



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK/ ELECTION OFFICIAL

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Date: February 9, 2026

To: Mayor Weldon & Assembly

From: Breckan Hendricks, Municipal Clerk / Election Official

Subject: 2026 Municipal Election Overview and Deadlines

The next CBJ Regular Municipal Election is **Tuesday, October 6, 2026**¹. The timeline for conducting the October 6, 2026, election is set forth below.

Assembly-Proposed Measures

Charter Amendments:

The Assembly may propose Charter amendments by ordinance². An ordinance would need to be adopted no earlier than Monday, June 8 and no later than Friday, August 7 to avoid a special election³. The first regular meeting for the Assembly to introduce a Charter amendment is May 18 and the last regular meeting for the Assembly to adopt a Charter amendment is July 27.

General Ballot Propositions (Non-Charter):

Assembly action authorizing a non-Charter ballot proposition must be adopted by July 27, as ballot design begins on July 28. This authorization is typically completed by ordinance or resolution, depending on the type of measure. To meet this deadline, I recommend introducing any ballot measure no later than the regular June 8 Assembly meeting, with public hearing and final Assembly action on July 27.

Citizen Petitions:

Citizens may propose amendments to the CBJ Charter or the CBJ Municipal Code through a citizen petition. A petition can take the form of an initiative, which proposes a new law, or referendum, which repeals an existing law.

Starting a Petition:

To start a petition, citizens form a Petitioners Committee of five (5) qualified municipal

¹ [CBJ Charter Section 6.1 - Regular Elections](#)

² [CBJ Charter Section 14.2 - Proposal by the Assembly](#)

³ [CBJ Charter Section 14.5 - Election](#)

voters and submit an affidavit to the Clerk’s Office⁴. Petitioners’ committees are encouraged to submit a copy of their affidavit and proposed ordinance to the Municipal Attorney for review ahead of submitting it to the Clerk⁵.

If the affidavit is approved, the Petitioners Committee must collect signatures of qualified voters equal to 25 percent of the votes cast in the most recent regular municipal election. Based on the 10,263 total ballots counted in the 2025 election, Petitioners Committees are required to gather **2,566** qualifying signatures⁶.

Certification Timeline:

The certification process generally takes 45 to 85 days from the date the affidavit is submitted to the Clerk’s Office, if successful⁷. This timeline includes up to 15 business days for the Clerk to review the affidavit and issue signature booklets, 30 calendar days for signature collection, 10 calendar days for signature review, 10 calendar days to collect supplemental signatures if necessary, and 10 calendar days to review supplemental signatures.

If a petition fails, a new initiative or referendum on the same or substantially the same matter may not be filed for six months.

Recommended Submission Dates for 2026 Ballot:

The timeline for a petition depends on how quickly the Petitioners Committee completes each step, since each completed step triggers the Clerk’s review period. The key date is when the petition is certified, which determines whether it will appear on the 2026 municipal election or a future election, which is why Petitioners Committees are encouraged to contact the Clerk’s Office in February or March to begin the process. Affidavits received near the “Latest possible” date (e.g., April 27 for initiatives) may make the ballot but also carry a significant risk of missing it, as Clerk review and Assembly action are conducted according to deadlines set in the CBJ Charter and applicable Alaska Statutes.

Initiative Petitions

Guaranteed	Very likely	Latest possible	Too late for 2026
March 18 or earlier	March 19 - April 8	April 9 – April 27	April 28 or later

Referendum Petitions

Guaranteed	Very likely	Latest possible	Too late for 2026
April 3 or earlier	April 4 - April 23	April 24 – May 13	May 14 or later

If a successful initiative or referendum does not meet the 2026 ballot deadline, it would

⁴ [CBJ Charter Section 7.2 - Commencement of Proceedings \(a\)](#)

⁵ [CBJ Code Section 29.10.020 - Attorney assistance on initiative petitions.](#)

⁶ [CBJ Charter Section 7.3 - Petition](#)

⁷ [CBJ Code Section 29.10.025 Certification of Petitioners’ Committee Affidavit](#) & [CBJ Charter Section 7.3 - Petition](#) and [CBJ Charter Section 7.6 - Examination for Sufficiency](#)

appear on the next regular or special election⁸.

Charter Amendment Petitions

Petition affidavits should be submitted no earlier than **April 8** or later than **May 14** to avoid triggering a special election⁹.

After Certification:

Once certified, what happens next depends on the type of petition.

- Initiatives go to the Assembly, which has 45 days to enact substantially similar legislation.
- Referendums go to the Assembly, which has 30 days to repeal the existing legislation.

The Assembly must act no later than the July 27 regular meeting. If the Assembly does not act, the petition proceeds to the next regular or special election¹⁰.

Charter amendment petitions automatically go to the next regular or special election with no involvement by the Assembly¹¹.

Candidate Filing Period:

Opens at 8am Friday, July 17 and closes at 4:30pm Monday, July 27¹².

Nominating petition forms will be available at the Clerk's Office and require the signatures of 25 registered Juneau voters. Candidates must also submit a printed copy of the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) Public Official Financial Disclosure (POFD) statement no later than 4:30pm on Monday, July 27¹³. Candidates may withdraw their name from the printed ballot no later than 4:30pm on Friday, July 31¹⁴.

Official candidate statements may be submitted for publication on CBJ's website at any time after filing the nominating petition, but no later than August 17.

Write-in candidates may file a letter of intent and an APOC POFD with the Clerk's Office no earlier than Friday, July 31 and no later than 4:30pm on September 29. Write-in candidates do not submit candidate statements and do not have their name printed on the ballot.

⁸ [CBJ Charter Section 7.10 – Actions on petitions \(b\)](#)

⁹ [CBJ Charter Section 14.5 - Election \(b\)](#)

¹⁰ [CBJ Charter Section 7.10 – Action on petitions \(a\)](#)

¹¹ [CBJ Charter Section 14.5 - Election](#)

¹² [CBJ Code 29.07.50 – Candidates; nomination; write-in \(c\)](#)

¹³ [AS 39.50.020\(a\) and AS 39.50.020\(b\)](#)

¹⁴ [CBJ Code 29.07.50 – Candidates; nomination; write-in \(e\)](#)