

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 8672

203 SCOM 9: HOUSE SPEC. COMM. ON PERMANENT FUND 1977-78

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AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

Public Forum

FIRST PRIORITY QUESTION	1 %	Rank	%	Rank	%	Rank	1A	1B
	SOUTHEAST		NORTH		SOUTHCENTRAL			
Save It	14.1	3	14.7	2	4	7	24	13
Loan Communities	5.6	5	7.4	5	5	6	13	4
Loan Industrial	4.4	6	6.6	6	17	2	13	5
Renewable Resources	32.0	1	14.7	2	3	8	35	19
Loan Individuals	4.0	7	2.2	8	11	1	9	3
Tax Cuts	16.9	2	14.0	3	9	4		31
Revenue Sharing	13.7	4	26.5	1	4	7		9
State Services	3.6	8	8.1	4	7	5		4
Other	5.6	5	5.9	7				
N=					5	6		
SC: cash payments to indiv					13	3		
increase perm. fund								

SE North SE

Community loan
New SE + State
services 22.9 38.4 17

New SE + State
- loan 46 29.4 45

loan + tax cuts 20.9 16.2 34

Demographic Characteristics

(Number of Respondents = 475)

<u>Age</u>	under 25	14
	25-34	26
	35-44	20
	45-54	20
	55 and over	20
		<u>100</u>

<u>Sex</u>	Female	33
	Male	67
		<u>100</u>

<u>Occupation</u>	Prof. Tech.	29
	White Collar	24
	Blue Collar	26
	Not Labor Force	21
		<u>100</u>

<u>Length of Residence</u>	under 3 years	
	3 Years or less	18
	4-10 years	23
	more than 10 years	59
		<u>100</u>

Question No. 1

	Top Choice	
	Percent	Rank
Save it	15	4
pay to construction	7	6
make do with it	16	3
pay for services	24	1
live alone	6	7
get out of it	19	2
rentally quality	10	5
state services	3	8
	<u>100</u>	

Among Top Four	
Percent	Rank
45	6
18	3
16	3
63	1
35	7
50	2
46	5
25	8

Number of respondents: 446

Question No. 2

	Top Choice	
	Percent	Rank
education	13	3
children	6	5
education	37	1
old	6	5
education	21	2
housing	9	4
housing	5	7
education	2	8
education	1	9

Mean	Rank
Score	
5.0	5
4.4	4
2.8	1
5.1	6
3.7	3
3.9	3
5.1	6
7.0	8
7.3	9

Number of respondents: 355

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 1

A. Age

Percent in each category among specific age among top 100

	425	25-34	35-44	45-54	Ass over
Save 1*	57	47	38	36	37
Loan Comm 2	45	49	49	40	42
Loan indust 3	58	35	52	37	49
Loan Renewals 4*	52	66	63	58	57
Loan Indiv 5	34	36	40	34	20
Tax Cut 6*	25	45	48	54	58
Comm Ren. Shing 7	35	47	36	49	45
State Services 8	25	25	21	25	22

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1	44	41
2	47	44
3	45	45
4	59	61
5*	25	37
6	46	48
7*	49	40
8*	27	22

C. Occupation

	Prof-Tech	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1	39	39	43	47
2	47	47	45	42
3	44	51	41	45
4	59	57	58	52
5	33	29	36	33
6	42	51	52	42
7	44	41	41	42
8	23	23	19	26

South East (continued)

QUESTION No. 3

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>
General Fund 1	26	(2)
Sales tax 2	9	4
Property tax 3	17	3
Continue system 4	59	(1)
Other 7	9	4
	<u>100</u>	

What is 5102

Number of respondents = 464

QUESTION No. 4

	<u>Top Choice</u>	<u>Mean Score</u>	<u>Rank</u>
	<u>Percent</u>		
Private resources 1.	6	3.0	4
Public works 2.	40	2.0	2
Private resources 3.	44	1.8	1
Industrial growth 4.	10	2.9	3
	<u>100</u>		

Number of respondents = 395

Question No. 5

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>
negative resources 1.	5	5
moderate rate 2	60	(1)
slow hard money 3	7	(3)
no borrowing 4	22	(2)
other 7.	6	(4)
	<u>100</u>	

What is 5102?

