

Spring 2020 West Anchorage Candidates Forum

ASSEMBLY Candidates Questions & Responses

Assembly and School Board candidates were asked to provide responses to several questions prepared by the sponsoring councils: North Star, Sand Lake, Spenard, Taku Campbell and Turnagain Community Councils. Note: only West Anchorage (District 3) candidates were asked to participate in the West Anchorage Candidates Forum. Responses by **Assembly, District 3** candidates are listed below. Responses were not edited, except that any responses not following the requested format (yes/no, or 100-word limit) were trimmed to fit the format.

Election Information

Website with all information about the election: www.muni.org/elections

- **Tuesday, March 17:** Ballots were mailed to Anchorage voters' addresses.
- **Wednesday, March 18:** Ballot drop boxes are unlocked. Drop off your ballot in one of the boxes around the city, or add first-class postage (\$0.70!) and mail.
- **Tuesday, April 7:** Election Day! Ballots must be postmarked or in an official drop box by this date. Ballot drop boxes will be locked at 8 p.m. on April 7th.

Reminder: To protect public health, there are no in-person voting options this year. You may see outdated information about in-person voting centers: these will not be operational. Drop off your ballot or send via mail, with required postage.

From the Muni website: "The election is a Vote at Home election. Traditional polling places will not be open and are not an option for voting on Election Day."

The Municipal Clerk's Office reminds that, "Voting at home is as easy as 1-2-3!"

1. **Vote your ballot - both sides of both cards** - fill in the ovals completely, place both cards (A & B) in the security envelope, then into the ballot return envelope.
2. **Sign the declaration** on the back of the ballot return envelope.
3. **Save postage by returning your ballot** to a Secure Drop Box or an Anchorage Vote Center (AVC), or, mail your ballot with first class postage* through the United States Postal Service. (Total postage in the amount of 70 cents will be required if a voter chooses to return the ballot with two cards by USPS.)

If a voter loses, damages, or does not receive a ballot package in the mail, the voter is asked to call the Voter Hotline at (907) 243-VOTE (8683) to request a replacement ballot package. The Voter Hotline hours of operation are Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, call the Voter Hotline: (907) 243 – VOTE (8683).

Candidate Information

Name: Nick Danger

Website: <http://nick-danger.freesevers.com>

Introduction (100 words max)

1. Please share a little about yourself: your experience, background, etc.

2 terms on the Girdwood Board of Supervisors , one as Chairman

7 years Public Safety Advisory Commission , 5 years as chair.

Yes/No Questions

Please check the “Yes” or “No” box for each question below. Additional text responding to these questions will not be published.

#	<u>Question</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
2.	Before declaring yourself as a candidate, have you participated in your local Community Council in the last 3 years?	X	
3.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 1 for \$1,110,000 in bonds to fund areawide life/safety access roads improvements?		X
4.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 2 for \$82,833,000 in bonds to fund Anchorage School District Capital Improvements?		X
5.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 3 for \$43,000,000 Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area Road and Storm Drainage Improvements?		X
6.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 4 for \$2,050,000 in bonds to fund Anchorage fire service area fire protections?		X
7.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 5 for \$3,950,000 in bonds to fund Anchorage Parks and Recreation service area improvements?	X	
8.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 6 for \$2,400,000 in bonds to fund Anchorage Metropolitan Police Service Area facilities?		X
9.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 7 for \$5,375,000 in bonds to fund areawide facilities capital improvement project?		X

10.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 8 for \$5,095,000 in bonds to fund areawide public safety and transit capital improvements?		X
11.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 9 for \$1,260,533.94 in bonds to fund areawide emergency medical supplies and a systems special levy and reduction of voter-approved indebtedness?		X
12.	<i>[Note: Ballot Proposition 10 does not apply to our area.]</i>	N/A	N/A
13.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 11 allowing on-site consumption of marijuana by smoking or inhalation per licensed retail marijuana store with a licensed on-site consumption area?		X
14.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 12 requiring 2 Assembly members for each assembly district (12 total)?	X	
15.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 13 creating a sales tax on alcoholic beverages of 5% dedicating the revenue to public safety and health purposes?		X

Short Response Questions (100 words max per question)

For Assembly questionnaires, each council was asked to submit one question to ask candidates. The councils' questions are below, identified by council, with two additional general questions.

16. North Star CC

The two highest priorities of North Star Community Council are:

- 1) Replacement of the Chester Creek culvert under Arctic Boulevard with a larger culvert that increases capacity during flood situations***
- 2) Renovation of Fireweed Lane between Spenard Road and the New Seward Highway that adds pedestrian and biking amenities.***

Do you support the 2020 Road and Drainage Bond that includes the Chester Creek culvert project? Will you support the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that includes the Fireweed Lane project?

