

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
PROPOSITION NO. 2 – REPEAL ORDINANCE 2020-24
(To be voted on by all voters)

On July 10, 2020 the Borough Clerk’s office issued a petition to sponsors seeking to repeal Ordinance 2020-24 entitled, *“An Ordinance Amending KPB Title 4 Regarding Borough Elections to Provide for Vote by Mail Elections, For More Time Between a Regular Election and A Run-Off Election, and to Remove Proposition Statements.”*

Petition packets were returned to the Clerk on July 27, 2020. A review of the petition revealed that the petitioners had collected the requisite 1,362 signatures of qualified voters of the borough, thus requiring placement of the question on the ballot for the October 6, 2020, regular election.

History: In 2019 via Resolution 2019-006 the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly formed the Election Stakeholders Group in response to a case before the Alaska Human Rights Commission. On July 26, 2019 the Election Stakeholders Group issued its Final Report and Recommendations, which included adopting a vote by mail hybrid. Resolution 2019-047 *“Adopted Joint Resolution No. 2019-001 of the Assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and Councils of the Cities of Homer, Kachemak, Kenai, Seldovia, Seward and Soldotna, Recognizing the Recommendations of the Kenai Peninsula Borough’s Election Stakeholders Group and Directing Staff to Explore Implementation of the Recommendations”* was adopted by the Assembly on September 3, 2019.

Ordinance 2020-24 seeks to codify and therefore implement the following recommendations of the Election Stakeholders Group: #1 Vote by Mail Hybrid, #4 Voter Pamphlet, and #6 – Statements Advocating for Approval or Rejection of Propositions as well the recommendations provided by Resource Data’s feasibility study.

Implementation: If the referendum is approved by a majority of the voters, the hybrid vote by mail system would not be implemented. The date of a Mayoral Run-Off election would continue to be 3 weeks after the Regular Election and the Statements advocating approval or rejection of ballot propositions would continue to be included in the voter pamphlets. If the referendum is rejected the hybrid vote by mail system will be effective on January 1, 2021, the date of the Mayoral Run-Off election will be 4 weeks after the Regular Election and only the proposition ballot summary approved by the assembly will appear in the voter pamphlet.

BALLOT LANGUAGE

Shall Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Ordinance 2020-24 *“An Ordinance Amending KPB Title 4 Regarding Borough Election to Provide for Vote by Mail Elections, For More Time Between a Regular Election and Run-Off Election, and to Remove Proposition Statements”* be repealed?

YES A “Yes” vote will repeal Ordinance 2020-24 and the ordinance will NOT become effective.

NO A “No” vote will NOT repeal Ordinance 2020-24 and it will become effective January 1, 2021.