of the Municipality at the regular municipal election of April 4, 2006.

Section 2. That the proposition shall be presented in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. ____

CHARTER AMENDMENT

TO ADOPT INSTANT RUN-OFF VOTING PROCEDURES IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Shall Anchorage Municipal Charter Article XI, Section 11.02(b), Election Procedures, be repealed and reenacted as follows to adopt an instant run-off

1 voting procedure in municipal elections? (Underlined language is new and
2 [BRACKETED] language is to be repealed).

- 3
4 (b) The Mayor of Anchorage, Municipal Assembly members, and School
5 Board members shall be elected using an instant runoff voting procedure.
6 In these elections, the ballots shall provide that the voter may vote for
7 candidates in order of preference. If a candidate receives a majority of the
8 first choice votes, that candidate shall be declared elected. A majority is
9 defined as fifty percent (50%) plus one vote. If no candidate receives a
10 majority of the first choice votes, then under the instant runoff voting
11 procedure, the candidate with fewest first choice votes is defeated and
12 each first choice vote cast for the defeated candidate shall be transferred to
13 the candidate ranked as second choice on the ballot of the voter who
14 selected the defeated candidate as the voter's first choice. If under the
15 initial instant runoff voting procedure, no candidate receives a majority,
16 then the instant runoff voting procedure will be repeated to transfer votes
17 cast for a defeated candidate to the next highest ranked candidate on the
18 ballot of the voter who selected a defeated candidate. The counting and
19 transferring process shall be repeated until one candidate receives a
20 majority of the combined votes. The ballot shall not interfere with a
21 voter's ability to cast a vote for a write-in candidate, and rank a write-in
22 candidate in order of preference.

23
24 [IF NO CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RECEIVES
25 MORE THAN 45 PERCENT OF THE VOTES CAST FOR THE OFFICE
26 OF MAYOR, THE ASSEMBLY WITHIN THREE WEEKS FROM THE
27 DATE OF CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION, SHALL HOLD A
28 RUN OFF ELECTION BETWEEN THE TWO CANDIDATES
29 RECEIVING THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES FOR THE OFFICE.
30 RUN-OFF ELECTION UNDER THIS SECTION ARE NOT
31 PURPOSED, HOWEVER, IN RACES WHERE THE NAMES OF NO
32 MORE THAN TWO CANDIDATES APPEARED ON THE INITIAL
33 BALLOT UNLESS A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE RECEIVED MORE
34 VOTES THAN A CANDIDATE WHOSE NAME IS ON THE
35 BALLOT.]

36
37 (AO No. 252-76, prop. 1, 10-4-77; prop. 10, 5-4-99; AO No. 2001-42(S),
38 prop. 4, 4-2-01; AO No. 2002-79, 4-1-03)

39
40 Yes []

No []

41

If approved by a majority of the voters on April 4, 2006, this proposition shall apply to the results of this election. (AO 2006- , § __)

Section 3. That Section 1 of this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage and approval by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly as set forth in Charter Section 18.02.

Section 4. The proposition contained in Section 2 of this ordinance shall take effect upon certification of the regular election of April 4, 2006, or the date the United States Department of Justice issues its nonobjection, or the date by which the United States Department of Justice must object if no objection is issued within the objection period, but only if the proposition is passed by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question at the regular municipal election of April 4, 2006. If approved by the voters on April 4, 2006, the proposition shall apply to the results of that same election and thereafter.

Section 5. Upon passage and approval of Section 1, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly shall adopt by ordinance amendments to Chapter 28.70 to codify procedures for instant run-off voting.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this ____ day of _____, 2006.

Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

No. AIM 16-2006

Meeting Date: January 24, 2006

From: Assemblymember Birch
Subject: Summary of Economic Effects for AO 2006-12

Attached to this memo is the Summary of Economic Effects for AO 2006-12, regarding AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 4, 2006, A BALLOT PROPOSITION REPEALING AND REENACTING HOME RULE CHARTER ARTICLE XXI, SECTION 11.02, ELECTION PROCEDURES, TO ADOPT INSTANT RUN-OFF VOTING PROCEDURES IN ELECTIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OF ANCHORAGE.

