Municipal Clerk's Office

Approved
Date: January 21, 2025

Submitted by: Chair of the Assembly at the

request of the Mayor

Prepared by: Maintenance & Operations

Department

For reading: January 7, 2025

### ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AO No. 2025 - 7

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS RESIDING IN THE CHUGIAK, BIRCHWOOD, EAGLE RIVER RURAL ROAD SERVICE AREA (CBERRRSA) AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 1, 2025, A BALLOT PROPOSITION TO PROVIDE A MAXIMUM MILL LEVY OF 2.40 MILLS FOR THE CBERRRSA FOR ROAD AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE, AND AMEND ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 27.30.215, RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2025.

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**WHEREAS**, the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRSA) Board of Supervisors passed a motion to request a ballot proposition at the April 1, 2025, Municipal general election for the service area to increase the maximum mill rate to 2.40 mills, an increase of 0.30 mill, for road and drainage maintenance; and,

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**WHEREAS**, the CBERRRSA almost exclusively relies on RRSA tax dollars for road and drainage maintenance and capital improvements; and,

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**WHEREAS**, it is feasible, practical, and reasonable to increase the maximum allowable mill rate to 2.40 mills to provide a predictable, reliable revenue increase to fund road and drainage maintenance services within the CBERRRSA; and,

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**WHEREAS**, AS 29.35.450(a) requires a ballot proposition be passed by a majority vote of the qualified voters residing in the CBERRSA for the 0.30 mill increase to the maximum mill levy to become effective, and only affects the residents of the CBERRSA: now, therefore,

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#### THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

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<u>Section 1.</u> Pursuant to Anchorage Municipal Charter 9.01(a), a ballot proposition in substantially the following form shall be submitted to the qualified voters residing in the CBERRSA at the regular Municipal election April 1, 2025:

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## Proposition \_\_\_\_

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# CHUGIAK, BIRCHWOOD, EAGLE RIVER RURAL ROAD SERVICE AREA (CBERRRSA) MILL RATE ADJUSTMENT

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Shall a maximum mill levy of 2.40 mills be set for the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRSA), with no more than 1.4 mills to be used for road and drainage  maintenance and no more than 1.0 mill to be used for capital improvements, effective retroactive to January 1, 2025?

The existing maximum mill rate in the CBERRRSA is 2.10 mills; no more than 1.1 mills may be used for road and drainage maintenance, and no more than 1.0 mill shall be for capital improvements.

If this proposition is approved, the maximum mill rate will increase to 2.40 mills, with limitation that no more than 1.4 mills shall be for road and drainage maintenance, and no more than 1.0 mill shall be for capital improvements—an increase of 0.30 mills for road and drainage maintenance.

The roads affected are all within the CBERRRSA. The intent of this proposition is to provide additional local funding for road and drainage maintenance. Local tax funding is almost exclusively the funding source for road and drainage maintenance. The additional tax funds will provide a more predictable and reliable revenue stream to reduce long-term road maintenance costs, maintain year-round drivable roads, and alleviate unsafe road environments. Subject to the maximum mill rate, the CBERRRSA Board of Supervisors will determine the actual mill rate each year.

If approved, property owners within the CBERRSA may incur an increase in property taxes of up to \$30 per \$100,000 assessed value beginning in tax year 2025.

Yes [ ] No [ ]

**Section 2.** Anchorage Municipal Code section 27.30.215. is amended to read as follows (underlined portions are added and portions in brackets are deleted):

# 27.30.215 - Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRSA).

- A. There is established, pursuant to section 9.01 of the Charter, a service area within the municipality designated the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area of the municipality (CBERRRSA), as outlined on the map located in section 27.30.700. The Chugiak Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area shall include the areas formerly known as the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River and Eagle River Valley Limited Road Service Areas.
- B. Subject to review and prioritization by the board of supervisors as provided for in Anchorage Municipal Code 27.30.135, the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area shall provide capital

improvements for roads and drainage and the maintenance thereof within and over road rights-of-way in the service area including street light capital improvements and street light operation and maintenance at special sites outside the Eagle River Street Light Service Area which enhance public safety, but excluding capital improvements for and maintenance and operation of: 1) traffic engineering; 2) park and recreational services; 3) water, sewer, telephone, electric, gas and other utility improvements and services; 4) off-road mass transit facilities and signs; 5) fire hydrants and parking meters. The service area also shall be authorized to operate and maintain street lights at special sites outside of the Eagle River Street Light Service Area for purposes of enhancing public safety. The mill rate for services provided in the service area shall not exceed 2.40 [2.10] mills in any calendar year. No more than 1.4 [1.1] mills shall be for road and drainage maintenance and no more than 1.0 mill shall be for capital improvements.

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(AO No. 84-169(S-A); AO No. 85-112; AO No. 88-43(S); AO No. 88-116; AO No. 90-96; AO No. 91-100; AO No. 96-45(S), § 2, 4-16-96)

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Section 3. Section 2 of this ordinance shall become effective retroactive to January 1, 2025, if, and only if, the ballot proposition in Section 1 is passed by a majority vote of the qualified voters residing in the CBERRSA. All other sections of this ordinance shall become effective upon passage and approval by the Anchorage Assembly.

