

City of Bethel Action Memorandum

Action memorandum No.	17-43		
Date action introduced:	June 27, 2017	Introduced by:	Mayor Robb
Date action taken:	June 27, 2017	X Approved	Denied
Confirmed by:	<i>RM</i>		

Attachment(s):

Amount of fiscal impact:		Account information:
X	Funds are budgeted	10-52-545

On May 22, Lt. Governor Byron Mallott convened the first meeting of a newly formed Election Policy Working Group. This working group will address policy issues and seek cost saving measures to implement state and federal mandates related to voter registration and language assistance, recruitment and training of election workers, and replacement of aging ballot tabulation system. Although this discussion primarily focuses on the State's functionality of Election the outcome will affect municipal elections and possibly the entire framework of the election process.

The working group, put together by the Lt. Governor, includes an array of individuals representing different regions and organizations throughout the State. City Clerk, Lori Strickler was asked to participate in the Working Group and participates as the only member from the YK Delta Region.

The first meeting of the Working Group was held in Anchorage with accommodations provided by the State. The second meeting, scheduled for September 6 and 7, will be held in King County Washington, known to have one of the best election systems in the nation. The group will be reviewing the King County Elections process, touring facilities and meeting with Washington Election Officials to evaluate what works and what does not work in their election practices.

The City Clerk is requesting administrative leave to attend the on-site fact-finding meeting in King County, which will not be paid for by the State. Not only will this in-person observation and evaluation of King County's election methods assist in determining the best course of action for the State, the information gathered would better prepare the City Clerk's Office for any transitions that may occur as a result of the State modifying their election practices and afford the City Clerk with a rare opportunity to learn from what is said to be one of the best election's office in the nation.