

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK/ELECTION OFFICIAL

City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ)
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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1397
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email: CBJ.Elections@juneau.gov

June 30, 2025

Affordable Juneau Coalition
Attn: Joseph W. Geldhof & Angela Rodell
(sent via email and certified letter)
joeg@alaskan.com and amrod921@gmail.com
2 Marine Way, Suite #207
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Final Certification of Three Petitions

Dear Mr. Geldhof, Ms. Rodell, and Affordable Juneau Coalition,

On Monday, June 30, 2025, the Municipal Clerk's office completed its review of all three sets of petition booklets (initial and supplemental combined) from your group. Each petition was treated as a single instrument in accordance with CBJC 29.10.060. The resulting status for each petition is outlined below. Those petitions are referenced below under their "Short Titles" as follows:

- **Mill Rate Cap Amendment** (Charter Amendment)
- **Sales Tax Exemptions** (Initiative)
- **Poll-Based Elections** (Initiative)

CHARTER AMENDMENT SHORT TITLE: Mill Rate Cap Amendment

In accordance with CBJ Charter § 7.3, the petition committee needed to collect the number of signatures equal to twenty-five percent of the votes cast in the preceding municipal election; a total of **2,720 signatures were required** for Clerk staff to certify this petition. During our initial review of the **Charter Mill Rate Cap Amendment** books, we counted 1,913 signatures. We counted the additional 807 signatures from the supplemental signatures gathered. **That petition has now been certified and will be placed on October 7, 2025, Regular Municipal Election ballot in accordance with CBJ Charter § 14.5.¹**

INITIATIVE PETITION SHORT TITLE: Sales Tax Exemptions

In accordance with CBJ Charter § 7.3, the petition committee needed to collect the number of signatures equal to twenty-five percent of the votes cast in the preceding municipal election; a total of **2,720 signatures were required** for Clerk staff to certify this petition. During our initial review of the **Sales Tax Exemption Initiative** books, we counted 1,992 signatures. We counted the additional 728 signatures from the supplemental signatures gathered, thus meeting the required number of signatures to be certified. **In accordance with CBJ Charter § 7.10,² the petition will be forwarded to the Assembly for the next steps in the process.**

INITIATIVE PETITION SHORT TITLE: Poll-Based Elections

In accordance with CBJ Charter § 7.3, the petition committee needed to collect the number of

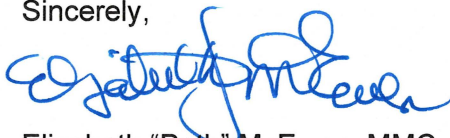
signatures equal to twenty-five percent of the votes cast in the preceding municipal election; a total of **2,720 signatures were required** for Clerk staff to certify this petition. Of those signatures that were submitted with the initial petition books and those from the supplemental petition books, **only 2,705 were able to be certified. Therefore, we are unable to certify this petition.** A total of 2,890 signatures were submitted, and we were unable to certify 185 of those for one or more of the following reasons:

- Issue with Voter Registration (not registered, registered in another Alaskan community, voter in ineligible status according to State Division of Election)
- Issue with Address (address too abbreviated, listed only a P.O. Box)
- Issue with Personal Identifier (ID did not match State Division of Election records)
- Illegible
- Duplicate Signature
- Signature did not match records
- Incomplete (voter left a section blank)

CBJ Charter § 7.8 states: *"Failure to secure sufficient signatures shall not preclude the filing of a new initiative or referendum petition, except that a new petition shall not be filed sooner than six months after a petition which was diligently pursued is rejected on the same or substantially the same matter."*

If you have any questions regarding the petition or election process, please contact our office at 907-586-5278.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth "Beth" McEwen, MMC
CBJ Municipal Clerk/Election Official



Breckan Hendricks
CBJ Municipal Clerk/Election Official

cc: Mayor & Assemblymembers, City Manager Katie Koester, Deputy Manager Robert Barr, City Attorney Emily Wright,

¹ **Section 14.5. Election.**

- (a) Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the municipality at an election announced by a notice containing the full text of each proposed amendment and published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality at least thirty days before the date of the election. At least thirty days before the date of the election copies of the notice shall be delivered to newspapers of general circulation in the municipality and to commercial radio and television stations operating in the municipality.
- (b) The election shall be held not less than sixty days and not more than one hundred and twenty days after the amendment has been proposed. If no regular election is to be held within that period, the assembly shall provide for a special election on the proposed amendment. The ballot shall provide voters a choice to vote "For the Amendment" or "Against the Amendment."

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- (c) If a majority of the qualified voters voting on a proposed amendment vote for it, the amendment shall become effective at the time fixed in the amendment or, if no time is fixed, thirty days after certification of the election.

² Section 7.10. Action on petitions.

- (a) When an initiative or referendum petition has been determined sufficient, the clerk immediately shall submit it to the assembly. If the assembly fails to adopt a proposed initiative measure without any change in substance within forty-five days or fails to repeal the referred measure within thirty days after the date the petition was determined sufficient, it shall submit the proposed initiative or referred measure to the electorate of the municipality. If the subject matter of the proposed initiative or referred measure relates only to a service area, the measure shall be submitted only to the electorate of the service area.
- (b) The election on a proposed initiative or referred measure shall be held at the next regular election, or, if already scheduled, a special election occurring not sooner than 90 days from the last day on which the assembly action may be completed on the proposed initiative or referred measure. If no regular election is scheduled to occur within 75 days after the certification of a petition and the Assembly determines it is in the best interest of the municipality, the Assembly may, by ordinance, order a special election to be held on the matter before the next scheduled election. The notice of election shall contain at least a summary of the proposed initiative or referred measure.
- (c) Copies of the proposed initiative or referred measure shall be available for distribution to the public at the office of the clerk within a reasonable time before the initiative or referendum election and shall be available for distribution to the voters at the polls.

(Serial No. 2005-18(am), § 3, 2005/10-4-2005)