

Name: **Andi Story**

District: **House District 34**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: Every year this is more critical. As with any budget, our options are to: find efficiencies; make more cuts; draw from savings; borrow money; and increase revenues. Keep in mind we've been cutting the state budget for several years now and we are in the middle of a pandemic, after a slow recovery from a three year recession. It is critical to balance and stabilize the budget in order to sustain our economy. There are four principals I will stick to in resolving the deficit: Protect the Permanent Fund (our biggest source of revenue at 3 billion, and to not go over the sustainable draw, as for every 1 billion over the draw, we lose 50 million in interest earnings now and in future earnings) and protect a dividend for future generations (must have an honest discussion on what we can afford to pay); seek savings while sustaining essential services in areas like education, transportation, health, and public safety (for example I believe savings can be found in energy and health care expenditures); keep an open mind on all revenue sources. It will take a team effort, to pass new revenues. We have an outdated tax structure (such as our fuel tax, lowest in the nation at .08 cents a gallon), we can maximize use of federal receipts, and there are some creative solutions out there, and we have bonding capacity. I support asking voters to support general obligation bonds to repair and build infrastructure and put people to work.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link: <https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Yes.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link: https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to

reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I support efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years. Funding coming from matching community partnerships, grants, increases from the state undesignated fund, and I am open to all revenue measures. I consider this an investment in our future workforce.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: The engineering program is a high priority as this is where many statewide firms recruit and rely on for stellar employees who love Alaska. The University is an area to invest in, making sure our programs meet the workforce needs of Alaska. Healthcare, teaching, engineering, business, mining, fishing, tourism, career technical and innovation.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I will always support this.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I support keeping what we have. I do think APDC in conjunction with the AELS Board should better define what those licenses can or cannot do.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it

is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I feel that it is inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I would be willing to work with groups like APDC to come up with solutions for this. One solution is to have a statewide building code for design and enforcement, my understanding is it is difficult to get public support for this. Education is needed on the importance of this for public safety. We just had a huge earthquake so the time may be perfect for that. I have talked with engineers that believe an earthquake preparedness plan needs to be in place for Alaska, developed and supported with local, state and federal resources.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I would like to see many efforts in this area. Our state public facilities need to have energy efficiency assessments and upgrades, with the state investing in funding this process upfront for long term savings. For example, when serving on the Juneau School Board, through energy efficiencies we were able to reduce our carbon footprint through upgrades and then maintenance of timed venting and heating systems by 28 percent and then saving 2 million over four years in energy costs. It's critical through the Power Cost Equalization fund to keep the required \$500,000 to renewable energy projects. More is needed than that, and I support a public works general obligation bond to take care of deferred maintenance and public infrastructure needs. This would need to be a well-coordinated plan so projects could be funded through all stages. Projects in hydro, wind, solar, heating pumps, and geothermal to meet our urban and rural energy needs should be a part of that.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I am married to a licensed Professional Engineer

Name: **Andy Josephson**

District: **House District 17**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: There are a finite number of solutions: (1) if the PFD is eliminated, our deficit is \$300 million. I would oppose this. (2) if the PFD is paid in full, and we have no new revenue, the deficit is \$2.3 Billion. Therefore, pretty clearly (short of violating a sustainable \$3.0 Billion POMV draw), if we want a PFD, we need additional revenue. (3) new revenue might come from a combination of oil severance tax hike and either a state sales tax or income tax. I'm 100% opposed to overdrawing the ERA. Finally, there is virtually no more to cut. For example: if we closed every public school, let every prisoner free, and ended the University (closed it down), the deficit with a full PFD would still be close to \$400 million. If that doesn't make it clear, nothing can.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I would support an increase in gas taxes or the issuance of GO Bonds. I am not afraid of amendment our very low gas tax. I voted to do just that in House Finance Committee. I sought an increase to help pay for the Spill Prevention and Response Division. It passed and was added to the bill, but the bill died before passage.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes, and I'm aware of recent federal reenactment which should make this better, still. I am a big supporter of always--or darn near close to always--getting all the federal revenue we can possibly receive.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

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A4a: No legislator has fought the assault on UA with more vigor than I have. For example, over the objection of my own caucus, the subcommittee I chair (House Finance Subcommittee on University) rejected the 3-year compact and opted to increase the amount agreed on by the Regents and Gov. Dunleavy by \$10.5 million. I think the cuts are mostly an abomination. Lifetimes of effort have gone into building up programs. These cuts are mostly self-imposed in that, with a comprehensive fiscal plan, they were unnecessary. I would like to restore programs. Revenues would come from increases to oil severance taxes, and a broad based tax. PFDs would remain modest.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: Programs that would be salvaged would be: Engineering, Health Systems, and Business School.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I think I would support it. I confess, I don't know enough about it, but I don't see the downside of it. I'm a believer in keeping people here, and developing local talent to responsibly build-out the state.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Broadly speaking, our licensure programs are introduced by the disciplines, themselves. Occasionally, there are exceptions (there was an effort to make private investigators form a board, but they resisted it; there was an effort to make Rolfers become organized under the Massage Board, and Rolfers resisted it). Sometimes, where there is no Board or Commission, oversight reverts to DCCED. I have not heard any concerns about the Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors (there is no movement afoot to disband it). On the whole, all things being considered, I support professional licensure and Board/Commission oversight. What has been upsetting is instances where there is a bad apple and other members must bear the expense, even though all citizens in the state

benefit (contested licensure removal, for instance).

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: Well, this is the first I knew of it. I think I oppose it. Note that I'm not just saying this: my legislative record is one that focuses on public safety first. This is a tendency of mine. It is why I was the only Democrat to oppose Senate Bill 91 (crime bill). It is why I am a strong conservationist. I believe in doing things correct at the outset and that people have a right to be safe.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I would support a model housing code, or uniform code. There could be exceptions for certain rural communities. When I sat on House Labor & Commerce Committee, then Chair Sam Kito had a hearing on such a bill. I've discussed this with constituent, Clay Porter several times.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Tons, yes. I have sponsored more Climate Change legislation than any other legislator. I spoke just yesterday with someone about the RCA not requiring the lowest cost bidder on energy improvements to include climate change reduction improvements that are expensive, up front, but produce savings over time. I have sponsored Climate Change Commission bills and a bill to create a Special Committee

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on Climate Change. I intend to refile the latter in January.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I appreciate your thoughtful questions.

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Name: **Care Clift**

District: **Senate District N**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: Reduce SOA expenses, ease burden of regulatory hurdles to doing business

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Connectivity between communities is a central concern for rebuilding our state's economy, I would explore outside the box strategies such as community sharing and collaboration to enhance the linkages not only on the road but in the public sphere.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: I support the SOA receiving any and all funds available for the purpose of in-state investment

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I support using funding more intelligently. To focus on the programs which give a maximum return to the community and attract the most outside interest. Alaska should be a place that people all over the country respect for our educational opportunities. But you cannot do everything right all the time, sometimes you have to refine your services in order to truly be a truly exceptional provider.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: Alaskan engineering provides a truly unique opportunity for North American students

to test their abilities against easily the most demanding natural environment in the United States. But Alaska is not alone in this environment, we need to be looking to enhance opportunities for collaboration with Canada. Particularly in the cold climate architectural realm, where we lack an in-state program for students.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: My son is an Architect who participated in the WUE system. He is a proud graduate of University of Idaho's Architecture Program. WUE is a successful program that must be maintained and enhanced.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Currently the State requires licensure in many of the Architectural and Engineering fields, but enforcement in the State Fire Marshal's jurisdiction is uneven. I support demanding requirements for our design community, I support enforcing those requirements in plan review and statewide and in deferred jurisdictions. I also support lessening the plan review burden and scope in the Fire Marshal and local jurisdictions. There is no reason we should hold architects and engineers to high professional standards and then insist that their work be redesigned by Plan Reviewers both in the State, but particularly in the Municipality of Anchorage, which is a deferred jurisdiction.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: This is a new insight to me. Employees and the environment should not be exposed to

unnecessary risk. I will have to study this topic further to develop a more thorough response.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: Currently the State Fire Marshal does not even do inspections of buildings that do not include large gatherings of individuals such as Churches. Which puts designers, who are required to conform with code, in a potential conflict with unscrupulous contractors. On the other hand, I find the level of inspections in the Municipality of Anchorage to be on quite extreme and to cause more harm than good. Perhaps there is a point somewhere between these two extremes that provides a happy medium.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Generally, I believe that it is incumbent on each individual to make decisions on every level of private and public work to make decisions in an environmentally conscious fashion. Alaska State Statutes shall do nothing to improve our relationship to the environment unless we foster a culture of environmental awareness through our educational system. Preserving the environment requires the spirit to do so, not a rule book.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: That I support the emerging professionals of this state and I would have the Professionals of Alaska be the envy of the world in science, engineering, and business practice. To do this, we need to promote within our state and not look outside for our answers.

