

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-18

BALLOT PROPOSITION OCTOBER 7, 2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA PROPOSING TO AMEND SECTION 20.01 "SITKA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL DEDICATED FUND" OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER AND, SUBMITTING THE QUESTION OF SUCH AN AMENDMENT TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS AT THE REGULAR ELECTION ON OCTOBER 7, 2025

1. CLASSIFICATION. This ordinance is of a permanent nature and is intended to become a part of the Sitka Home Rule Charter.

2. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and application thereof to any person or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

3. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend language from the Home Rule Charter (HRC) of the City and Borough of Sitka in Article XX "Sitka Community Hospital" Section 20.01 indicating the use of the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund. The HRC states the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating, capital, and debt service needs of Sitka Community Hospital. Sitka Community Hospital closed on August 1, 2019. While there are still some residual expenses related to retirement benefits for former Sitka Community Hospital employees, it is expected there will be funding that could be used for paying bond debt associated with new and revitalized athletic facilities approved by the voters and the Assembly.

4. ENACTMENT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka that the Home Rule Charter of the City and Borough of Sitka, Section 20.01 "Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund," be amended by revising the language in Section 20.01 Sitka Community Hospital to read as follows (deleted language stricken, new language underlined):

* * *

**ARTICLE XX
SITKA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

Section 20.01 Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund

A Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund is hereby created. The Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall be maintained separate and apart from all other funds and accounts of the City and Borough. The Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating, capital, and debt service needs of the former Sitka Community Hospital- and bond debt associated with athletic facilities.

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5. BALLOT PROPOSITION. The following question shall be placed on the ballot at the regular election on October 7, 2025:

Shall Section 20.01 of the Home Rule Charter of the City and Borough of Sitka be amended to allow the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund to be used only for debt expenses of the former Sitka Community Hospital and for bond debt related to athletic facilities?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Informational: See Ordinance 2025-18. This amendment proposes a change to how future funds in the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund may be used. Sitka Community Hospital closed on August 1, 2019. The Home Rule Charter states the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating, capital, and debt service needs of Sitka Community Hospital. While some residual expenses remain related to retirement benefits for former Sitka Community Hospital employees, it is anticipated there will be funding that could be used to help pay bond debt for new and revitalized athletic facilities approved by the voters and the Assembly.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective on the day after the date of its passage.

The amendment to the Charter set forth in Section 20.01 hereof shall only become effective if the ballot proposition set forth in Section 5 hereof is approved by a majority of the qualified voters at the regular election held on October 7, 2025.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska this 8th day of July, 2025.

Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk

1st reading: 6/24/25

2nd and final reading: 7/8/25

Sponsors: Ystad / Mosher