



## Kenai City Council - Work Session

December 03, 2025 – 5:00 PM

Kenai City Council Chambers

210 Fidalgo Avenue, Kenai, Alaska

[www.kenai.city](http://www.kenai.city)

**\*\* Telephonic / Virtual Information on Page 1 \*\***

### Agenda

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. INTRODUCTION - Shellie Saner, City Clerk**

1. City of Kenai Elections and Kenai Peninsula Borough Proposition No. 5

**C. DISCUSSION ITEM**

1. Previous City Election Schedule and Process
2. Changing the City Election Date
3. Proposed Options Moving Forward
4. Estimated Costs Associated with the Three Possible Options

**D. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (*Public comments limited to five (5) minutes per speaker*)**

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

*The agenda and supporting documents are posted on the City's website at [www.kenai.city](http://www.kenai.city). Copies of resolutions and ordinances are available at the City Clerk's Office or outside the Council Chamber prior to the meeting. For additional information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 907-283-8231.*

**Registration is required to join the meeting remotely through Zoom.** Please use the following link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vQYOVbySQpGLmhlhjcGjg>



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Knackstedt and Council Members  
**FROM:** Shellie Saner, City Clerk  
**DATE:** November 18, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** City of Kenai Elections

During the October 7, 2025, Municipal Election, Borough voters approved Kenai Peninsula Borough Citizen Initiative Proposition No. 5, which moved Borough Elections from October to November to coincide with State and Federal elections.

Approval of this Borough Proposition does not affect the City of Kenai election day. The City's election date is established in City Charter and may only be amended by the voters of the City.

The results on Proposition No. 5 in the three City of Kenai precincts were as follow:

Precinct	Yes Votes	No Votes
Kenai No. 1 (07-015)	241	122
Kenai No. 2 (07-020)	125	65
Kenai No. 3 (07-025)	156	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>263</b>

Although Proposition No. 5 did not alter the City of Kenai's election schedule, it was supported by 66.5% of the voters who participated in the Borough election. .... (Exhibit A)

**Previous City Election Schedule and Process.** Before the passage of the initiative proposition, City and Borough elections were held concurrently under a mutual aid agreement. Conducting the election together provided significant benefits for both the City and its voters. Financially, the joint election structure reduced costs through shared ballot programming, shared use of Borough election equipment, and joint logic and accuracy testing. It allowed City ballot questions and candidate information to be included in the Borough's published voter pamphlet. Additionally, the City and Borough shared election worker wages and precinct facility rental costs equally. For voters, the combined election schedule offered the convenience of participating in both the City and Borough elections at the same location and time, enhancing accessibility and overall experience.

**Changing the City of Kenai Election Date.** The City of Kenai's election date is established in Kenai Municipal Charter Section 10-1, which provides that the City's general election, will be held annually on the first Tuesday in October. Any changes to this election date would require an amendment to the City Charter. Charter amendments may be initiated by qualified voters through an initiative petition or by the City Council through resolution or ordinance. Under Charter Section 12-1, amendments proposed by the Council must be submitted to voters at a regular or special election held not less than two months after passage of the proposing legislation. An amendment becomes effective upon approval by a majority of the eligible voters casting ballots on the question.

**Proposed Options Moving Forward:** Below are three potential pathways for Council to consider regarding the future scheduling of City of Kenai elections:

1. **Make No Changes:** Retain the current city election date on the first Tuesday in October. Under this option, the mutual aid agreement with KPB would no longer apply, as Borough elections will occur one month later and their election equipment would not be available to support City elections.
2. **Wait Until the Next Regular Election:** Place a proposed Charter amendment to change the City election date before voters at the 2026 Regular City Election on October 6, 2026. As with the option above, the mutual aid agreement with KPB would not apply due to the misalignment of election dates.
3. **Call for a Special Election:** Direct the City Clerk to prepare the necessary legislation to call for and fund a Special Election for the purpose of submitting a Charter amendment to voters to modify the City's established election date.

**Estimated Costs Associated with the Three Possible Options.** The following cost estimates are derived from recent vendor quotes and actual expenses from prior City elections.