Name: **Carl Johnson**

District: **Senate District N**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: We have to cease cuts to essential services, such as infrastructure, public safety and education. We lose millions in federal matching funds for infrastructure when we undercut our DOT&PF budget. We can trim some with a close examination of Indirect Expenditures. We could also look to shifting Power Cost Equalization dollars away from subsidizing costs of rural energy to instead investing in developing renewable energy infrastructure in rural Alaska. This would have the triple benefit of reducing costs of energy in rural Alaska, reducing the need to provide the PCE subsidy, and providing jobs. This would need buy-in from rural communities. Building more renewable infrastructure in rural Alaska will also reduce State costs from government buildings to schools.

We need to manage the Permanent Fund so that it is sustainable. This means not draining down our Earnings Reserve with one payment, as some are promising a 2021 PFD equaling about \$10,000 - the "withheld" Dividends of about \$6,915 plus a full statutory PFD in 2021, estimated at around \$3,000. That would cost about \$6.6 billion, which is more than is left in the Earnings Reserve following existing obligations (only about \$5.5 billion). So, the Earnings Reserve needs to be managed so we achieve targeted rates of return, which should be around 6%. We only achieved 2% this year, and lost about \$1 billion in the Fund due to overdraw from the Earnings Reserve last year. My goal will be to grow the fund to reach about \$100 billion (currently \$66 billion including the EA). At that amount, a 4-5% POMV draw would sustainably provide both funding for essential services plus a modest Dividend. One path would be to develop infrastructure on the North Slope to deliver our 35 trillion cubic feet of stranded natural gas directly to market (without need for an 800-mile pipeline).

It will likely be necessary to develop new revenue in order to give time to help our economy recover from the pandemic-induced recession and give our Permanent Fund a chance to grow. I will be willing to consider whatever revenue sources will provide us the income we need while minimizing harm to Alaskan families and businesses.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

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A2: The first thing we need to do is stop cutting investments in infrastructure, especially when capital expenditures have federal matching dollars. When we cut the budget in those areas, we lose money. Alaskans have contributed their tax dollars to the federal budget, so we should receive our fair share. Secondly, we need to make sure that money is being spent on projects that are needed and broadly benefit Alaskans. Finally, yes, it may be necessary to raise revenue in order to fund infrastructure that we need for our state, not only in new construction but in deferred maintenance. I will be willing to consider any options for new revenue. The time to delay taking action on revenue is past us.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link: https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes, I support receiving these funds to benefit Alaskans. It was unfortunate that our inability to fill a state position and have the needed elements of a capital budget left \$4 million dollars on the table this week, lost due to our inability to take the steps necessary to preserve it. Certainly, Uncle Ted would never approve of leaving federal funds on the table if they are available to help Alaskans.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: We need to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years. Education is one of the key components to opportunity and a healthy economy. It is an investment in our future. We are at the point where we have little responsible cuts remaining that can be made in the budget. It will be the obligation of the Legislature to consider new revenue sources. I will be open to discussing any new revenue options, but will consider at the bottom of the list any new revenue that places unfair burdens on Alaskan families.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: If cuts are maintained or deepened, then we need to prioritize programs that will help our economy recover from the current pandemic-induced recession. I would consider STEM programs a priority to maintain. Public works projects could be a key to recovering from the recession, and we need skilled workers for those projects.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I support Alaska being a part of the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE), and will provide whatever support is available to improve participation of our students in that program. We need to provide opportunities for Alaskan students to get the education they need in Alaska for their desired careers.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I support a higher standard, one where consumers can know that the professionals they hire for work are fully licensed and certified. This distinguishes from others who may claim to be trained in a certain profession, but lack the requisite knowledge or experience to do the work properly. I would support more state-funded projects being handled by licensed professionals, not fewer.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I do not believe it is appropriate to maintain the "Industrial Exemption."

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where

there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: If there is no local code or code enforcement, there is no reason why we cannot have a statewide standard. Our local municipalities enjoy the autonomy of home rule, but in the absence of applicable standards, the state could and should fill the void. A statewide standard should take into account the unique challenges of construction and sustainability found in Alaska. I would look forward to consulting with appropriate licensed professionals in developing such a standard.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: A first step will be to invest in renewable energy infrastructure in Alaska, which has the three-fold benefit of reducing our own emissions, creating jobs, and reducing energy costs. Federal courts have ruled that states can implement environmental laws that are stricter than related federal statutes (i.e., Clean Air Act), so Alaska should implement laws (statutes and regulations) that specifically target carbon emissions in the absence of federal leadership. For example, we could require reduction of CO₂ and methane emissions on the North Slope; require more energy efficient government buildings; provide a roadmap to 100% renewable electrical generations; fund research toward climate change mitigation in the University of Alaska; require replacement of government fleet gasoline-powered vehicles with electrical or hybrid vehicles. Heating would still likely need to be provided through natural gas.

Name: **David Nees**

District: **House District 22**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: The state needs to reduce its reliance on savings to fund operations. Currently the revenue from other state sources, (non-Federal and non-oil revenue) is sent to general funds in separate buckets of money, designated and undesignated funds.

The funds are usually sent back to the designate fund source, as way of getting around dedicated funds clause in the Ak Constitution.

All revenue is the color green and it all needs to be available. State matches for federal funds usually draw in more Federal money than the state collects in Revenue. A good deal for all. So the funds that draw from the GF that do not have matches will be the focus of the budget arguments.

The Federal underfunding of IHS (Indian Health Services) added 48,000 Alaskan natives to the Medicaid rolls that should have been fully paid by the Federal Government. The state needs to appeal the underfunding or sue the Federal Gov.

The people created the dividend and would have removed the income tax if they were allowed to vote. So they must be consulted in an advisory vote to remove/ enshrine the dividend and reinstate or not the income tax.

The needs put on the Government are endless and the people need to understand you need to prioritize those services.

I use my 1968 almanac for a guide or what we spent the budget on when we were poor.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: We raised the user fees on state parks, on gasoline taxes and hunting fishing licenses, but as you know this all goes into the General Fund to be appropriated by the Legislature. So user fees do not work as intended. Our infrastructure needs are many and the federal funds matching program is the best way to maximize the funding.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Federal matching funding is good

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: The land grant for the University is the smallest of any state, the Legislature needs to get more Federal lands transferred to the University system. The university needs to use those lands to generate operational income.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: The two most successful, wait lists abound programs are Engineering and Nursing, the University needs to expand those programs to meet demand while cutting all other programs that cannot be funded from the land grants.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: It works for the medical programs I see no reason to not add those programs, with the same return to Ak provision.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Licensing should not be a barrier or a revenue generator, as it is a barrier to interstate commerce. All of Alaskas licensing needs to be moved to commerce including teacher certification, to reduce overhead. Then a review must be done to remove barriers to entry. The state needs to get out of the way.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: Refer back to question 5, is it a requirement only in Alaska?

