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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Anchorage Chamber Board Supports Proposition 10, Local Bonds *Utility consolidation, city and school bonds get Chamber vote*

ANCHORAGE – The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voted to support Proposition 10, and the municipal and school bonds on the April 3 municipal election ballot.

Proposition 10 asks voters to authorize the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) to sell Municipal Light & Power to Chugach Electric Association. The proposition also changes the required passing voting percentage in the Charter from 60% to a 50% majority. Also the Anchorage Chamber Board of Directors voted to support the municipal bond package which totals \$47.4 million and pays for capital improvements to safety and transit projects, public safety equipment, and roads and parks. The school bond package totals \$50.6 million and funds roof replacement projects at several schools along with fire suppression and safety equipment.

“The Chamber recognizes the key to a strong economy and a growing city is investing in public safety, infrastructure, schools, as well as parks and recreation,” said Anchorage Chamber President Bruce Bustamante. “At a time when the state fiscal situation remains uncertain and the federal government is cutting back, it is important Anchorage continues to focus on keeping our city and our businesses healthy and vibrant by investing in key projects.”

While the Chamber Board voted to support Proposition 10, directors noted that after an affirmative vote on the measure, the Chamber will closely watch the process of reaching the final sales agreement that would be necessary to finalize a deal between the MOA and Chugach. A final sale agreement would have to be approved by the Chugach Board of Directors, the Anchorage Assembly, and the Regulatory Commission of Alaska.

Anchorage is holding its first-ever vote by mail election. Ballots will be mailed out on March 13. For more information, go to <http://www.muni.org/departments/assembly/clerk/elections/Pages/default.aspx>

ABOUT THE ANCHORAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit, member-driven business organization with more than 900 members representing more than 54,000 employees. For over 100 years, the Anchorage Chamber has served as a resource where members can gain business knowledge, insight and strength. More information about the Anchorage Chamber is available at AnchorageChamber.org or by calling (907) 272-2401.