Yes

17. Sand Lake CC

Given that our two current Assembly Members reside in the northern half of Assembly District 2, how will you ensure the Southern half receives equal representation?

Attend meetings be available

18. **Spenard CC**

Do you support the community's effort to bond a phase one design to daylight Fish Creek?

Yes I own a house by fish creek it need some love

19. **Turnagain CC**

Turnagain, Spenard and Sand Lake are adjacent to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, and the neighborhoods have for many years sought ways to mitigate the impacts of airport-generated development and operations on surrounding residents, parks and trails.

Since thru truck weight limit signage posted on West Northern Lights Blvd. for many decades was mysteriously removed in summer 2018, heavy truck traffic traveling directly past homes and the Turnagain Elementary School has increased substantially. If elected to represent West Anchorage, would you commit to working with the Municipal administration and Turnagain Community Council to get truck weight limit signage reinstalled along WNL?

Yes

Taku Campbell CC

No question submitted.

20. In your opinion, what does our community need most right now and what would you do to make the greatest impact?

Get rid of this hand out give away assembly

21. Why are you the best candidate for this seat?

Conservative, christian, common sence , take care of the majority not the minority

Candidate Information

Name: MoHagani Magnetek

Website: www.mohaganimagnetek.com/city-assembly-campaign

Instagram and Facebook: @MagnetekRotation **Twitter:** @magnetekally

Introduction (100 words max)

1. Please share a little about yourself: your experience, background, etc.

In addition to being a Wonder Woman; I am a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran, Historical Archaeologist, Human Right Activist and published writer with experience and degrees in Anthropology, English, Forensic Investigation and currently in my final year of my MFA in Creative Writing & Literary Arts Program at UAA. I am a businesswoman in Graphic/Web Design, Event Promoter and Performance Art since 1997. I aspire to be elected because Anchorage needs a nonpartisan, (“conservative” nor “progressive”) assembly member. I bring joy, ingenuity, wisdom, compassion and invite everyone the freedom to speak by creating safe spaces for all.

Yes/No Questions

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6.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 4 for \$2,050,000 in bonds to fund Anchorage fire service area fire protections?	X	

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14.	Do you support Ballot Proposition 12 requiring 2 Assembly members for each assembly district (12 total)?	X	
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- 1) Replacement of the Chester Creek culvert under Arctic Boulevard with a larger culvert that increases capacity during flood situations***
- 2) Renovation of Fireweed Lane between Spenard Road and the New Seward Highway that adds pedestrian and biking amenities.***

Do you support the 2020 Road and Drainage Bond that includes the Chester Creek culvert project? Will you support the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that includes the Fireweed Lane project?

Combined response to questions 16, 18 and 19: I am 100% in support of all these bonds to better the infrastructure of our culverts, drainages and roadways. I think West Anchorage is the geographic natural wilderness jewel of our city, however standing in the light of the COVID-19 Pandemic which has already generated much difficulty now; has yet to run its course of devastation. It is simply too soon to think about any of our other projects until this crisis is over and we are able to assess the total impact on Anchorage, in specific District 3. I am saddened to the core that these projects and bonds may not be at the forefront of our thoughts in comparison to rebooting our economy, uplifting small businesses and taking care to the immediate needs of all the people that are no longer working and even worse; dealing with the physical, emotional and psychological trauma of the Coronavirus.

17. Sand Lake CC

Given that our two current Assembly Members reside in the northern half of Assembly District 2, how will you ensure the Southern half receives equal representation?

It is a crying shame that this must be a question from the Sand Lake Community Council. I spend a lot of time hanging out in Sand Lake to not feel like a part of the community. I was astonished to see many people upset with our current assembly members, because of the heated emotions of feeling left out and ignored all together as if Sand Lake does not exist in West Anchorage. This can easily be fixed just by me being present not just at community council meetings but at events that take place in Sand Lake as well.

18. Spenard CC

Do you support the community's effort to bond a phase one design to daylight Fish Creek?

See response to Question 16.

19. Turnagain CC

Turnagain, Spenard and Sand Lake are adjacent to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, and the neighborhoods have for many years sought ways to mitigate the impacts of airport-generated development and operations on surrounding residents, parks and trails.

Since thru truck weight limit signage posted on West Northern Lights Blvd. for many decades was mysteriously removed in summer 2018, heavy truck traffic traveling directly past homes and the Turnagain Elementary School has increased substantially. If elected to represent West Anchorage, would you

commit to working with the Municipal administration and Turnagain Community Council to get truck weight limit signage reinstalled along WNL?

See response to Question 16.

Taku Campbell CC

No question submitted.