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: Building codes put in place after the 1964 earthquake resulted in most of the building in Anchorage having little damage. One universal code for the state makes no sense, as it inhibits the building business.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: No

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: www.nees4change.com

Name: **Ed King**

District: **House District 34**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: I propose taking another look at our current budgeting structure and the way we hold our assets. It appears that part of the problem is solved simply by changing our spending limits and rearranging our balance sheet. Once that process is complete, we need to look at every program in the budget and figure out if we can deliver those services at a lower cost. Then we need to look closely at the economic landscape and determine if there are revenue sources that we can pull from without damaging the economy. Finally, if there is still a gap, we need to involve Alaskans in a conversation about their preferences for PFD reductions and personal taxes.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Good public finance starts with identifying the needs of the state, then finding the best way to pay for them. Alaska hasn't budgeted that way in over 40 years. The process of cutting spending to match revenues is as flawed as spending whatever revenues come into the treasury. Infrastructure is one of the most critical things the government provides to allow an economy to function. We can't keep deferring maintenance and ignoring needs. A long-term capital strategy must be part of the conversation about right-sizing government. Given our current circumstances, a general obligation bond for deferred maintenance is worth considering.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Every federal dollar that flows into our state adds to our economy as it circulates. I generally support seeking out every federal dollar we can get.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to

reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: The university system is a constitutional requirement and a critical component to preparing Alaskans for the jobs of the future. I graduated from UAF and wholeheartedly support the University of Alaska. That said, no government program should be given a blank check. The University agreed to the cuts that have been made so far. I'm content leaving funding at its current level while the Regents prioritize the items in its budget.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: I believe that a University's primary mission is to build the skills that make students more valuable to employers. A college education should pay for itself, and not leave students with a mountain of debt and no ability to repay it. Therefore, programs that prepare students for their future should have priority over extra curricular and recreational programs.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: As an economist, I appreciate the need to specialize and trade. Programs like WUE are a perfect example of how to accomplish that process in higher education.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: It's sometimes appropriate for the government to regulate things in the interest of the general public. But, sometimes governments go too far. I support a reasonable level of licensing, so long as it doesn't become a significant barrier to entry. I'm not familiar enough with the specifics for these licenses to know if they are ineffective or overly burdensome. So, I really can't say if I would support changing them without seeing a bill and talking to experts on the subject.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain

infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I can appreciate the desire to waive requirements when risks fall on the individual rather than the public. Undue and unnecessary financial burdens placed by the government can often derail a project altogether. However, I worry that the person making the decision to take a risk might not be the same person whose life is on the line. While I don't know a lot about this specific law yet, it sounds like there might be reason to review it.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: It sounds like there may be a gap in the current building code law and enforcement. While I'm generally in favor of solving problems at the level of government closest to them, Alaska is unique in that there are significant unorganized areas. I'd want to work with the Alaska Municipal League and local leaders to find ways to close this gap without infringing on local government control.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Climate change is a global problem that requires a global solution. I support the government reducing its carbon footprint, but hesitate to place heavy demands on the general population. In fact, supplying cheaper and lower carbon alternatives to China (like natural gas) would do more to reduce climate change than requiring every Alaskan to drive electric cars. The best thing Alaska can do to reduce the effects of climate change is to promote the development of natural resources that would allow

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people to reduce their footprint.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: Thank you for the opportunity to share my views with your organization. I'd be happy to follow up on any of these questions.

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: **Greg Madden**

District: **Senate District P**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: No income tax, reduce government spending, prevent the reverse sweep

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Our infrastructure is one of the Constitutionally required expenses and should thus be given priority.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Federal money often comes with conditions and I do not know what those are for this funding. I'd love to see funding for the Alaska in any and every way, but we have to know what the conditions are going to be before accepting that money. I would rather see Alaskan land belong to Alaska than to have it claimed and overbearingly controlled by the Federal government. Federal overstepping of power is unacceptable and we need to peel that back as we can, not encourage or allow it.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: Half of next year's budget is missing with no agreement on what to do to fill the gap. Everything is on the table to some degree. It's time to turn the land grants into revenue streams and become as self-sufficient as possible.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

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A4b: Certified programs rank well above non-certified. Engineering, nursing and other programs that are sustainable economic engines for graduates are my focus.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I need more information on that.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I want to keep our high standards for professionals, but reduce the bureaucratic webs of paperwork and expense where possible.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: Less government is better government. Every action has risks. If you don't want to work for someone in wretched conditions or a shabby building, find elsewhere to work. Choices and consequences let us decide what level of safety we want, but as we saw with the Challenger disaster, even in having an army of engineers working on a project may not keep a deadly flaw from turning up.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the

Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: If a contractor agrees to build to code and it is later shown that it was not to code, the contractor should be held accountable. This does not warrant another layer of governmental oversight and expense. Once a few contractors are held to account and forced to repair their previous work for cutting corners on building to code, the self-enforcement will really pick up.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I'd like to see a private sector pipeline to bring natural gas from the North Slope to Fairbanks. This burns clean and would eliminate the endless stream of trucks currently used to transport it, while making Natural Gas much more affordable in Fairbanks. The private sector could then extend this pipeline further south to more population centers if viable. Also, the A2A (Alberta to Alaska) Rail Road system could make more efficient transport of goods. My information is very limited so far, but the idea sounds good so long as it respects property owners.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: As a Chiropractic Physician I ran my own practice for almost twenty years, I know the troubles of running a business, the responsibility of having employees, and the struggle to maintain profitability. I want responsible government with responsible spending as it promotes responsible development of our great land and its vast mineral wealth. Historical PFD, smart ferry system and ALASKANS FIRST!
www.GregMaddenForAlaska.com I hope to earn your vote. Thanks!

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Name: **Grier Hopkins**

District: **House District 4**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: The most important thing we can do for revenue is to protect against raids on the Permanent Fund. With the majority of state revenue coming from the POMV draw, our state's future now rests on the sustainability of our investments. Additionally, I support a spending cap that will make sure we don't spend too much when oil prices go back up and changing our oil tax structure to ensure future development continues and Alaska sees its fair share. Finally, we need to keep pressure on our budget and look at broad based revenue. With a more predictable and sustainable budget, Alaska's economy can grow and plan for success.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I do support increased gas taxes as part of a full broad based revenue picture. It hasn't been increased in my lifetime and it supports the upkeep on our roads and bridges, something our state needs to do a better job at.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: It appears from that page that the funding is contingent on only \$75,000 in state general fund dollars to garner two million dollars in federal LWCF grants. If that's true I strongly support receiving these funds. If it's two million dollars in state funds to get two million dollars in federal funds, that is still a good deal, but we'd have to find somewhere to offset the spending in other places within the DNR budget. Parks are outdoor recreation are an incredible economic driver, and I support improvements to our local quality of life.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that

funding coming from?

A4a: I would like to see an increase in funding for our UA system because it is so critical to our state and local communities in so many ways. I believe the right way to see financial support increased is through the capital budget by paying off debt service. This will allow operating budget dollars to go more to the students and education, improving the overall product and strengthening the whole institution.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: I am a huge fan of our engineering schools, especially at UAF. We have a legendary engineering program from petroleum engineering to civil engineering. It's very high on my priority list.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I support expanded educational opportunities especially through partnerships like WUE and WWAMI. I would like to know what the fiscal impacts to the UA would be, if any. These partnerships help open up financial support allowing many go to college who couldn't otherwise which is an important effort.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: It's important that qualified and trained professionals ensure that our critical infrastructure in Alaska is built safely and efficiently. This takes Alaskan engineers who have the education and knowledge to Alaska safely. I live in a town with no building codes, so an engineer's report is not necessary everywhere, but they're critical for public works and public safety. I would need to learn about each individual situation to understand where and when an engineer is essential, but when it comes to safety we cannot compromise.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain

infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I believe safety of our public spaces is critical, and that does include work areas. An employer has a responsibility to provide a safe and secure work place, so I would be interested in learning more about the "Industrial Exemption" to ensure this is the case.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I would look to enforce state law in this situation to also extend to requirements for sale or have an engineer's report ensuring that they are built up to standards needed to withstand an Alaskan earthquake. Perhaps sharing in responsibility between the developers, builders, banks and buyers will keep more eyes on more buildings ensuring their safety.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Yes. Working to bring more renewable energy projects as their costs per kilowatt come down below many fossil fuels will help reduce greenhouse gas emission and bring more energy projects online as an economic stimulus. I worked with Senator John Coghill to pass Senate Bill 123 which works to do this as utilities continue to plan into the future.

