



INFORMATION REGARDING THE
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH REGULAR ELECTION
TO BE HELD OCTOBER 1, 2019

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

INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, October 1, 2019, Borough voters will have the opportunity to vote on candidates for Borough Mayor, Assembly Members, School Board Members, and ballot propositions. 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 1, 2019. 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, all Borough voters will have the opportunity to vote on Proposition 1 as outlined below.

Proposition 1 – Extension of Tobacco Excise Tax

PROPOSITION 1

EXTENSION OF TOBACCO EXCISE TAX

Shall the provisions of Ordinance 1889, which extends the excise tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products, be ratified?

The proceeds of the tax, including penalties, interest and costs recovered, are areawide funds, and shall be deposited in the local education fund.

YES



NO



Why is this proposition on the ballot?

On October 4, 2016, voters ratified Ordinance 1789-Amended, which established an excise tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products. With the Assembly's adoption of Ordinance 1883 on April 1, 2019, 100% of the excise tax proceeds are dedicated to the Local Education Fund. The tax expires January 1, 2022, unless an ordinance extending the tax is ratified by the voters. In Fiscal Year 2019, revenue from the tobacco excise tax was \$1,369,486.

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

If Proposition 1 passes, the Borough would continue to levy an excise tax of 100 mills (\$2 per pack of 20 cigarettes) on each cigarette brought into the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. An excise tax of 50 percent of the wholesale price is also levied on tobacco products other than cigarettes that are brought into the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. The excise tax on cigarettes and tobacco products is at the wholesale level, not at the point of sale. This excise tax is separate from the Borough sales tax of 2.5 percent paid by consumers on non-exempt retail sales of cigarettes and tobacco.

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

If Proposition 1 fails, the current tobacco excise tax would expire on January 1, 2022, although the Assembly could ask the voters to ratify another ordinance extending the excise tax before it expires. If the current tax expires, the Borough would lose approximately \$1.37 million dollars annually in the Local Education Fund, the equivalent of approximately 0.9 mill property tax.

In addition to Proposition 1, the duly qualified voters of the proposed Old Dairy Road Service Area will vote on the following ballot proposition:

Proposition 2 – Formation of Old Dairy Road Service Area

<p>PROPOSITION 2 FORMATION OF OLD DAIRY ROAD SERVICE AREA</p> <p>Shall the Ketchikan Gateway Borough establish the Old Dairy Road Service Area as provided in Ordinance 1891?</p> <p>The proposed service area would provide for the construction, maintenance and operation of roads, including street lighting, within the service area. The estimated annual budget for providing the road powers is \$10,070. The method of financing road services will be by service area mill levy and/or user fee.</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/></p> <p>NO <input type="radio"/></p>
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Why is this proposition on the ballot?

Property owners within the proposed service area submitted a petition to form the service area in order for the Borough to provide construction, maintenance, and operation of roads, including street lighting, within the service area. The Borough Manager issued a report on formation of the service area, public hearings were held, and Ordinance 1891 was adopted by the Borough Assembly, placing the question on the October 1, 2019, ballot. According to Borough code, the citizens who will vote on the question to form the service area are the voters who have registered to vote at a residence address within the proposed service area by September 1, 2019.

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

If this proposition passes, effective July 1, 2020, the Borough would provide services including construction, maintenance, and operation of roads, including street lighting, within the service area. The estimated annual cost for the road powers is \$10,070. The method of financing road services will be by service area mill levy and/or user fee. The method identified in Ordinance 1891 is that the costs of services shall be through a service area mill levy. The mill levy is anticipated to be 3.4 mills in order to generate the \$10,070. The property owners who own property within the proposed service area will be assessed the service area mill levy.

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

If the proposition fails, the proposed service area would not be formed and the proposed services would not be provided by the Borough. More information, including the Manager’s Report to the Assembly on Formation of the Old Dairy Service Area can be found at www.kgbak.us/159/service-areas

ABSENTEE VOTING:

Any qualified voter may vote an absentee ballot in person, by mail, by email, 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 16, 2019, and ending at 5:00 p.m., Monday, September 30, 2019.

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 Mayor, Assembly Members, and Borough School Board Members. This year there is one seat open for Mayor, two seats open for Assembly Members, two seats open for School Board Members with a three-year term, and one seat open for a School Board Member with a one-year term. The sample ballot below will be available for voters registered in any of the seven Borough precincts.¹

 OFFICIAL BALLOT KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH REGULAR BOROUGH ELECTION TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019																																																		
Completely fill in the oval opposite the name of each candidate or choice for which you wish to vote.																																																		
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¹ Voters registered at a physical address within the City of Ketchikan, City of Saxman, or the proposed Old Dairy Service Area, will have additional candidates and/or ballot measures for which to vote.



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 1, 2019, 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