20. In your opinion, what does our community need most right now and what would you do to make the greatest impact?

Compassion. Stop stigmatizing homeless members of our community. No thanks to COVID-19, it is likely that many people that looked down on the underprivileged a month ago will find themselves broke and homeless after this crisis is over. I think governmental transparency is paramount. Many people do not even know the names of the current assembly members. Representation is nothing compared to leadership; people that are present in the meetings and not on their cellphones. Leaders of the community must speak up and out as active participants in the assembly work sessions as well as the special and general meetings.

21. Why are you the best candidate for this seat?

I think West Anchorage and the city needs MoHagani now more than ever. Whenever this pandemic is over it is going to take a while for us to recover which is not going to be an easy process without my creativity, compassion and tenacity to get jobs done. I need to win so I can give our city hope and encouragement because I know how to make do with what I have while still uplifting others. If I was not already, I am now the best assembly candidate for (Spenard/West Anchorage) District: 3 Seat E... E for Equality.

Candidate Information

Name: Austin Quinn-Davidson

Website: www.austinforanchorage.com

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/austinforanchorage>

Introduction (100 words max)

1. Please share a little about yourself: your experience, background, etc.

As an Assembly member I draw on my background as a real estate and land use lawyer, my experience managing complex projects, my communication skills, and my compassion for our community. Since I was elected, I've worked on legislation that has changed the lives of my constituents for the better. I led an effort to change FEMA guidelines to make it possible for Anchorage residents to get disaster aid after the 2018 earthquake, and as a result of the Assembly's investment in public safety almost all categories of reported crime have dropped dramatically since 2017.

Yes/No Questions

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Do you support the 2020 Road and Drainage Bond that includes the Chester Creek culvert project? Will you support the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that includes the Fireweed Lane project?

Yes. I am looking forward to continuing to support both of these projects.

17. Sand Lake CC

Given that our two current Assembly Members reside in the northern half of Assembly District 2, how will you ensure the Southern half receives equal representation?

I live in Turnagain, but Kameron Perez-Verdia lives in Sand Lake.

The 2018 earthquake hit soon after I was elected. Many homeowners in Sand Lake had extensive damage, but FEMA inspectors seemed unfamiliar with earthquake damage and offered low payouts. I flew to Washington D.C. to make the case to our delegation that my constituents deserved more. Soon after, FEMA changed its policies and began offering the full payout.

I have regularly assisted Sand Lake constituents with community issues, such as rezones, drainage, utility connections, and road construction, among others. If re-elected, I'll continue to serve my entire district.

18. Spenard CC

Do you support the community's effort to bond a phase one design to daylight Fish Creek?

Absolutely. I co-sponsored a resolution that called on the Municipality to promote efforts to restore, protect, and enhance Fish Creek. The resolution supported daylighting of the creek, which plays an important ecological, historical, and cultural role in our district. Daylighting Fish Creek would enhance our quality of life by improving the environment around it as well as creating new recreational opportunities. Most recently, I worked with my Assembly colleagues to ask AMATS to include the daylighting of Fish Creek on its long-term projects list. I would also support an effort to bond for design of daylighting Fish Creek.

19. Turnagain CC

Turnagain, Spenard and Sand Lake are adjacent to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, and the neighborhoods have for many years sought ways to mitigate the impacts of airport-generated development and operations on surrounding residents, parks and trails.

Since thru truck weight limit signage posted on West Northern Lights Blvd. for many decades was mysteriously removed in summer 2018, heavy truck traffic traveling directly past homes and the Turnagain Elementary School has increased substantially. If elected to represent West Anchorage, would you

commit to working with the Municipal administration and Turnagain Community Council to get truck weight limit signage reinstalled along WNL?

Yes. I have spoken with the current TCC president and other TCC members about this issue in the past. I will continue working with Turnagain Community Council on this and other traffic issues, as well as other important issues that impact the Turnagain neighborhood.

Taku Campbell CC

No question submitted.

20. In your opinion, what does our community need most right now and what would you do to make the greatest impact?

Even before COVID-19, I would have said that the most important issue facing our city is ensuring the strength of our long-term fiscal position. The Municipality has continued to make fiscally prudent decisions despite the state's abdication of its financial responsibilities, but we need good leadership to continue moving in the right direction. This will become even more essential as the pandemic puts extreme pressure on our systems and local economy. What the community needs is leaders who will make rational, careful, sound decisions. I hope to continue serving my neighbors through one of the toughest times in Anchorage's history.

21. Why are you the best candidate for this seat?

During my service on the Assembly I have acted quickly, worked collaboratively, and fought for my district. When there is a community need, I am persistent and produce results. I work hard, learn quickly, and listen before I speak. I work well with others and focus more on outcomes than who gets credit for those outcomes. I care deeply about my neighbors and love serving them in this role. I hope to be able to continue representing my neighbors over the next three years.