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: **James Canitz**

District: **House District 13**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: People issues first; Health, Education, financial support. No new state income taxes or sales taxes. A robust PFD check, if possible while protecting the health of the PFD for the future. Hopefully, Proposition 1 will pass and provide some increased revenue. Postponing of currently unfunded capital projects.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: No one individual can be an expert on everything. You are the experts on problems you identify. You should have the best ideas for possible solutions. It's not right that you simply task your representative, "Here is a problem. Fix it." My job as your representative is to bring problems identified by constituents to the attention of the legislature, be a consensus builder to determine the best solution and a facilitator to gain support to take action. That being said, you have identified a problem, what are your suggested solutions?

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Sure. Free money for funding new projects in our local communities. Providing jobs and income. Perfect. Where's the catch?

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: People are the critical issue this year. Funding the state budget with available revenues is crisis. I would like to see funding for UA remain at current levels until we find solutions to revenue shortfalls.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: Hard sciences, engineering, nursing, teaching should be given priority over other areas of study. We are resource rich state. We need to train the individuals in our University System that will have the skills to obtain those resources.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: 80% of students that leave the state for their higher education, do not return to Alaska and make it their permanent home. How do we solve that problem and the problem you identified?

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Again, you are the experts. What is your position on this subject? What are the best possible solutions? What would you recommend that your representative do for you at the State Legislative level to solve your problem.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: No lives are worth risking due to lack of diligence, proper planning, or oversight. Are any avoidable deaths rightfully considered acceptable? This is a callous measure of our pursuit of profit at the expense of human life. I find this statute reprehensible. I will take action to repeal this "Industrial Exemption" as found in AK Statute.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: Where there is no oversight provided by local code officials, AK State Constitution makes provision that the State should act to provide those necessary functions.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I support power production from sources such as geothermal, wind, wave/tide and solar that are not environmentally harmful.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I am a graduate of the US Air Force Academy. My core academics there included mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, astrophysics, civil engineering, aeronautical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and more. I consider myself to be a scientist. I endorse the advancement of human knowledge through use of the scientific method. I base my decisions on known facts and fact based probability. I am a skilled pilot and aircraft mechanic. I hold FAA Certificates as an Airline Transport pilot and Aircraft Mechanic with Airframe and Powerplant endorsements. I know some things. I don't know everything. I need your expertise, knowledge and input to assist me and help me stay current and informed. I apologize for any appearance of being flip or disrespectful. I am dead serious in asking for your input, because I don't know the answers. Sometimes, I don't even know the questions. Respectfully, James A. Canitz, Sr., Candidate AK State House District 13, Chugiak-Eagle River-JBER

Name: **Jamin Burton**

District: **House District 17**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: This is the number one issue in the state right now and should be the priority for every person involved in our governance. In addition to finding an immediate solution, I believe that we need to take steps to provide for stability and continuity in the future as well. I believe that we must diversify our revenue. Oil and other natural resources will always be important to Alaska, but it is time to end our complete dependence on them. If elected I will advocate for a state wide sales tax. Sales tax is broad based, fair, and effective. I am not opposed to examining the oil tax credits, which I believe are overly generous, but the oil industry also deserves some stability so I would not press this as much as I would a sales tax. I am not opposed to reducing spending, but I do not buy into the rhetoric of crying out for cutting spending without specifics. I will look at every expense and listen to constituents as we prioritize where to spend money, but we must balance the budget.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Yes. We cannot have things that we are not willing to pay for. Infrastructure is vital to economic prosperity, development, education, tourism, and everything else that most Alaskan's value. We must pay for what we want/need.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes, I support receiving these funds. Using these funds will increase opportunities for Alaskans and will fund jobs for Alaskans. They increase ways for Alaskans to recreate outdoors in health and safe ways.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that

funding coming from?

A4a: I do not support further cuts. I would like to see Alaska provide robust, efficient, and effective educational opportunities for higher education. I think that the cuts implemented have and will continue to have a drastic negative impact on Alaskans and our University; however, restoring funding while facing a multi-billion dollar deficit is also a tall task and I'm not sure that at this point how it will reduce the impact of the cuts. I am open to discussions and ideas, but any increase in funding must come from somewhere and will be dependent on diversifying and increasing revenue streams for the state.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: As mentioned I do not support more cuts, and I would like to find ways to restore funding. That being said, if more programs are threatened by our current fiscal situation, I would prioritize all academic programs over non-academic programs, for example classes over sports. If academic programs must be cut, the programs that I view as essential to providing a future for Alaskans and which should not be cut would include education and related fields, nursing and related fields, engineering and related fields, and math/science and related fields. These programs must be protected to provide a future for young Alaskans.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: Even prior to our current crisis and the debilitating cuts to our university system, WUE was a vital piece of the puzzle for many young Alaskan's seeking higher education. I will continue to support WUE and other opportunities for Alaskans to seek opportunities to pursue higher education. The problem I have observed is that many students with the intent of returning to Alaska after finishing a degree never come back. WUE is a great tool and a stop gap, but we need to find ways to offer valuable programs efficiently and effectively within our state.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or

increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I support maintaining professional licensing. I am not an engineer so I would want to have a lot of conversations to understand current licensing requirements and proposed changes before voting on anything to change them; however, I am a licensed professional in an unrelated field and fully recognize that licensing protects everyone in an industry. It protects those that train people for the field, those that are practicing in the field, and those that utilize the field as consumers. Any changes to any fields licensing should only be done after thorough vetting and hearings with input and feedback from all of those that will be impacted.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I think it is inappropriate. First, employees have a right to expect safe working conditions and cutting corners on engineering licensing puts people at risk. Secondly, Alaska is dependent on maintaining a balance between a variety of natural resource in a harsh climate with unpredictable forces and sometimes unexpected results. Oil, mining, timber, fishing, construction, water, and more are all interconnected. The ramifications for potential failure in an engineering design in Alaska could be catastrophic. We should not be cutting corners.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: *did not answer*

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: No, I am willing to work with other elected officials and explore ideas and possibilities that will be possible to help Alaska, but have no current plans in place.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I am a non-partisan candidate that views holding public office as a service to my community. I am not a career politician and am not looking to use this office as a stepping stone. I am willing to research, read, listen, build consensus, defer to experts, and admit when I don't have enough information to make a decision. I am also willing to learn and do the work to get more information. I do not buy into the idea that we can cut everything as a way to achieve prosperity and success, nor that we can afford everything we might desire. We need compromise to provide stability and opportunity for the future of our residents and families.

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: **Jim Cooper**

District: **Senate District F**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: The answer is not to only cut funding to vital programs that provide needed services to our residents. The answer is to look for revenue sources that allow these programs to be funded. The programs I am concerned about are: early childhood development, university funding, health services, public safety, school debt reimbursement, senior benefits to name a few. One cannot continue to defund these critical programs that will adversely affect our families. All revenue sources need to be addressed, including increased oil taxes on our resources, increased gas tax, income tax, and diversify and expanding the state's economy.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: As stated above, I am in favor of increasing the gas tax, both on the oil companies and tax at the pump. These funds could and should be used to bring and keep our roads and bridges up to the best standard possible.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Absolutely. Alaska is a prime destination for tourists and having first class facilities for the tourists and for our residents is potentially crucial to our economy.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I believe the University system should be fully funded. Having an educated and trained workforce is important to the economy. It is to be noted that having graduates from a University program increases the GDP of the area and the nation. Once again, all revenue sources need to be examined. Monies need to be derived from numerous sources

as not one can fund these programs.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: I'm biased as both my son and daughter-in-law have advanced engineering degrees. As such, I lean towards the engineering curriculum near the top. However, I have an advanced degree in finance and I firmly believe that is near the top as well. Both of these programs provide graduates with needed education to build and keep our economy strong.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: Again I have a bias. One of my nephews has an Architecture degree and although he has a contracting business (he builds houses), he uses that degree extensively in helping clients design custom homes. My district is in the Mat-Su valley and it is the fastest growing area in the state. With the amount of new people arriving, the need for Alaskans with these degrees is becoming more critical. I am fully behind increasing the opportunity for the WUE program to provide us with trained architecture, landscape architecture and interior design graduates to fill the need we have.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Unfortunately I do not know the state laws on this but having these professionals licensed makes complete sense to me. Licensing gives credence to their profession and provides clients more trust in their abilities.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil

Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I believe all people deserve the right to be protected. I, personally, would trust a PE overseeing and approving a project than I would of someone who could just hang a "shingle" outside their office. I think the Industrial Exemption is a thing of the past and should be scrapped.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: As former Mayor of Palmer, I felt lucky we had a code enforcement program and was dismayed that virtually anything could be built in the Borough if it was outside the city limits. The problem in Alaska is the State Fire Marshall's office only did fire and life safety review. There was no staff to do structural review and no staff to do follow-up inspections. And they only did the reviews, as stated, on building larger than a triplex. As a result, the builders figured out they would build two, three or four triplexes and have no review. The cities and the Anchorage Municipality have deferments which allow them to conduct the reviews and inspections. The Boroughs need to get this deferment and take on the responsibility as the state does not have the resources to carry out this important and potentially lifesaving function.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Climate change initiatives are definitely on my radar. The state needs to be actively engaged in the discussion on how to decrease our CO emissions. Solar power, wind power, fuel cells are all items that must be considered to preserve what we have and what our grandchildren will have.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I was in the Coast Guard for 26 years and have been on the forefront of preserving our environment and way of life, from drug interdiction, protection of our fisheries to

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

working on the diminishing ice cap. As Mayor of Palmer, I worked to establish the first ultraviolet light wastewater treatment plant in the state. As President of the Alaska Municipal League I worked on ensuring the voices of those in the far reaches of Alaska were heard and worked with USDA on getting sustainable projects to the villages. I am concerned about the future of our environment and yet at the same time preserving the future for our children and grandchildren.

Name: **Josh Revak**

District: **Senate District M**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: Government has ignored the economic reality all of us operate under in our own lives. You can't spend more than you make. I support and will work to put a spending cap in place to control state spending. We need to encourage further resource development to offset our deficit. There are a number of programmatic efficiencies and reductions that can also be made to help reduce our budget gap.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I have supported the motor fuel surcharge increase and am open to hearing from user groups for user fees where appropriate. I also see the possibility of bonding to build shovel ready projects, particularly as it applies to providing energy at a reduced cost.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes by all means.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I support keeping the levels current until the recommendations from the Board of Regents is provided as how to prioritize spending for the university. Since the university is a land grant university, innovative ways to utilize those lands to provide additional revenue might supplement university funding. Also, we need to work with our congressional delegation to finalize the remaining lands that are owed to the university system.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system

should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: Again, that is under the purview of the Board of Regents. However, engineering and nursing are two fields where there are personnel shortages.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: The WUE program should be supported so courses such as those mentioned are provided to those who wish to continue their education in those particular fields.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Any and all of our laws should be subject to change to fit the times. I usually support lessening regulations and laws that are detrimental to our ability to earn a living. However, in cases of specialization, I believe the boards provide a useful service to the state. I would have to listen to those involved in those professions you mentioned to determine if these boards are useful or necessary.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: If the general public is negatively affected by this law, then by all means yes, it seems inappropriate.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However,

engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I would be open to exploring a uniform statewide building code with some exemptions, especially in rural areas and cabins that are not used for a full time living situation.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Not at this time, but again, I am willing to listen to recommendations from those who provide scientific evidence and scientific solutions.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: Developing our natural resources has paid the cost of over 90% of all government services, created our Permanent Fund, and created jobs and opportunities. Natural resource development such as oil and gas, mining, and fishing can continue to contribute to the state's economy. What Alaska needs is leadership to clear obstacles that Democrats have placed in the path of resource development. We have 52,000 pages of restrictions and regulations that are strangling responsible development. I will work to clear the path to the creation of new wealth for Alaska.

I would appreciate your support.

Name: **Lyn Franks**

District: **House District 15**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: The people of District 15 cannot afford any new taxes. It's clear that the State of Alaska needs new revenue sources to maintain its current budget. I hope to have meaningful and constructive conversations with the constituents of District 15 and State Legislators, to come up with viable solutions.

Today, with a changing climate that is disrupting people's lives, our solutions need to be significant and immediate. I will encourage business growth that is committed to promoting sustainability and living wages, while creating long lasting jobs for Alaskans.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: It's imperative that we obtain our fair share from the oil companies if we want to increase funding for badly needed infrastructure projects.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I support reestablishing funding for the UA system that has been cut over the years. This funding is a priority and it should come from regaining control of the oil tax credits with better investments from interest off the savings account reserve.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the

priorities list?

A4b: The budget cuts in 2019 decimated the UA system. Many essential degree programs were lost as a result and many educators and students left the state. The University of Alaska has lost the trust of many Alaskans and I would like to see them work to grow that community trust again. A strong university system is key to a diverse and robust economy. We must advocate for the funding of our university systems and help the expansion of Alaskan industries. STEM programs must be included in forward funding education.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: The idea of the Exchange is good but Alaska needs a more stable economy and better pay if we expect people to return to Alaska as design professionals.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I do not know the extent of the current state statutes. However, we should not reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: The Industrial Exemption should not be allowed when it comes to human health, safety, and welfare. The requirement for licensed Professional Engineers should be strengthened and the Statute should be reviewed.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and

constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: There should be statewide conformance with building codes, to include areas where there is no formal enforcement at the moment. People's homes, businesses, and lives are at stake. The fact that there was no enforcement after the 1964 earthquake, and now the 2018 earthquake, is incomprehensible.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: With an almost universal voice, climate scientists tell us we need immediate mitigation steps to drastically reduce our carbon footprint. This is extremely difficult in an oil-depend state like Alaska. Making the transition will take a lot of work and cooperation if we want to play our part in saving this planet for future generations. We need more implementation of sustainable technologies like solar, wind, geothermal, bore tides, and tidal energy.

On a very local level, if we are to build thriving communities in our neighborhoods, we need to change the way we have always done business. We must encourage business growth committed to promoting sustainability, and living wages while creating long lasting jobs for Alaskans.

It would be one of my highest priorities to join the Alaska State House to work on the climate crisis.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I'm running for the Alaska State Legislature, House District 15 because I want to make an active difference in my community. I've lived here for 32 years and raised my family in Muldoon. I want to give back to the community that's given so much to me. The state faces some tough decisions and I believe that I can represent my community with the experience and integrity to get the job done. That is why I'm fighting for Muldoon!

Name: **Matt Claman**

District: **House District 21**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: Alaska needs a responsible action plan that addresses our financial challenges and grows the economy. Together, we must continue our work to diversify the economy, find more efficiencies in state and municipal government, and develop additional revenue sources. We need to improve public safety while making wise use of our public safety resources, support public education because public education remains our best investment for the future, maintain essential services, and invest in infrastructure to build a foundation for a growing economy.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: The State should support have a capital budget that includes investment in construction and maintenance in essential infrastructure. A responsible action plan for Alaska includes presenting capital improvement bonds to Alaska voters for consideration. I support increasing motor fuel taxes, as Alaska has some of the lowest motor fuel taxes in the nation that have not been changed for decades.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: I support the state receiving Land and Water Conservation funds.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: We must continue to work towards a responsible action plan for Alaska so we can fund essential services, which includes the University system. The University is an economic engine for Alaska and helps keep talented youth in Alaska. Education is our best

investment for the future, including vocational and university education.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: The University should work collaboratively with the legislature and the governor on its plan for the future. The governor's unilateral decision to cut \$70 million from the University budget is [not?] in the best interests of Alaska or the University.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: My mother was an architect and I recognize the importance of design professionals to successful economic development. We need to keep bright, young Alaskans in-state and give them more options to pursue the career of their choosing.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: In the 31st Legislature (2019-20), I introduced HB 291 to require registration for commercial interior designers. Consistent with introducing this legislation, I support increasing the projects that require professional licensure.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: We should learn more about the history of Alaska's Industrial Exception, including whether there have been any industrial accidents, disasters, or injuries in Alaska that

would have been averted if we did not have the exception. Then we can make an informed decision about whether to keep, modify, or eliminate the exception.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: The legislature should work with local governments to find effective ways to support code inspection and enforcement in areas where there currently is no formal enforcement.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I support efforts for a better balance between reducing the effects of climate change and effective economic development in Alaska.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I appreciate the work of the Alaska Professional Design Council and would welcome your support for my campaign.