**No Change & Waiting:** The estimated cost outlined below represent the anticipated expenses associated with either maintaining the current City election date or waiting until the next regular election to present the Charter amendment question to the voters. Under both scenarios, the City would no longer have access to the Kenai Peninsula Borough election equipment, as the Borough's election would occur one month later, eliminating the availability of shared resources.

Equipment & Programming	\$ 14,148
Election Notices	\$ 2,600
Ballot Printing	\$ 5,000
Polling Site Rental	\$ 100
Election Judges	\$ 6,500
Absentee Voting Officials	\$ 3,400
Canvass	\$ 1,000
	<b>\$ 32,748</b>

**Special Election:** The following estimate reflects the anticipated cost of conducting a Special Election to present a proposed Charter amendment regarding the City's election date to voters. This estimate assumes the Special Election would occur outside the Borough's regular election cycle and that the City would have access to Borough election equipment, under the current mutual aid agreement.

Ballot Programing	\$ 1,550
Election Equipment	\$ -
Election Notices	\$ 2,600
<b>Mailer/Flyer</b>	<b>\$ 5,400</b>
Radio Communications	\$ ?
Ballot Printing	\$ 5,000
Polling Site Rental	\$ 100
Election Judges	\$ 6,500
Absentee Voting Officials	\$ 3,400
Canvass	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	<b>\$ 25,550</b>

**Notes:** *Mailer/Flyer: A mailer or flyer would be sent to all registered voters within the City to notify them that a Special Election has been scheduled and to provide information regarding the ballot proposition.*

*Radio Communications: If radio communications are used to inform the public about the details of the proposition, those messages would be considered a campaign-related expense and would result in costs not covered by the City's standard radio advertising budget.*

**2024 Regular Election Cost:** The information below is provided to illustrate the cost of conducting an election in coordination with the Borough and to offer context for comparing future election expenses.

Ballot Programing	\$ 600
Election Notices	\$ 1,000
Ballot Printing	\$ 2,100
Polling Site Rental (50%)	\$ 50
Election Judges (50%)	\$ 2,800
Absentee Voting Officials	\$ 1,700
Canvass	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	<b>\$ 9,250</b>

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**PROPOSITION NO. 5****CITIZEN INITIATIVE: CHANGE THE CURRENT ELECTION DATE TO ALIGN WITH  
THE STATE OF ALASKA ELECTION DATE**

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*(To be voted on by all borough voters)*

**Background:**

On May 19, 2025, Initiative Ordinance 2025-01 was filed in the Clerk's Office. The application was found to be in proper form and was certified on May 16, 2025. Petition books were issued on May 19, 2025 and filed on August 4, 2025. On August 14, 2025, the citizen initiative was certified sufficient.

**Purpose:**

The proposed citizen Initiative Ordinance 2025-01 seeks to amend the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Code of Ordinances, specifically Title 4 – Elections, to change the current election date to align with the State of Alaska

**Key Provision:**

1. Change of Regular Election Date. The proposed citizen initiative ordinance changes the regular borough election date from the first Tuesday of October to the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The full fiscal impacts are unknown. Changing the election date will impact the availability of polling locations as well as the availability of election workers since the State of Alaska has stated separate election workers are needed for each election, and will require purchasing election equipment such as voting booths, signs, tables and chairs for each polling location.

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**BALLOT LANGUAGE**

*As approved by the Assembly August 19, 2025*

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*Shall Initiative Ordinance 2025-01, calling for the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances, Title 4 – Elections, be amended to change the current election date to align with the State of Alaska election date, be enacted?*

**YES**     *A “Yes” vote means you approve enacting the citizen initiative ordinance that changes the regular election date from the first Tuesday of October to the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November.*

**NO**     *A “No” vote means you oppose enacting the citizen initiative ordinance that that changes the regular election date from the first Tuesday of October to the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November.*

# Election Summary Report

General Election

Kenai Peninsula Borough

October 07, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, 07015 Kenai No. 1, 07015 Kenai No 1, Election Day

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Voters Cast: 739 of 3,260 (22.67%)

## ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 3 - NIKISKI (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		16 / 297	5.39%
Candidate	Party	Total	
NIESEN, Lenora (Len)		12	
Total Votes		12	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 1 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		369 / 3,260	11.32%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		166	
NO		200	
Total Votes		366	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 3 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		369 / 3,260	11.32%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		272	
NO		92	
Total Votes		364	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

**KPB PROPOSITION NO. 4 (Vote for 1)**

	Total	
Times Cast	369 / 3,260	11.32%

Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		140	
NO		221	
Total Votes		361	

	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	

**KPB PROPOSITION NO. 5 (Vote for 1)**

	Total	
Times Cast	369 / 3,260	11.32%

Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		241	
NO		122	
Total Votes		363	

	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	

**KENAI CITY MAYOR (Vote for 1)**

	Total	
Times Cast	370 / 3,260	11.35%

Candidate	Party	Total	
KNACKSTEDT, Henry H.		201	
DOUTHIT, Alexander 'Alex'		162	
Total Votes		363	

	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	

**KENAI CITY COUNCIL TWO FOR 3-YEAR TERM (Vote for 2)**

	Total	
Times Cast	370 / 3,260	11.35%

Candidate	Party	Total	
ASKIN, Victoria		197	
PETTEY, Glenese		149	
GRIEME, Bridget		198	
Total Votes		555	

	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	11	

# Election Summary Report

General Election

Kenai Peninsula Borough

October 07, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, 07020 Kenai No. 2, 07020 Kenai No 2, Election Day

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Voters Cast: 388 of 1,778 (21.82%)

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 1 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		195 / 1,778	10.97%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		108	
NO		85	
Total Votes		193	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 3 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		195 / 1,778	10.97%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		143	
NO		51	
Total Votes		194	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 4 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		195 / 1,778	10.97%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		89	
NO		101	
Total Votes		190	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	



KPB PROPOSITION NO. 5 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		195 / 1,778	10.97%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		125	
NO		65	
Total Votes		190	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

KENAI CITY MAYOR (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		193 / 1,778	10.85%
Candidate	Party	Total	
KNACKSTEDT, Henry H.		105	
DOUTHIT, Alexander 'Alex'		84	
Total Votes		192	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	

KENAI CITY COUNCIL TWO FOR 3-YEAR TERM (Vote for 2)

		Total	
Times Cast		193 / 1,778	10.85%
Candidate	Party	Total	
ASKIN, Victoria		110	
PETTEY, Glenese		75	
GRIEME, Bridget		101	
Total Votes		296	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		10	

# Election Summary Report

General Election

Kenai Peninsula Borough

October 07, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, 07025 Kenai No. 3, 07025 Kenai No 3, Election Day

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Voters Cast: 478 of 1,550 (30.84%)

## ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 1 - KALIFORNSKY (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		93 / 726	12.81%
Candidate	Party	Total	
MULLICAN, Teresa		16	
GRIEBEL, Scott		57	
CORR, Joan		11	
Total Votes		85	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	

## BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 1 - KALIFORNSKY (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		93 / 726	12.81%
Candidate	Party	Total	
ANDERSON, Donna		29	
ODEN, Shelby		20	
TRUESDELL, Patti		34	
Total Votes		84	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	

## KPB PROPOSITION NO. 1 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		111	
NO		124	
Total Votes		235	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

KPB PROPOSITION NO. 3 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		186	
NO		49	
Total Votes		235	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

KPB PROPOSITION NO. 4 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		113	
NO		119	
Total Votes		232	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

KPB PROPOSITION NO. 5 (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
YES		156	
NO		76	
Total Votes		232	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

KENAI CITY MAYOR (Vote for 1)

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
KNACKSTEDT, Henry H.		152	
DOUTHIT, Alexander 'Alex'		80	
Total Votes		234	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		2	

**KENAI CITY COUNCIL TWO FOR 3-YEAR TERM (Vote for 2)**

		Total	
Times Cast		239 / 1,550	15.42%
Candidate	Party	Total	
ASKIN, Victoria		138	
PETTEY, Glenese		110	
GRIEME, Bridget		103	
Total Votes		355	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		4	