

Summary information: Ballot Propositions and Bonds for the April 2, 2024 Election

Provided by West Anchorage Assembly Representative Anna Brawley

Below is a list of items approved to appear on the ballot, as well as seats. Bonds with West Anchorage (District 3) specific projects are noted below.

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| 2024-4 | <p>Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA) – “the roads bond”</p> <p><i>West Anchorage projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spenard Road rehab local match, Northwood to Minnesota (\$150K) • Fish Creek Improvements local match, Cook Inlet to Lake Otis (\$150K) • West Anchorage snow disposal site (\$5M) • Tasha Drive (Sand Lake) rehab (\$850K) • Alley paving, including 32nd and 33rd (Spenard) <p>Also includes funding for small projects: drainage rehabilitation, ADA improvements, storm drainage, street light improvements, pedestrian safety.</p> | \$47,110,000 |
| 2024-7 | <p>Anchorage Parks and Recreation Improvements – “the parks bond”</p> <p><i>West Anchorage projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Creek Trail to Ocean local match (\$50K) • Sand Lake Dock, ADA upgrades (\$200K) • Coastal Trail to Ship Creek Trail connection (\$1.5m) – <i>connection to Downtown</i> | \$4,350,000 |
| 2023-123 | Anchorage School District Facility Upgrades – “the school bond” | \$62,370,000 |
| 2024-3 | Police Improvements: Elmore Station upgrades | \$1,500,000 |
| 2024-8 | <p>Public Safety and Transit Improvements</p> <p><i>Includes \$1 million for traffic calming!</i></p> | \$4,560,000 |
| 2024-5 | Areawide Cemetery Improvements | \$4,100,000 |
| AO 2023-114(S-1) | Anchorage Goes, Areawide Public Restrooms | \$5,000,000 |
| 2023-132(S) | Chugach Access Service Area (CASA): Road upgrade, Canyon Rd. for Sunnyside trail access (back of Flattop) | \$4,000,000 |
| 2023-128 | <i>Proposed Charter change:</i> | |

| | Required Assembly confirmation of Chief Medical Officer |
|-----|--|
| N/A | <p>Elected seats on the ballot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor (3 year term) • District 2 Seat A (1 year remaining term) • School Board seats E,F,G (3 year terms) • <i>Various Limited Road Service Area (LRSA) seats</i> |

Note: I co-sponsored **Anchorage Goes, the public restroom bond** that would authorize purchase of at least 10 durable standalone public restrooms. There have been questions about the cost, and structure of this bond – the short version is, this bond pays not only for purchase and installation, but also long-term maintenance of these bonds! The majority of the total per restroom will be spread out over the life of the bond (~15-20 years), and pay for upkeep and routine maintenance, primarily staff time for cleaning, year over year. The intent is to ensure that the restrooms stay clean and usable, and that we build in the cost of maintaining things we purchase as public facilities. (We haven't always done that... one of the challenges with the Project 80s-era projects, which don't have dedicated funds for maintenance or repair.)

I was also happy to be a co-sponsor to add **more bond funding for traffic calming** – we have been approving annual funding of \$500,000 for traffic calming projects across the city since 2016. Meanwhile, the cost of those projects has gone up 77% in the same timeframe, so we are doing more with less. Traffic calming helps keep neighborhoods safe! Doubling our investment in these projects, a modest increase of \$500,000 (total of \$1 million), will help us do more projects per year in neighborhoods across the city, including needs in West Anchorage.

Bonds are important for financing needed upgrades and improvements in our city. The 2023 bonds included multiple projects funded for West Anchorage, some of which got completed this summer! (Others are in the works, as noted.) These include:

Bayshore/Klatt

- 100th Ave Surface Rehab \$2.5M – *completed. Amazingly, this project got done in the same year the bond was passed! Usually it takes a year. This was great news for Bayshore and Southport.*
- Constitution St Drainage \$500K – *not started yet*
- Traffic Calming (Resolution Pointe area) – *completed (I think?)*

Sand Lake

- Airguard Rd Phase II \$300K – *not started yet*
- Jewel Lake Terrace Rd \$450K – *not started yet*
- W 90th/Angela Pl Resurface: \$250K – *not started yet*

Spenard

- ARDSA Alley Paving 32nd-36th – *not started yet?*
- Traffic Calming (Lois Dr) - *completed*

Turnagain

- Forest Park Surface Rehab \$600K – *now starting 2025, unless something else happens*

- Fish Creek Trail to Ocean \$150K – *there are multiple rounds of funding for this, is a local match for federal money. Final route and design TBD but in progress*

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And don't forget the other good news about bonds: every year, voters typically approve taking on new debt to finance needed capital projects and other needs. But we also retire, or fully pay off, bonds too! In 2023, Anchorage retired \$44.9 million in bond debt, and another \$46.5 million of school bonds. In 2024, we're on track to also retire \$38.5 million, plus \$38.5 million in school bond debt.

Anchorage votes at home! Ballots will be mailed in mid-March to all registered voters, and the regular election will take place April 2. Don't forget to make sure your registration is up to date by **Sunday, March 3, 2024**. For all things election related, including how to update your registration by the deadline, go to www.muni.org/elections.

Anna B. Brawley

Assembly Member serving West Anchorage | District 3

Municipality of Anchorage

Anchorage Assembly

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Dena'inaq elnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu (Dena'ina). *I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina (English).* Translation by Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart and Joel Isaak