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: **Mel Gillis**

District: **House District 25**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: We need to reduce spending, resolve the PFD issue, and grow the economy. The truth is our savings are gone and Alaska faces significant challenges. It is going to take the legislature, and governor, working together to solve our fiscal challenges.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I think taxes should be a last resort, not a first option. I do support user fees. I also think we need to have a larger capital budget for maintaining our infrastructure and building new infrastructure.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes. It is important Alaskans are able to enjoy our beautiful state.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: It's not a secret the University faces significant challenges. I believe the Board of Regents, the legislature, and the governor must all work together to ensure the University addresses these challenges. A thriving University benefits the state. I believe it is important that students graduate with degrees they can use to earn a living. The University of Alaska is land-grant university, yet they have not received most of the land they are owed by the federal government. We must work to get them their land. This will not only help the University, it will take some of the financial burden off the state.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system

should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: STEM should be at the top of the list of priorities.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I totally support this.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I do not support lowering licensure standards. It is important that the state ensures people with professional licenses are qualified to perform their profession.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: Eliminating the exemption would raise the cost of these type of projects. I am not sure how much eliminating it would change things. I need to do more research on this topic.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to

bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I think it is important we have and enforce strong building codes. The 2018 earthquake showed what happens when we don't.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I support alternative and green energy. But I also acknowledge we live in a state where oil/gas, mining, and resource development is a major part of our economy. Moving to alternative energies cannot happen overnight, but it should be a long term goal.

Name: **Paul Bauer**

District: **House District 16**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: Since the Gov Walker Administration, Alaska politicians like my opponent who was appointed to the House, do not have the intestinal fortitude to get their hands dirty to solve our budget issues. They do, however, meet the Constitutional mandate for having a balanced budget and know how to spend for votes. Balancing the budget to my opponent is to increase the revenue to meet the expenditure. She did that by taking it out of the people's money.

The FY 2021 Operating budget for Agency totals are astronomical. The largest is \$3.45 Billion for Health and Social Services, \$1.66 Billion for Education and Early Development, and \$832 Million for the Alaska University system. An Agency spending total per capita, it is \$4,717; \$2,265; and \$1,139, respectively. State Agencies need to have business plans that have performance-measure outcomes. We are at the bottom, #47 in a national education survey, for example. We have been a welfare state for many decades. People come to Alaska from Seattle to get free Health care.

COVID-19 should wake us up. We need to diversify our business and seek a new industry. Take Communist China's industry from them and put Alaskan's to work. Invest in the future. Moreover, the challenge is planning and implementing a sustainable budget that shows we are business-friendly and sensitive to our workforce needs. Invest in highly skilled trades by focusing on vocational education for Alaskans. Invest in education for small business development and sustainability. Alaska is a natural resource state, it needs skilled labor, reduce liberal arts studies, it is a waste of dollars. Working as a contractor with the US DOL as an Employment Facilitator, I help outgoing military personnel from enlisted to Colonels the fundamentals of the employment process. This also includes finding their skills and abilities for the vocational trades. Service members are oblivious to the skills needed to gain a quality paying job. As a businessman for 20 years, I saw the lack of employment skills from our youth coming out of school, and now our service members. We need to invest in vocational education for skilled workforce coming from our state and teach us the fundamentals to get a quality job.

You need to invest in me, and people like me to move Alaska out of being a welfare state. Let's transition to a business-friendly state for jobs and security.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: No to direct taxes on the working people. The high cost-of-living in Alaska makes it hard enough to live here comfortably. The high cost is attributed to freight and handling.

I would support building a sufficient rail system throughout the state and to the Lower 48 and lobby the federal government for infrastructure funding.

A yes vote to fees for using our road system. Currently, those fees come out of vehicle registration, which is already a tax.

Again, budget priorities, find efficiencies, reduce government administration, and support substantial projects and services.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes, as a past sponsor and member of Ducks Unlimited, I support getting federal help for waterfowl conservation. However, I will support the land use for the development of critical infrastructure and capital improvements if needed.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: The University leadership needs to change from administrators to managers. Centralize the university from its 13 campuses, using digital technology and business sense. Refine the curriculums and reduce the need for liberal arts education. Focus more on associate degree and specialized certificate completion of trades. Alaska needs skilled labor and home-grown training. It is more important for Alaska's to have jobs for a better economy.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: As stated in 4a, the engineering program is part of the vocational education and training needs for Alaska. Oil, gas, mining, and infrastructure builds an economy Alaskan style. My vision is Alaska becomes the Education in Trade Capital of the world.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: Support for the WUE program given that a refocus of our University system toward the trades would help, but with programs mentioned on a scale-down basis.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Safety and quality are most paramount in any building project. I suppose your Association of Professionals would not like to be associated with unlicensed, ill-prepared, and shady engineers, etc. I leave the licensing requirements to the professional private sector organizations to "police" themselves, make the recommendations to the state for any regulation if even needed. The state's input would be only to ensure public safety.

Still, I believe the liberty and freedom for one to make his/her occupation is fundamental for our economy, self-interest, and family. Let the public decide on who to hire a professional, licensed, or not.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: It is appropriate to require some regulation for [highly] dangerous projects for the welfare of public safety. For others, I can see some "leniency" in mandating regulations from the government on [minor] projects or for owners, executives, and other management.

Again, my openness requires information and recommendation from the professionals before preceding going forward.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: The issue of code enforcement would be at the Executive level. If the issue becomes a funding problem, the Governor may request and Legislature approves is no problem for me. Of course, another review of the current statutes would be advantageous and may require a stricter law.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: In jest; on a "big picture" and callous scale of ideas, it might be a tactless plan to de-populate places on the planet like Communist China and India, or invest into Space exploration to find new living space, or simply make COVID-19 very, very scary virus to stay inside.

Seriously, if greenhouse gases are proven to be scientific without political influence, I would be in support of an agenda to force nations that create the most pollution to follow environmental laws. The winds come from the Far East, the Arctic and Alaska receive the impacts of those polluted nations. Alaska may lead the charge to help political change for the environment.

On a smaller scale, like Alaska, I do not believe we are the problem. Not being the Governor, I vision major investments into electrified rail transportation and support efforts to link up with the Lower48. Jobs, jobs, and economic boost.

Implement state highway requirements for HOV lanes.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: Having served our nation for over 20 years, served my East Anchorage Community as an Assembly Member, business and operations manager for 18 years in the private sector, and managed a large cadre of team leaders helping Alaska's At-Risk-Youth at the Military Youth Corp, I know I bring lots of experience and leadership to the "Table."

My current interest is putting together all my wisdom, worldly experiences, and knowledge to serve the District that I lived in for 30 years and the State of Alaska.

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My main concerns for our State are following the Alaska Constitution, the current formula that provides the FULL-PFD to the people first, establishing employment fundamental education training for our youth in secondary school, mandating civics education and awareness, helping our Alaskan Veterans, and work on a budget that will be sustainable for years.

Working in the Legislature, I will not be part of the Caucus's that sell my votes, called Binding Caucus. I will only vote after the debate, careful consideration of the measure, and input from the District and professionals.

I support working toward a better sustainable budget using SMART goals and an economy that brings jobs for Alaskan's.

I am conservative, independent, and reasonable. I have been a Republican and independent thinking conservative for many decades.

Those that know and worked with me, including old-school Democrat Max Gruenberg, know I am fair, respectful, non-judgmental, and open as he said.

My opponent is today's closet radical Democrat. My opponent is deceitful, unsafe, and untrustworthy. Given the chance of a being in the majority, their radicalism will be revealed. You all will be heavily taxed and licensed more for the "sake of the people".

My opponent has shown injurious behavior in the last House Session. Crushed Judge Johnstone from his reappointment to the Board of Fisheries by bringing unfounded last-minute sexual harassment allegations.

Nobody came forward and the Judge had no opportunity of due process.

Support for my opponent is a vote for socialist radicalism. Alaska is not immune to the West Coast agenda.

Please join me in supporting a change in the Legislature, voting, and donating for our cause.

