

## MOVING THE CAPITAL

### A History of Ballot Measures

ELECTION DATE	PROPOSED BY	BALLOT TITLE AND SUMMARY	VOTES FOR	VOTES AGAINST
8/9/60 Primary Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #1	<b>"Moving Capital to Cook Inlet - Railbelt Area"</b> It is proposed that on and after January 1, 1965, the Capital of the State of Alaska, which is by Section 20 of Article XV of the State Constitution located in Juneau, be relocated within the Cook Inlet-Railbelt area. The exact location within this area is to be selected by a committee of five to be appointed by the Governor.	18,865	<b>23,972</b>
11/6/62 General Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #1	<b>"Relocating the Capital in Western Alaska"</b> Proposed, that the Capital of Alaska be relocated in Western Alaska, to a site not within thirty miles of Anchorage. A committee of senior senators from each senatorial district shall select not more than three locations, consisting of not less than 6400 acres of state lands. They shall consider accessibility by road, railroad, airline service and terrain necessary for airport construction. From the locations selected the site shall be chosen by plurality vote of the people. The Legislature shall immediately thereafter provide for planning and construction of necessary state facilities. Movement of the capital shall begin before June 1, 1968.	26,542	<b>32,325</b>
8/27/74 Primary Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #1	<b>"Relocating and Constructing a New Capital"</b> This initiative bill calls for construction of a new Alaskan capital city at one of two or three sites nominated by a selection committee appointed by the Governor. Each site must include at least 100 square miles of donated and public land, in Western Alaska at least thirty miles from Anchorage and Fairbanks. The final selection will be made, after a committee report and hearings, by plurality vote in a general election. Construction must allow movement of offices to begin by October 1, 1980. Funding for committee activity and construction of capital facilities is to be provided by the Legislature.	<b>46,659</b>	35,683
11/2/76 General Election	Ballot Measure	<b>"Capital Site Selection"</b> The capital site selection committee has selected three potential capital sites which are set out below. The law provides that the qualified voters of the State are entitled to vote for one of the alternate capital sites selected by the committee and that the site receiving the greatest number of votes shall be the site of the new capital city of Alaska.	Larson Lake - 33,170 Mount Yenlo - 16,169 <b>Willow - 56,219</b>	
11/7/78 General Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #3	<b>"Full Bondable Costs of Relocating Capital"</b> This proposal would require that all costs of the capital relocation be determined. All costs include: moving personnel and offices to the relocation site; planning, building, furnishing,	<b>69,414</b>	55,253

		using and financing a new capital having facilities equal to those at the current capital and those required by the 1974 capital move initiative; and the social, economic and environmental impact to the present and relocation sites. In addition, it would require that a bond issue including all bondable costs of capital relocation be approved by a majority of voters prior to the expenditure of state money to relocate the capital.		
11/7/78 General Election	Bonding Proposition #10 Ch. 157 SLA 1978	<b>"State General Obligation New State Capital Construction Bonds \$966,000,000"</b> Shall the State of Alaska issue its general obligation bonds in the principal amount of not more than \$966,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of capital improvements for the new state capital?	31,491	<b>88,783</b>
11/2/82 General Election	Ballot Proposition #8 CS HB603(FIN)	<b>"Relocation of the State Capital"</b> This proposition asks: Considering the cost, revenue and population estimates set out below, may the State of Alaska spend the money necessary (estimated to total \$2,843,147,000) to accomplish relocation of a functional state capital from Juneau to the new capital site at Willow? If a majority votes YES, the State may spend the money required for that purpose. If a majority votes NO, laws and initiatives relating to capital relocation and indemnification are repealed. ( <a href="#">See below for more ballot language</a> )	91,049	<b>102,083</b>
11/8/94 General Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #3	<b>"Change of Capital to Wasilla - 93MCAP"</b> This initiative would amend state law to change the state capital from Juneau to Wasilla as of January 1, 1997	96,398	<b>116,277</b>
11/8/94 General Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #5	<b>"Right to Know, Vote - Move Costs - 93COST"</b> This initiative would require that before the state can spend money to move the capital or legislature, the voters must know the total costs, and approve a bond issue for all bondable costs of the move for the 12-year period after approval. A commission would determine both bondable and total costs of the move. Bondable and total costs would include moving personnel and offices, and social, economic and environmental costs to the present and new sites. These costs would also include costs to plan, build, furnish, use and finance facilities at least equal to those provided by the present capital.	<b>159,781</b>	46,665
11/5/02 General Election	Initiative Ballot Measure #1	<b>"Moving Location of Legislative Session – 01CHGE"</b> This bill would move all sessions of the state legislature to the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough. If facilities fit for these sessions cannot be found in that borough, sessions would be held in Anchorage until facilities are available in the Mat-Su Borough. The bill would repeal the requirements that before the state can spend money to move the legislature, the voters must be informed of the total costs as would be determined by a commission, and approve a bond issue for all bondable costs of the move.	74,650	<b>153,127</b>

**ADDENDUM TO 11/2/82 BALLOT PROPOSITION:**

**COMPONENTS OF ESTIMATED TOTAL COST.** The components of the estimated total cost to the State of providing for relocation of a functional state capital at the new capital site at Willow through the anticipated relocation completion date of 1994 are as follows:

Capital improvements in the new capital site at Willow - \$1,286,327,000  
Relocation of personnel and equipment to the new capital site at Willow - \$46,769,000  
Indemnification of Juneau residents under AS 44.08 - \$589,323,000  
Other costs (financing costs and subsidies) - \$920,728,000  
TOTAL - \$2,843,147,000

**ESTIMATED NET REVENUE FROM LAND SALES**

Amount of total estimated cost which may be defrayed by net revenue through 1994 from disposal of land in the new capital site at Willow - \$384,122,000

**ESTIMATED COST OF NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITIES IN JUNEAU AND ELSEWHERE IF THE CAPITAL IS NOT RELOCATED**

Estimated cost of providing new or expanded facilities in Juneau and elsewhere through 1994 to accommodate growth in state government if the capital is not relocated - \$341,741,000

**ESTIMATED POPULATION: STATE EMPLOYEES AND TOTAL RESIDENTS**

Number of central state employees who are reasonably expected to be relocated from:

Juneau - 2,832  
Anchorage - 1,092  
Other communities - 6  
Total - 3,930

Population reasonably expected to reside at the new capital site at Willow by completion of relocation in 1994 - 15,000

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