

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PROPOSITION SUMMARY

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## PROPOSITION NO. 1

### CITIZEN INITIATIVE: HAND COUNT IN PERSON PAPER BALLOTS FOR BOROUGH ELECTIONS

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

#### **Background:**

On September 27, 2024 the Borough Clerk issued a petition to sponsors seeking an initiative to require all paper ballots cast in person on election day be counted manually by hand, rather than using electronic tabulating equipment. The petition met the requirements under the law, thus requiring placement of the question on the October 7, 2025 regular election.

#### **Purpose:**

The proposed citizen Initiative Ordinance 2024-01 seeks to amend the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Code of Ordinances, specifically Title 4 – Elections, to change the current election process to require that all paper ballots cast in person on election day would be counted manually by hand, rather than using electronic tabulating equipment. The hand counting would occur immediately after the polls close at local precincts, and the ballots would be counted by registered voters of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

#### **Key Provisions:**

1. Hand Counting of Paper Ballots:

The proposed citizen initiative ordinance mandates that all paper ballots cast in person on election day be manually counted by hand by registered voters of the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The counting would take place after the polls close at local voting precincts.

2. Absentee Ballots:

Absentee ballots would still be accepted and processed according to Alaska State Law and KPB Code of Ordinances, Title 4. These absentee ballots would be added to the election day count after they are processed.

2. Implementation Date:

If approved by the voters at the October 7, 2025 election, this ordinance will be effective on January 1, 2026.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

The fiscal impacts are not currently known.

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#### BALLOT LANGUAGE

*As approved by the Assembly \_\_\_\_\_*

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*Shall Initiative Ordinance 2024-01, calling for the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances, Title 4 – Elections, be amended to change the current election process to require that all ballots cast in person on Election Day be counted manually at borough precincts by registered Kenai Peninsula Borough voters, and eliminate the use of electronic voting tabulators, be enacted?*

**YES**     *A “Yes” vote means you approve enacting the citizen initiative ordinance that eliminates electronic tabulators at borough election precincts and requires a manual hand count of in person paper ballots.*

**NO**     *A “No” vote means you oppose enacting the citizen initiative ordinance that eliminates electronic tabulators at borough election precincts and requires a manual hand count of in person paper ballots.*