Web:: PaulforAlaska.com, FB: facebook.com/pbauerak; LinkedIn and Instagram.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Name: **Shelley Hughes**

District: **Senate District F**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: It's important to note that currently the ratio of our state operating budget to our state's economic output is the most out of proportion in the nation. The size and growth rate - and the sustainability - of our budget is, simply put, not affordable for our small population.

Here are some options I believe we should consider. Fix outdated spending cap in constitution through ballot in 2022; institute a statutory spending cap in meantime. Combination of restructuring overhead of departments (\$100 million); some education reforms (keep flat); Medicaid rate, options, and eligibility changes and provider fee to pay state match (\$300 million); inflation-proof Permanent Fund prior to 50/50 split for government/PFDs (\$500 million); pool school district and municipal employees with state employees for health insurance (\$100 million); move savings on balance sheet from ERA savings to PERS/TRS savings (\$300 million); provide state a share of TAPs property tax (\$250 million) currently collected by local governments. Institute an Audit Sunset Commission to comb through weeds of every department, agency, program, formula on a regular basis; legislature could not let audit sit on shelf because department, agency, program would sunset unless legislature reviewed recommendations for improvements to entity (to meet mission, be efficient, serve public) and took action accordingly and reinstated entity.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link: <https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I support user fees where practical (i.e., for Knik Arm Crossing). With above operating budget adjustments, depending on oil and other resource and economic development activities, we should be able to once again have some funds for the capital budget rather than just the bare minimum. If we still had a shortfall for the capital budget after the above reforms are implemented, I would prefer a general sales tax over a gas tax as more revenue would come from nonresidents (once tourism resumes, post-COVID) and be better balanced regionally. Unlike a gas tax, a general sales tax wouldn't put an unfair weight and responsibility on Mat-Su residents (who drive more miles on average than residents from other regions).

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: If we apply for and accept these funds, we must ensure we have a fiscal plan for the upkeep and maintenance as we should not put any additional burden on Alaskans in the out-years. We have to ensure we have a state budget that doesn't overburden our small population with taxes. I love the idea of building parks and cultural facilities but we must ensure we can pay for the maintenance of these items into the future.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I still believe that some restructuring of UA is possible without hurting the core, highest-demand, and state-appropriate academic programs. Even with the recent and planned reductions, our state will be providing more per student for a state university than any other states provide. The average state contribution in the US is \$7000 per student. Alaska contributed more than double that (between \$16,000 and \$17,000 per student) prior to the reduction in FY20. Alaska continues to be the highest per student contributor among the 50 states.

We don't need three English departments, three history departments, etc. We should have one such department of each type, with the cream-of-crop professors retained at each campus to carry out the mission of the department. Programs and degree programs that either are not core or are not high in demand, unless they are Alaskan / Arctic specific, should be reconsidered.

The UA system cannot be all things to all people. Better that UA focus on what they do well, and do it really well. This change would actually raise the ratings and the caliber of the university. Right now, overall, UA does not rank well nationally because it spreads itself too thin. If UA were to narrow its focus, it could climb in stature in college rankings. UA would then begin to draw students from across the nation and from around the world - and we'd keep some of our best and brightest here in state instead of losing them to schools in the lower 48. This would increase research dollars as well as alumni contributions.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: See answer 4a. As far as engineering, I consider it a core program near the top and

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also a program which must be customized for Alaska / Arctic because of our unique challenges, terrain, weather, earthquake proclivity, etc.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I support increasing WUE opportunities for architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design. I believe there is an incentive for the WUE student to return to his or her home state, which would be great - to get these trained professionals to come back and help make our state look great!

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: My concern would be life/safety and any softening of regulations must bear this in mind. Because we don't offer schooling presently for architects and landscape architects, if we have a shortage of these professionals, we should consider state reciprocity to make it more likely that these individuals might come to Alaska. In general, I am not fan of licensing regulations that are overbearing, and would return to the premise of life/safety as far as which requirements should or should not be changed.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I'd like to learn more about this and learn what projects in Alaska are of concern to APDC due to an industrial exemption that was granted.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However,

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engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: I think this is a matter that APDC should take up with the local municipalities first to see if it can be addressed there. Because Eagle River and Chugiak are within the Municipality of Anchorage, I am unclear as to why there is no enforcement in these areas.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I support moving forward renewable energy projects that pencil out economically. I'd like to see the Susitna-Watana Dam project built. I'd like to see the Knik Arm Crossing built so that the tens of thousands of cars driving the long way around to commute to Anchorage daily would have a shorter route.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: Three things:

1. My mother was born in 1929, graduated from high school at age 16, and was the only female in her master's degree architectural program at the University of Michigan 5 years later, in 1950. Her career was all pre-computer, and I remember her studio in our home with her drafting board and T-square where, when I came home from school I'd find her, busy drawing up plans by hand.
2. I have been the champion at the state level for promoting the Alaska-Alberta rail line crossing, passing a resolution in the legislature urging the signing of the presidential permit in May 2019, and encouraging the White House and our federal delegation for the past year and a half for President Trump to get it done. He signed it on Sep 29, 2020! We look forward to this infrastructure project going forward and expect it, once built, to increase our annual GDP in Alaska by about 10%.
3. I recognize the need for new infrastructure in Alaska and the maintenance of existing infrastructure in order to increase economic and resource development. We are still a relatively young state, and my hope is that with careful restructuring of our operating budget, we can begin to have a healthier capital budget once again.

Name: **Stephen Trimble**

District: **House District 22**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: We need to be encouraging new industry investment and job creation in new business sectors. Our economy is changing and we have an opportunity to position ourselves for the future, now. We should be open for business before we look at additionally taxing Alaskans.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: We should be looking at bonding, where appropriate, before considering additional taxes during a time of economic recovery.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Absolutely. We should be leveraging all of Alaska's federal funding opportunities.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: No. We need to reestablish and restructure UA funding. The administration is bloated, we should be under one single accreditation, and funding should be on a per-student capita basis.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: We can't afford any more cuts to our University. It is devastating and the talent loss is immense. We must ensure that job creating degrees stay protected and are considered ita

to Alaska's economy.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: We should do this. We need to be encouraging these professions and this is an efficient way to do it without those programs being directly offered through UA. We need to contain the outflow of our people.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I believe they should stay the same. While detailed, ensuring that we have credible professionals in these fields is critical to maintaining a high quality of work.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: These should go away. Safe and quality work is paramount.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing

population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: Code compliance is a big issue in Anchorage (and Alaska). So much of it either currently isn't enforced or is difficult to enforce. If we cannot ensure that things are being built properly we risk safety, additional costs, poor reputations, and lower quality of work. We have to do better on this.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Absolutely. I own and run the largest solar company in Alaska and we do this each and every day. We have turned the non-existent grid-connected solar industry in Alaska into a quickly-growing multi-10's of millions of dollars annual market sector. We've brought online more than 2 megawatts of grid-connected, clean operating, solar power in southcentral Alaska since our founding in 2015.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: That I support you. That you're vital to Alaska and to our industry.

Name: **Tom Begich**

District: **Senate District J**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: I support a tripartite approach: 1) maximize deposits to the Permanent Fund Principle. The Fund currently provides Alaska its largest single source of income. If it were to be capitalized at \$85 - \$100 billion it would, with these other two proposals, ensure a sustainable budget for decades to come; 2) restructure our oil and gas taxes to ensure Alaskans receive their fair share for our resources – this could include increase to the Oil and Gas property tax (worth as much as \$200 million), as well as add as much as \$500 - \$700 million to our budget through a reduction of the per barrel tax credit; and 3) Impose a state income tax at at-least 10% of a taxpayer's federal obligation.

I also would support a restructuring of the amount we currently pay for the Dividend. I think the Dividend should be in the Constitution, along with appropriations to support education. There are other issues as well, but I think this lays out the beginning of a feasible plan that would sustain us. I will need your help to move it forward.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:
<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: I do. We must get a handle on our over \$2 Billion in unaddressed and deferred maintenance and on ensuring our transportation and communication infrastructure remains robust - and safe. I have proposed that we look to a short-term infusion of cash through a General Obligation Bond (GO Bond) that is specially addressed to these needs. Bond rates are low, borrowing is inexpensive, but this will not remain the case - while we have the ability to bond we should. Coupled with a GO bond is the importance of ensuring any proposed spending cap have a provision for regular capital budgets to ensure we do not fall into this whole a second time. This just makes sense.

