



INFORMATION REGARDING THE
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH REGULAR ELECTION
TO BE HELD OCTOBER 3, 2017

Prepared and paid for by the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, 1900 First Avenue, Ketchikan,
Alaska 99901

INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, October 3, 2017, Borough voters will have the opportunity to vote on candidates for Borough Assembly Members, School Board Members, and a ballot proposition. Borough voters who live within the boundaries of the City of Ketchikan or City of Saxman will vote on additional races. A sample Borough ballot is provided below. Borough staff prepared this pamphlet to provide general information about the upcoming Borough election and to help explain the Borough ballot propositions.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT VOTING

The Regular Borough Election is Tuesday, October 3, 2017. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. Polling place information is listed on the cover of this pamphlet.



BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

This year, Borough voters will have the opportunity to vote on the ballot proposition as outlined below.

Proposition 1 – Marijuana and Marijuana Products Sales Tax

<p style="text-align: center;">PROPOSITION 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARIJUANA AND MARIJUANA PRODUCTS SALES TAX</p> <p>Shall the provisions of Ordinance 1839SA, which establishes a 5 percent special sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products areawide within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, be ratified?</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/></p> <p>NO <input type="radio"/></p>

Why is this proposition on the ballot?

On August 21, 2017, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly adopted Ordinance 1839-Substitute-Amended, which established a 5 percent areawide special sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products. The special sales tax would be in addition to the Borough's areawide sales tax of 2.5 percent.

Marijuana sales within the City of Ketchikan would be subject to applicable City of Ketchikan sales tax rates. The

City currently levies a special 5 percent sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products as well as a 4 percent general sales tax. Ordinance 1839-Substitute-Amended provides that the amount of the City special sales tax on marijuana is deducted from the Borough special sales tax on marijuana sales within the City of Ketchikan, up to a maximum of 5 percent.

The special Borough sales tax on marijuana would become effective January 1, 2018 on the condition that it is adopted by voters. Unless extended by Borough voters, the tax would expire after five years. Proceeds of the tax would be placed in the Borough's General Fund and would be appropriated by the Borough Assembly on an annual basis.

If this proposition passes, what will be the effects on Borough taxpayers and citizens?

If Proposition 1 passes, the Borough would levy a special 5 percent sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products with an offsetting credit for special sales taxes paid on such sales within the City of Ketchikan. In summary, Marijuana sales are currently subject to a 2.5% general sales tax rate outside the City of Ketchikan and a total sales tax rate of 11.5% within the City of Ketchikan. Adoption of this proposition would adjust those rates to a total rate of 7.5% outside the City of Ketchikan and retain the total sales tax rate of 11.5% within the City of Ketchikan. The table below shows the effects of the proposed special sales tax rate to the citizens.

	Current Sales Tax Rate		Sales Tax Rate if Proposition 1 Passes	
	In City of Ketchikan	Outside City of Ketchikan	In City of Ketchikan	Outside City of Ketchikan
City General Sales Tax	4.0 %	n/a	4.0%	n/a
Borough General Sales Tax	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Special Sales Tax on Marijuana	5.0%	0%	5.0%	5.0%
TOTAL Sales Tax	11.5%	2.5%	11.5%	7.5%

The Borough estimates that the tax would generate approximately \$30,000 to \$50,000 annually. Legalized marijuana is a new industry in the Borough, and firm estimates of sales and tax revenue are unavailable. The revenue from the tax would not be restricted for a special purpose.

If this proposition fails, what will be the effects on Borough taxpayers and citizens?

Should Proposition 1 fail, the Borough would not collect a special sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products. These products would continue to be subject to the current Borough sales tax rate of 2.5 percent.

The Borough General Fund would forgo the estimated annual revenue stream of between \$30,000 and \$50,000.

Application for Absentee Ballot: Any qualified voter may vote an absentee ballot in person, by mail, by fax, or by personal representative for special needs voting. Application forms for absentee ballots are available at the Borough Clerk’s Office, 1900 First Avenue, Suite 115, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 or may be downloaded from the Borough’s website: www.kgbak.us/elections

Applications for absentee ballots must be submitted to the Borough Clerk’s Office. Applications for absentee by-mail ballots must be postmarked no later than seven days prior to the election. Applications for electronic absentee ballots must be submitted no later than the day immediately preceding the election. A person may vote an absentee ballot in person at the Borough Clerk’s office during normal business hours beginning at 8:00 a.m., Monday, September 18, 2017, and ending at 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 2, 2017.

SAMPLE BALLOT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

All Borough voters will have the opportunity to vote on candidates for the positions of Borough Assembly and Borough School Board. This year, there are three seats open for three-year terms for Assembly, two seats open for three-year terms for School Board, and one seat open for a one-year term for School Board.

SAMPLE BALLOT

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER: To vote for the issue/candidate of your choice, fill in the oval next to the issue/candidate you want to vote for. Place your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve and then take your ballot to the ballot box.

If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one.
A vote which has been erased or changed will not be counted.



**OFFICIAL BALLOT
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH
REGULAR BOROUGH ELECTION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017**

Completely fill in the oval opposite the name of each candidate or choice for which you wish to vote.

**BOROUGH ASSEMBLY MEMBER
(3-year term)**

Vote for not more than three (3)

Susan Pickrell	<input type="radio"/>
Joel W. Jackson	<input type="radio"/>
Alan Bailey	<input type="radio"/>
Kent L. Colby	<input type="radio"/>
Kevin Gadsey	<input type="radio"/>
Amanda (AJ) Pierce	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>

PROPOSITION NO. 1

**MARIJUANA AND MARIJUANA
PRODUCTS SALES TAX**

Shall the provisions of Ordinance 1839SA, which establishes a 5 percent special sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products areawide within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, be ratified?

YES
NO

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
(3-year term)**

Vote for not more than two (2)

David Timmerman	<input type="radio"/>
Diane Gubatayao	<input type="radio"/>
Glen Thompson	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
(1-year term)**

Vote for not more than one (1)

Glenn J. Brown	<input type="radio"/>
Bill Blankenship	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>



Borough Precinct Locations and Descriptions

There are seven voting precincts in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. Information regarding precinct boundaries is available at the Borough Clerk's Office. The polling places for the Regular Borough Election of October 3, 2017 are as follows:

Ketchikan No. 1	Gateway Recreation Center	601 Schoenbar Road
Ketchikan No. 2	The Plaza	2417 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan No. 3	AMHS Ferry Terminal	3501 Tongass Avenue
North Tongass No. 1	North Tongass Fire Station No. 6	7550 N. Tongass Highway
North Tongass No. 2	North Tongass Fire Station No. 8	13110 N. Tongass Highway
Saxman	Saxman Community Center	2841 South Tongass Highway
South Tongass	Fawn Mountain Elementary School	400 Old Homestead Road