

2023 Official Candidate Statement City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska

Ella Adkison

Candidate: Assembly Areawide



Name: Ella Adkison

Office Sought: Assembly Areawide

Residence Address: 115 Troy Avenue, Juneau, AK 99801

Mailing Address: Same as Residence

Email Address: AdkisonForAssembly@gmail.com

Age: 23

Occupation: Legislative Aide

Place of Birth: Juneau, Alaska

Length of Residency in Juneau: 15 Years

Communities lived in & dates of residency: Juneau: 2000-2008
Fairbanks: 2008-2016
Juneau: 2016-Present

Education: High school Diploma, B.A. in International Affairs from Lewis & Clark College

Political and Government Work: Legislative Aide

Business and Professional Positions: Sales Associate, Shoefly Alaska; Legislative Aide.

Biographical Information *[limited to 150 words or less.]:*

I was born and raised in Juneau, and I am excited to give back to our community in whatever way I can. I graduated from Juneau-Douglas Yadaa.at Kalé High School and have a deep appreciation for our schools here. I also received my bachelor's in international affairs from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon--but I made sure to come right back to Juneau, where I belong. After college, I began working as a Legislative Aide for Senator Jesse Kiehl, where I have mainly worked on education-related issues. I hope to also serve our community on the local level as a member of the CBJ Assembly.

Position Statement *[limited to 250 words or less.]:*

As a legislative aide, I have developed a skillset that will be an asset on the Assembly. I've worked on and advocated for legislation, worked with people of varying ideologies, and I understand many of the issues Juneau grapples with. If I'm elected, I'm excited to use these skills to benefit our community and everyone in it.

Three of the biggest issues Juneau contends with are a lack of affordable housing, attacks on our school district, and struggling local businesses.

As a young person living in Juneau, I understand the housing crunch we're all experiencing. That's why I support projects such as Pederson Hill, Telephone Hill, and selling municipal land to encourage more projects in the future. We need to do a lot more to release our housing pressures, so that young people can come back, families will come, and our seniors can retire here.

Schools are important to our community. We've done an amazing job of supporting them, despite hostile action from the Governor's administration. Now, the city needs to get more creative. Maybe that's having municipal employees maintain our school buildings, or having local entities teaching extra classes. We need to do whatever we can to continue funding our school district.

Small businesses are the backbone of Juneau's economy. They create jobs and provide vital services to Juneauites. In the aftermath of COVID, many are still struggling. Things like removing parking minimums and revitalizing community spaces can all help not only restore our local business economy but grow it.