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:
https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes, and I am working with Senator Murkowski's office today to ensure we have both

the political will to provide that state match (in cash and personnel), and the ability to fairly allocate these funds. These new amounts could represent as much as \$90 million in federal funds coming to Alaska over the next decade for our Parks. These funds would ensure that we could upgrade and maintain our current parks, while expanding the reach of Alaska's adventure and outdoor tourism market. This is good for both the private and public sectors. We missed an opportunity this year to secure millions because we didn't pass a capital budget and we did not fund the coordinating position in DNR. We can't let this upcoming opportunity pass us by.

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I support increases to this budget. It comes from establishing a sensible fiscal plan and assisting in paying off years of deferred maintenance for the University (see questions 1 and 2 above). We actually funded higher operating costs for the University over the past two years, only to see the Governor veto those amounts. We had the funds in our balanced budget to do so and we must. Further, if we funded the deferred maintenance it would relieve pressure on the University's operating budget. Currently the University is forced to moved operating funds to cover the costs associated with continually deteriorating structures. A state without a strong University system, attracts few and retains fewer.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: This is a difficult decision as it really should be decided by the University system. When the Legislature starts dictating content, we have a problem – it means the Board of Regents and the President are not leading. I believe our Board and Acting President recognize that so they have made these difficult decisions – which has included a strong emphasis on engineering, natural resources, and education, and less of an emphasis on liberal arts. I think you need both, but I am not second-guessing their decisions. It is the Legislature's and the Governor's fault for not providing the University the necessary resources to provide a well-rounded education. With a sound fiscal plan – and support for the University's efforts to bring in more private capital – we could solve this educational Sophie's Choice.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional

degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: don't know about this, but would be supportive of any effort that, like WAMI, ensures professionals have access to quality education that isn't otherwise available here. Please share more information on this idea with my campaign and Senate office. This is intriguing.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: Again, I won't pretend to know the answer here. I would seek your guidance. If you were seeking to change current regulations, I would want to hear the arguments for and against the changes. However, I would not support eliminating professional licensing. Those licenses protect the consumer and ensure a known standard for the profession. Are there changes that the profession is seeking here?

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: Given the examples provided, I would support eliminating this exemption, or, barring that, tightening it up. Again, I would seek your guidance on this matter.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code

official?

A7: They should be. I built an addition to code right before the quake with the assistance of professionals, and there was no damage while houses nearby suffered. Code enforcement is a local expense, but the drastic reductions in state revenue sharing with municipalities has brought tremendous fiscal pressure on local government ensuring that zoning laws are not enforced. Local communities vote on whether they will or will not enact zoning (ergo the patchwork of zoning zones in Mat Su), but the state law should be enforced. I would encourage adoption of zoning enforcement and work with AML and others to find ways to incentivize enforcement. This might include greater engagement from the state (though that requires financial resources – see questions 1 and 2 above) to enforce building codes, greater engagement by communities to enforce local zoning laws, and clear consequences for those who do not.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: I have also championed both increasing the public's understanding of the importance of the Permanent Fund as a clean, renewable resource for the state and as the most important income source for the state (it produces more income for Alaska than oil does now). As I said above, if we can maximize the amount in the principle of our Fund to \$80 Billion to \$120 billion in 2018 dollars, we can completely remove ourselves from needing oil. Our \$5 billion deposit into the Fund on June 30th, which I supported, is one step in that direction.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I believe in Alaska's future. I cannot fathom how we posture and delay the decisions we know we have to make to reach that future. Instead the argument seems to devolve around begging our population to achieve reelection by talking foolishly about how much Government costs, and how much more we have to cut it. If that's what you want, I'm not your guy. We pay virtually nothing for our state government as citizens – in fact we get money from state government and we get services. We provide the highest profit rates in the world to our oil industry, despite the fact that the Constitution says WE collectively own those resources. What is wrong with us? Government isn't a business. It's a service to all of us. It keeps our infrastructure intact, supports the education of youth, protects our public safety. None of these led to an "ROI" or some kind of cash profit. These things cost money. Having a meaningful quality of life is the business of government. This allows our private economy to flourish. Every day I am in office I will fight for that vision. That's what I want you to know about me.

Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: **Zack Fields**

District: **House District 20**

1. The State of Alaska continues to face significant budget challenges, how will you address the State's budget and revenue issues? Please provide details.

A1: We need continued fiscal discipline, additional revenue, and won't be able to sustainably pay a PFD unless oil prices or revenue substantially increase.

2. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) ranked Alaska as having a C- with respect to the condition our state's infrastructure – see following link:

<https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/alaska/> Do you support taxes and user fees, such as increased gas taxes, to help provide funding for these needs? If not, do you have another plan for maintaining our road system?

A2: Yes

3. Alaska is eligible for federal funds through the Lands and Water Conservation Fund for design and development of parks and cultural facilities. See following link:

https://omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/21_budget/DNR/Proposed/2021proj32552.pdf Do you support the state receiving these funds? If not, why?

A3: Yes and making sure we use them (in addition to LWCF, ORLP, Pittman Robertson, etc)

4a. The University of Alaska (UA) system has faced severe budget reductions over the past several years. Do you support current funding levels, further decreases, or efforts to reestablish funding that has been cut in recent years? If increases, where do you see that funding coming from?

A4a: I don't think increases are going to be feasible. I would prefer forgoing a PFD this year compared to shutting down multiple university campuses or draining the Permanent Fund.

4b. As a follow up, if cuts are maintained or deepened, which programs within the UA system should be prioritized over others and where does the engineering curriculum fall in the priorities list?

A4b: Personally I think liberal arts, climate research, and engineering should be the University's top instructional priorities.

4c. Architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design programs are not offered within the UA system. What are your thoughts on strengthening opportunities for Alaskans through

the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program to make attaining these professional degrees more feasible so Alaskans can return home to our state to fill the need for design professionals?

A4c: I like that concept but don't know enough to say how it'd work or what my role would be.

5. Several states have sought to reduce or eliminate the scope of professional licensing (Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architect) within their states. What is your stance on Alaska's current requirements for these professions: should the state's laws remain the same or be subject to change, and if changed, would you support decreasing or increasing the projects that require professional licensure?

A5: I defer to you on that. I've heard from your organization a need for stronger/more expansive licensing requirements, as I recall.

6. The "Industrial Exemption", found in Alaska Statute 08.48.331(a)(10), allows certain infrastructure, systems, and structural projects to be designed without the requirement of a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) IF the project is such that the risk to human health, safety, and welfare is limited only to employees of the company doing the work and not the "general public". It has been suggested that some very significant engineering disasters in our nation's history, such as the Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster of 1986 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010, may have been linked to similar "Industrial Exemptions" and might have been averted had a licensed PE been the ultimate steward of safety in those examples. Do you feel it is appropriate or inappropriate to maintain Alaska's Industrial Exemption?

A6: I'll admit to not being conversant enough about this but generally don't support weakening workplace safety and licensing standards.

7. State law requires that all new buildings larger than a triplex are to be designed and constructed to the latest approved edition of the International Building Code. However, engineers performing earthquake damage assessments after the November 2018 earthquake found that a large portion of buildings are not being built in conformance with the code where there is no formal enforcement. This led to more structural damage in Eagle River and the Matanuska Borough, where there is no code enforcement, compared to Anchorage, where there is code enforcement, even though ground motions were similar. What would you do to bolster adherence to and enforcement of building codes in the vulnerable and growing population centers around Alaska that are not currently under the purview of a local code official?

A7: This is tricky because we need statewide building code standards without undermining stronger local codes like in Anchorage.

8. Do you have any plans to help reduce greenhouse gasses in order to mitigate the effects of climate change in Alaska?

A8: Big question. My district and I strongly support a wide range of measures potentially including joining a multi-jurisdiction co2 market, or making our 50% voluntary RPS mandatory.

9. Is there anything you would like our organization to know about you?

A9: I learn from your members every time I meet with you and I appreciate that.