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PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 21st day of January, 2025.

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Christopher Constant

Chair

Municipal Clerk

ATTEST:



### **MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE**

#### **ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM**

AM NO. 43 - 2025

Meeting Date: January 7, 2025

FROM: MAYOR

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS RESIDING IN THE CHUGIAK, BIRCHWOOD, EAGLE RIVER RURAL ROAD SERVICE AREA (CBERRRSA) AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 1, 2025, A BALLOT PROPOSITION TO PROVIDE A MAXIMUM MILL LEVY OF 2.40 MILLS FOR THE CBERRRSA FOR ROAD AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE, AND AMEND ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 27.30.215, RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2025.

 The Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRRSA) Board of Supervisors approved a motion for a ballot proposition to consider increasing the maximum mill rate for road and drainage maintenance from 1.1 mills up to 1.4 mills, leaving capital improvements at 1.0 mill, subject to approval of qualified voters at the April 1, 2025, Municipal general election. This ordinance creates the ballot proposition for qualified voters residing in the road service area to vote on the code amendment to increase the maximum mill rate to 2.40 mills, an increase of 0.30 mill, and amends Anchorage Municipal Code section 27.30.215, retroactive to January 1, 2025, if the ballot proposition is approved by the voters.

The current maximum mill rate of 2.1 is split with no more than 1.1 mills shall be for road and drainage maintenance and no more than 1.0 shall be for capital improvements. The proposed increase to the maximum mill rate to 2.4 would increase the road and drainage maintenance allowable maximum from 1.1 mills to 1.4 mills with the capital improvements remaining at 1.0 mill.

In order to continue to provide the same level of road and drainage maintenance, the service area needs additional funds. The financial resources of rural road service areas are primarily dependent on local property tax revenues generated by the mill rate for the local road service area.

The maximum mill rate of 2.10 was set in 1991. With historical inflation and rising cost of goods and services, the service area has had to utilize fund balance reserves to accomplish annual road and drainage maintenance activities since 2020. The remaining fund balance reserves can no longer sustain supplementing the annual road and drainage services. Subject to this maximum mill rate, the CBERRSA Board of Supervisors will determine the actual mill rate each year.

The proposed 0.30 mill rate increase for the CBERRRSA is feasible, practical, and reasonable to fund needed road and drainage maintenance, maintain year-round drivable roads, and alleviate any unsafe road environment.

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#### THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

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4 Prepared by: Courtney Petersen, Manager, PW Administration Shay Throop, Director, Maintenance & Operations

6 Concur: Lance Wilber, Director, Planning, Development & Public

Works

8 | Concur: Philippe D. Brice, CFO

9 Concur: Ona R. Brause, Director Management & Budget

10 | Concur: Eva Gardner, Municipal Attorney

Concur: William D. Falsey, Chief Administrative Officer
Rebecca A. Windt Pearson, Municipal Manager

13 Respectfully submitted: Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

# MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE Summary of Economic Effects -- General Government

AO Number: 2025-7 Title: AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS RESIDING IN

THE CHUGIAK, BIRCHWOOD, EAGLE RIVER RURAL ROAD SERVICE AREA (CBERRRSA) AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 1, 2025, A BALLOT PROPOSITION TO PROVIDE A MAXIMUM MILL LEVY OF 2.40 MILLS FOR THE CBERRRSA FOR ROAD AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE, AND AMEND ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 27.30.215,

**RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2025.** 

Sponsor: MAYOR

Preparing Agency: Public Works, Administration Others Impacted: Maintenance & Operations

CHANGES IN EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES:				(In Thousands of Dollars)							
	FY25			FY26		FY27		FY28		FY29	
Operating Expenditures 1000 Personal Services 2000 Non-Labor 3900 Contributions 4000 Debt Service											
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Add: 6000 Charges from Others Less: 7000 Charges to Others											
FUNCTION COST:	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
REVENUES:	\$	1,300	\$	1,300	\$	1,300	\$	1,300	\$	1,300	
CAPITAL:	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
POSITIONS: FT/PT and Temp	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		

#### **PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:**

Increasing the maximum allowable mill rate from 2.1 to 2.4 will provide the availability of an additional estimated \$1,300,000. CBERRSA maximum mill levy of 2.4 mills and the 2024 assessed valuation of the service area of \$4,312,756,975 would produce a potential estimated \$1,300,000 tax revenue. However, subject to the maximum mill rate, the CBERRSA Board of Supervisors will determine the actual mill rate each year.

#### PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:

Increasing the maximum allowable mill rate from 2.1 to 2.4 will provide the availability of an additional estimated \$1,300,000. CBERRRSA maximum mill levy of 2.4 mills and the 2024 assessed values of \$4,312,756,975 would produce a potential estimated \$1,300,000 tax revenue.

If approved, the affected private property owner within the affected service area could pay up to \$30 of property taxes per \$100,000 assessed value annually. However, subject to the maximum mill rate, the CBERRSA Board

Prepared by: Courtney Petersen, Public Works Administration Telephone: 343-8191

tax value				
\$	557,800			
\$	159,900			
\$	733,400			
\$	543,300			
\$	638,700			
\$	198,800			
\$ 2,831,900				
	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$			