

**2023 Official Candidate Statement  
City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska**

**Alicia Hughes-Skandijs**

**Candidate: Assembly District 1**



**Name:** Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

**Office Sought:** Assembly District 1

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**Age at the date of Election:** 38

**Occupation:** Director of Programs, Alaska Municipal League

**Place of Birth:** New York, NY

**Length of Residency in Juneau:** 19 years

**Education:** University of Alaska Southeast, Bachelor of Science, Mathematics

**Political and Government work:** CBJ District 1 Assembly member: January 2019-Present

**Service Organization Memberships:** League of Women Voters, 100 Women-Who-Care-Juneau

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

I moved to Juneau in 2004 to attend UAS. While I originally had no intentions to stay, I immediately fell in love with the community and realized I was home.

After graduating with a BS in mathematics, I worked a variety of jobs that gave me a well-rounded perspective, including the service industry, nonprofit sector and school district. After 8 years of public service at the State, I returned to work in the nonprofit sector, as Director of Programs for the Alaska Municipal League.

I split my time between downtown and Douglas and love spending time with my friends and family, walking my dog on our amazing trail system, and spending quality time outdoors.

I enjoy hiking, picking berries, getting as much time as possible in Auke Lake, cross country skiing, and the bunny hill at Eaglecrest.

I feel truly grateful to live as a guest in Dzántik'i Héeni.

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

My greatest asset is the time I've spent in this position and my ability to work collaboratively. In the four+ years I've served, it feels as if much of the time spent was on stabilization. The pandemic forced us to focus first on community health and safety, and then on our economic health and recovery. I'm proud of the work we did, and throughout we continued working on our community goals and making progress.

There is still a tremendous amount of work to be done to address the most pressing community issues we face, and my priorities are what I see as the key impediments to Juneau being the most thriving community possible.

Our housing shortage affects our community in many ways, driving away young families who can't find a home, driving up the cost of living, and stifling our business community. Continuing to prioritize our work on housing is key: improving our code, using City land for new housing, and subsidizing new projects.

Childcare is equally important in retaining young families and has a large impact on cost of living.

Local control of tourism is more important than it's ever been. While tourism is an important part of our economy, our quality of life is important as well and being short-sighted will transform a renewable resource into a dead end.

I support a new city hall as the alternative is more costly and just plain doesn't make sense for an entity that plans to be in business forever.