Number of respondents 468

QUESTION 6

Rank	Percent	
1	37	financial gain 1.
3	19	indol. deup. 2.
2	31	rodol. deup. 3.
4	13	direct 7.
	100	

RESONANCE 459

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 1 (cont'd)

D. Length of Residence

	~~Less than~~ 3 years and 15	3-10 Years	over 10 years
1	40	(46)	42
2	(51)	42	45
3	42	42	(47)
4	59	63	59
5*	41	34	30
6*	40	(44)	(50)
7	(47)	39	43
8	(33)	20	22

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 2

A. Age

		25-34	35-44	45-54	55+ over
alc.	1	5.1	4.9	5.3	4.6
child	2	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5
educ	3	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.7
elderly	4	5.6	5.4	4.7	4.9
employ	5	3.4	4.2	3.7	3.3
young & healthy	6	3.9	3.6	4.1	4.1
working	7	4.9	5.3	5.0	5.1
inc. maint.	8	6.9	7.1	6.7	7.2
rehab.	9	7.5	7.0	7.2	7.5

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1	4.9	5.1
2	4.3	4.5
3	2.4	3.0
4	4.9	5.2
5	3.9	3.6
6	4.0	3.9
7	5.3	5.0
8	7.2	6.8
9	7.1	7.4

C. Occupation

	Prof. Tech	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.3
2	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.1
3	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.7
4	5.2	5.2	4.7	5.4
5	4.3	3.5	3.5	3.4
6	3.6	4.2	3.9	4.0
7	5.3	4.7	5.4	4.9
8	7.2	6.5	6.7	7.3
9	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.1

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 2 (CONT'D)

D. Length of Residence		<u>Less than 3 years</u>	<u>3-10 years</u>	<u>over 16 years</u>
1		5.2	5.0	5.1
2		4.7	4.6	4.3 ⁽⁻⁾
3		2.8	2.9	2.7
4		5.7	5.3	4.8 ⁽⁺⁾
5		4.0	4.1	3.5 ⁽⁺⁾
6		3.6	3.6	4.2 ⁽⁻⁾
7		5.0	4.9	5.2
8		7.1	6.9	6.9
9		7.6	6.7 ⁽⁺⁾	7.4

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 3

SOUTHERN

A. Age

	<u><25</u>	<u>25-34</u>	<u>35-44</u>	<u>45-54</u>	<u>55+</u>
1	22	28	33	21	24
2	5	7	15	6	14
3	14	18	13	18	22
4	47	34	36	45	36
7	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

B. Sex

	<u>female</u>	<u>male</u>
1	23	28
2	7	10
3	15	18
4	42	38
7	<u>13</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100

C. Occupation

	<u>Professional</u>	<u>White Collar</u>	<u>Blue Collar</u>	<u>Not in labor force</u>
1	25	25	27	30
2	12	9	9	8
3	19	16	15	16
4	33	39	44	40
7	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100

D. Length of Residence

	<u>less than 3 yrs</u>	<u>3-10 years</u>	<u>over 10 years</u>
1	24	34	24
2	7	8	11
3	15	22	16
4	42	25	43
7	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 4

Percent Giving Top Choice

A. Age

	UNDER 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over
1.	4	7	7	4	12
2.	44	50	40	36	32
3.	42	38	46	50	43
4.	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1.	4	8
2.	40	30
3.	48	41
4.	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100

Occupation

	Prof. Tech.	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1.	10	2	3	10
2.	42	34	42	40
3.	40	49	45	43
4.	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100

Length of Residence

	UNDER 3 Years	3-10 Years	over 10 Years
1.	4	6	7
2.	49	45	35
3.	40	42	46
4.	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 5

SOUTHEAST

A. Age.

	UNDER 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+
1.	6	3	5	2	
2.	54	47	69	69	6
3.	11	10	2	7	7
4.	17	31	23	16	18
7.	$\frac{12}{100}$	$\frac{9}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{6}{100}$	$\frac{2}{100}$

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1.	1	7
2.	64	59
3.	8	6
4.	20	23
7.	$\frac{7}{100}$	$\frac{5}{100}$

C. Occupation

	Prof Tech	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not In Labor Force
1.	7	5	5	2
2.	53	67	53	73
3.	10	9	7	4
4.	23	13	31	16
7.	$\frac{7}{100}$	$\frac{6}{100}$	$\frac{4}{100}$	$\frac{4}{100}$

D. Length of Residence

	Less than 3 years	3-10 years	More than 10 years
1.	4	4	5
2.	46	56	66
3.	11	4	8
4.	29	28	18
7.	$\frac{10}{100}$	$\frac{8}{100}$	$\frac{3}{100}$

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 6

SOUTHEAST

Age

	UNDER 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+
1.	38	39	38	39	29
2.	13	12	16	23	31
3.	30	34	36	24	31
7.	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

Sex

	Female	Male
1.	37	37
2.	11	23
3.	38	28
7.	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100

Occupation

	Prof. Tech.	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1.	39	38	30	43
2.	19	17	21	16
3.	28	32	38	31
7.	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100

Length of Residence

	Less than 3 Yrs.	3-10 Years	Over 10 Years
1.	33	39	30
2.	18	15	21
3.	31	33	30
7.	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100

