Q: What is the purpose of Proposition 1?
A: If voters approve Proposition 1, $1.68 million will be used to construct a covered play area at Dzantik’i Heeni Middle School.

Q: What is the history of this project?
A: The original 1998 Dzantik’i Heeni Middle School Area Master Plan called for a covered play area to support and enhance the educational and recreational programs at the school, as well as to serve the wider community. In 2007, a local community and parent group lobbied for and secured $15,000 in state funding to begin basic site planning for the project. In 2008, the CBJ allocated $150,000 to update the prototypical covered play area structure for new building code standards and new technology, as well as to adapt the design to local site conditions.

Q: What is the plan for this project?
A: If voters approve Proposition 1, a covered play area will be built west of the school, adjacent to the indoor gym, to the north (uphill) of the existing playing fields. The 60’ x 100’ structure would be steel framed with round concrete columns, translucent roofing, concrete slab on grade, lighting, and a camera security system. It would house a basketball court and markings for other games such as hopscotch and four square. The covered area is expected to serve both as an area for physical education and outdoor learning classes as well as an extra-curricular recreational facility for the school.

Q: How does the State of Alaska reimburse cities for school projects, and what will happen if there is no funding for that program?
A: Under current law, 70% of the $1.68 million bond debt for this project is expected to be eligible to be reimbursed by the State. The Legislature appropriates money annually to the school debt reimbursement program. Lawmakers have fully funded the program for each of the past 15 years, although there is no guarantee that they will continue to do so. The City and Borough is responsible for the full payment of the debt on the bonds, regardless of whether the Legislature assists with a 70% share.

Q: If Proposition 1 is approved, how will it affect property taxes?
A: If voters approve Proposition 1, the CBJ estimates that the total debt service cost, assuming an interest rate of 4.4%, will be $65,000 annually. This amount of debt service would require an annual tax levy of $2 per 100,000 of assessed property value for each of the next ten years. These calculations assume the state reimburses Juneau for 70% of the cost of the bonds for each of the ten years of debt payment.

The actual mill levy will vary depending upon total assessed property values and annual appropriations for the State’s bond debt reimbursement program.
The polls will be open on Tuesday, October 7th, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

If you don’t know which precinct you are in, call the State of Alaska Polling Place Locator at 888-383-8683. If you have questions regarding absentee or early voting, please contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 586-5278.