Prepared By: Steven B. King, Utility Budget Analyst
Reviewed By: Barbara E. Gruenstein and Guadalupe Marroquin
Submitted By: Assemblymember Birch

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Summary of Economic Effects -- General Government

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION
ON APRIL 4, 2006, A BALLOT PROPOSITION REPEALING AND REENACTING
HOME RULE CHARTER ARTICLE XXI, SECTION 11.02, ELECTION
PROCEDURES, TO ADOPT INSTANT RUN-OFF VOTING PROCEDURES IN

AO Number: 2006-12 Title:

Sponsor: Assemblymember Birch
Preparing Agency: Assembly
Others Impacted:

CHANGES IN EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES:		(In Thousands of Dollars)				
	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	
Operating Expenditures						
1000 Personal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
2000 Non-Labor	1,513	10	10	10	10	
3900 Contributions						
4000 Debt Service						
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:	\$ 1,513	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	
Add: 6000 Charges from Others						
Less: 7000 Charges to Others						
FUNCTION COST:	\$ 1,513	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	
REVENUES:						
CAPITAL:						
POSITIONS: FT/PT and Temp						

PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:

Three major election supply companies were contacted: Diebold, ES&S, and Sequoia. The Municipality of Anchorage does not own its own election equipment but rather borrows Diebold hardware at no cost from the State of Alaska. As a result, the only election hardware costs to MOA are for equipment transportation and repairs. Municipal and State election software is presently compatible and election results are transmitted on the eve of the election from the State of Alaska Division of Elections as election workers return State equipment. If adopted the MOA would need to purchase new hardware, IRE software, and storage space. The new IRE election system would be independent from the State as well as any other system used in the State of Alaska at this time.

Diebold does not currently offer the instant runoff election (IRE) system; however, they are open to the proposal. They are not certified at this time.

ES&S offered an estimate of \$1,500,000 to establish the system for the MOA. They are not certified at this time and did not provide a break down of their costs.

Sequoia reported a cost of \$725,000 to establish the IRE system for the MOA; however, they are not certified. The breakdown of their cost includes: IRE voting machines at \$3,500 each (140 machines equals \$490,000); software cost of \$150,000; ballot counting machines cost \$85,000.

If adopted storage would become the responsibility of the MOA. Racks for the machines would cost \$2,500 and building storage would be about \$9,300 per year (300 square feet at 1.89 per square foot for heated and secure area with access to electricity at a convenient location). The estimated ongoing cost for ballots and storage is \$10,000 per year.

Cost savings associated with the IRE system would be \$100,000 per runoff election as it currently stands; however the cost of run offs potentially occur only during Mayoral elections every three years.

PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:

There are no estimated private sector costs for this ordinance.

Prepared by: Steven B. King, Utility Budget Analyst
Reviewed by: Barbara Gruenstein and Guadalupe Marroquin

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Municipality of Anchorage
MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE
Agenda Document Control Sheet

AO 2006-12

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION)

1	SUBJECT OF AGENDA DOCUMENT	DATE PREPARED	
	ADOPT INSTANT RUN-OFF VOTING PROCEDURES	01/13/06	
		Indicate Documents Attached	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AO <input type="checkbox"/> AR <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> AIM	
2	DEPARTMENT NAME	DIRECTOR'S NAME	
	Assembly	Anna Fairclough, Chair	
3	THE PERSON THE DOCUMENT WAS ACTUALLY PREPARED BY	HIS/HER PHONE NUMBER	
	JUDITHA TICKER - ASSEMBLY COUNSEL	343-4419	
4	COORDINATED WITH AND REVIEWED BY	INITIALS	DATE
	Mayor		
	Municipal Clerk		
	Municipal Attorney		
	Employee Relations		
	Municipal Manager		
	Cultural & Recreational Services		
	Fire		
	Health & Human Services		
	Merrill Field Airport		
	Municipal Light & Power		
	Office of Management and Budget		
	Police		
	Port of Anchorage		
	Public Works		
	Solid Waste Services		
	Transit		
	Water & Wastewater Utility		
	Executive Manager		
	Community Planning & Development		
	Finance, Chief Fiscal Officer		
	Heritage Land Bank		
	Management Information Services		
	Property & Facility Management		
	Purchasing		
	Other		
5	Special Instructions/Comments		
	CONSENT AGENDA - INTRODUCTION		
6	ASSEMBLY HEARING DATE REQUESTED	7	PUBLIC HEARING DATE REQUESTED
	1/24/06		2/14/06

2006 JAN 13 AM 8:06
 M.O.A.
 CLERK'S OFFICE