

Submitted by: Mayor LaFrance and
Chair Constant
Prepared by: Dept. of Law, Chief Admin. Officer
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel's Office
For reading: December 17, 2024

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2024-132**

1 **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED**
2 **VOTERS OF THE ANCHORAGE ROADS AND DRAINAGE SERVICE AREA**
3 **(ARDSA) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AT THE**
4 **ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE MUNICIPALITY ON APRIL 1, 2025, THE**
5 **QUESTION OF WHETHER TO APPROVE A SPECIAL TAX LEVY DEDICATED**
6 **TO PAYMENT OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND REPLACING ARDSA**
7 **FLEET VEHICLES.**
8

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality has a need to acquire and replace vehicles and
11 equipment designated for use in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area
12 (ARDSA), including heavy fleet vehicles involved in front-line snow response; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, investing in new vehicles and equipment will address the needs of the
15 community by improving public safety and enhancing the municipality's operational
16 efficiency; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, at present, the heavy fleet includes approximately 100 pieces of
19 equipment including graders, dump trucks, sanders, loaders, blowers, and trackless
20 machines; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, vehicles and equipment used beyond their useful life can experience
23 frequent down time and high maintenance costs if not replaced in a timely manner;
24 and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the replacement cost of fully outfitted vehicles and equipment varies,
27 e.g. \$330,000 for a new grader, \$600,000 for a dump truck; and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, this request is for an annual levy calculated to collect up to \$3,500,000
30 which could support an annual purchase of approximately 7 vehicles at an average
31 cost of \$450,000 each
32

33 **WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the annual levy, if approved by voters, will eliminate
34 the need to bond for ARDSA vehicles for the foreseeable future; now, therefore,
35

36 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**
37

38 **Section 1. Ballot Proposition.** The Assembly hereby submits to the qualified voters
39 of the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area, at the regular municipal
40 election to be held on April 1, 2025, the proposition of whether or not the
41 Municipality should levy a special tax to collect not to exceed \$3,500,000 annually

1 from the service area, as described in Anchorage Municipal Charter section
2 14.03(b)(3), dedicated to pay the costs of acquiring and replacing vehicles and
3 equipment designated for use in the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area
4 (ARDSA).

5
6 The Clerk shall prepare the ballot proposition to be submitted to the qualified
7 voters as provided by this ordinance and the Anchorage Municipal Code and shall
8 perform all necessary steps in accordance with law to place this proposition before
9 the voters at the regular election. The proposition must receive an majority vote of
10 those in the ARDSA voting on the question to be approved. The proposition shall
11 be substantially in the following form:

12
13 PROPOSITION NO. _____

14
15 ANCHORAGE ROADS AND DRAINAGE SERVICE AREA
16 SNOW-RESPONSE AND FLEET VEHICLE SPECIAL TAX LEVY

17
18 For the purpose of acquiring and replacing vehicles
19 and equipment designated for use in the Anchorage
20 Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA), including
21 vehicles used in snow plowing and snow hauling, as
22 provided in AO 2025-____, shall Anchorage levy a
23 special tax to collect an amount not to exceed
24 \$3,500,000 annually, dedicated solely to those
25 purposes?

26
27 Voter approval of this proposition authorizes for each
28 \$100,000 of assessed property value in the Anchorage
29 Roads and Drainage Service Area (based on the
30 estimated total 2025 assessed valuation in the
31 ARDSA) an annual increase in taxes not to exceed \$-
32 _____.

33
34 The tax shall be levied and collected from real and
35 personal property within the Anchorage Roads and
36 Drainage Service Area only.

37 YES NO

38
39 **Section 2.** This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and
40 approval by the Assembly.

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42
43 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day
44 of _____, 2025.

45
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48 _____
49 Chair of the Assembly
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ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Assembly Memorandum

No. AM 1032-2024

Meeting Date: December 17, 2024

1 **From:** MAYOR LAFRANCE AND CHAIR CONSTANT

2
3 **Subject:** AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE
4 QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE ANCHORAGE ROADS AND
5 DRAINAGE SERVICE AREA (ARDSA) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
6 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE
7 MUNICIPALITY ON APRIL 1, 2025, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER
8 TO APPROVE A SPECIAL TAX LEVY DEDICATED TO PAYMENT
9 OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND REPLACING ARDSA FLEET
10 VEHICLES.

11
12
13 The Municipality's fleet of vehicles and equipment designated for use in the
14 Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) is aging and in need of
15 repair and replacement. The heavy fleet includes approximately 100 pieces of
16 equipment including graders, dump trucks, sanders, loaders, blowers, and trackless
17 machines, many of which are involved in front-line snow response.

18
19 Investing in new vehicles and equipment will address the needs of the community by
20 improving public safety and enhancing the municipality's operational efficiency.
21 Vehicles and equipment used beyond their useful life can experience frequent down
22 time and high maintenance costs if not replaced in a timely manner.

23
24 The replacement cost of fully outfitted vehicles and equipment varies, e.g. \$330,000
25 for a new grader, \$600,000 for a dump truck. This request is for a \$3,500,000
26 annual levy which could support an annual purchase of approximately 7 vehicles at
27 an average cost of \$450,000 each. This model was successful in the past when the
28 Anchorage Police Department required new information technology including body-
29 worn cameras, and when the Anchorage Fire Department needed new emergency
30 medical equipment and systems.

31
32
33 **THE ADMINISTRATION AND ASSEMBLY CHAIR CONSTANT RECOMMEND**
34 **APPROVAL.**

35
36 Prepared by: William D. Falsey, Chief Administrative Officer
37 Reviewed by: Dean T. Gates, Assembly Counsel
38 Concur: Ona R. Brause, Director, Office of Management and
39 Budget

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Concur:

Eva Gardner, Municipal Attorney

Concur:

Philippe D. Brice, CFO

Concur:

Rebecca A. Windt Pearson Municipal Manager

Respectfully submitted:

Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

Christopher Constant, Assembly Chair

District 1 – North Anchorage

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Summary of Economic Effects -- General Government

AO Number: 2024-132

Title: **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE ANCHORAGE ROADS AND DRAINAGE SERVICE AREA (ARDSA) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE MUNICIPALITY ON APRIL 1, 2025, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO APPROVE A SPECIAL TAX LEVY DEDICATED TO PAYMENT OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND REPLACING ARDSA FLEET VEHICLES.**

Sponsor: **MAYOR**
 Preparing Agency: Acting Chief Administrative Officer
 Others Impacted:

CHANGES IN EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES:	(In Thousands of Dollars)				
	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>	<u>FY28</u>	<u>FY29</u>
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:	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500

CAPITAL:

POSITIONS: FT/PT and Temp

PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:

A tax levy for new vehicles and equipment for the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area will result in an additional \$3,500,000 in revenue annually, to be used specifically for that purpose.

PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC EFFECTS:

New vehicles and equipment will have a positive impact on the community by improving the municipality's overall operational efficiency, at a very small cost per individual.

Prepared by: *Acting Chief Administrative Officer*

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