NORTH

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS (Number of Respondents = 107)

Age

Under 25	18	17
25-34	37	36
35-44	30	29
45-54	7	10
55 and over	8	8
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100

Sex

Female	44	42
Male	<u>56</u>	<u>58</u>
	100	100

Occupation

Prof Tech	39	38
White Collar	26	24
Blue Collar	19	23
Not Indentified	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100

Length of Residence

Under 3 Years	14
3-10 Years	20
Over 10 Years	<u>66</u>
	100

QUESTION No. 1

	Percent	Top Choice Rank	Mean Top Four Percent	Rank
1.	<u>17</u> 16	<u>(2)</u>	31 30	7
2.	10 10	6	45 45	<u>(4)</u>
3.	13 "	<u>(4)</u>	47 45	<u>(3)</u>
4.	10 10	6	<u>(48)</u> 50	<u>(2)</u>
5.	13 13	<u>(4)</u>	36 35	6
6.	<u>(18)</u> 19	<u>(1)</u> : H	<u>(50)</u> 53	<u>(1)</u>
7.	15 17	<u>(3)</u>	43 44	5
8.	4 4	8	22 23	8
	<u>100</u>			

Number of respondents = ~~100~~ 133

QUESTION No. 2

	Percent	Top Choice Rank	Mean Score	Rank
1.	<u>14</u> 15	<u>(3)</u>	4.6 4.4	5
2.	3 5	7	5.0 5.1	6
3.	<u>37</u> 36	<u>(1)</u>	<u>2.1</u> 2.4	<u>(1)</u>
4.	4 4	6	5.5 5.7	7
5.	<u>(12)</u> 10	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(3.8)</u> 4.0	<u>(3)</u>
6.	<u>(15)</u> 15	<u>(2)</u>	<u>3.3</u> 3.5	<u>(2)</u>
7.	9 10	5	4.4 4.6	<u>(4)</u>
8.	3 2	7	6.6 6.6	8
9.	3 3	7	7.5 7.4	9

Respondents 104

take account of all views of

North Continuum

QUESTION NO. 3

	Percent	Rank
1	44 44	①
2	6 8	5
3	21 19	3
4	22 23	②
	7 6	4
Number of Respondents: ~~127~~ 127	100	

QUESTION NO. 4

	Top Choice Percent	Rank	Mean Score	Rank
1.	21 18	③	2.6 2.6	3
2.	28 30	②	2.1 2.1	2
3.	44 41	①	①.7 1.8	1
4.	7 11	4	3.2 3.0	4
Number of Respondents: ~~100~~ 100	100			

QUESTION NO. 5

	Percent	Rank
1.	6 5	5
2.	51 51	①
3.	12 15	4
4.	13 13	3
Number of Respondents: ~~126~~ 126	13 15	2
	100	

QUESTION NO. 6

	Percent	Rank
1.	25 24	②
2.	10 11	4
3.	⑤1 53	①
7.	13 12	3
Number of Respondents: ~~127~~ 127	100	

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION No. 1

A. Age

	UNDER 25	25-34	35-44	45 AND OVER
1	53	43	21	40
2	35	49	48	53
3	29	54	59	60
4	53	54	59	40
5	18	46	41	47
6	35	60	59	40
7	35	46	59	33
8	18	26	28	20

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1	39	27
2	51	44
3	39	60
4	49	56
5	34	44
6	51	52
7	37	54
8	20	29

C. Occupation

	Prof- Tech	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1	35	33	22	53
2	43	58	39	60
3	57	54	50	40
4	51	58	56	53
5	22	54	56	47
6	46	58	56	60
7	57	42	39	27
8	32	21	22	13

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 1 (continued)

Length of Residence

	<u>10 Years OR LESS</u>	<u>Over 10 years</u>
1	41	30
2	38	52
3	47	56
4	53	52
5	34	41
6	47	56
7	53	41
8	31	21

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 2

Age	under 25	25-34	35-44	45-55	55+ over
1	2.4	2.4	3.1	3.8	4.3
2	4.8	5.1	5.3	3.6	5.2
3	2.7	2.2	2.1	1.3	2.0
4	5.4	5.7	5.9	4.7	5.2
5	5.4	3.6	3.4	5.0	3.4
6	3.6	3.5	3.8	2.3	3.4
7	5.3	4.8	3.8	3.8	4.4
8	6.9	7.1	6.6	5.6	5.6
9	7.8	8.1	7.2	6.3	7.8

NB → N=

13	27	21	6	5
----	----	----	---	---

B. Sex

	Female	Male
1	2.5	3.1
2	4.9	5.2
3	2.1	2.2
4	5.9	5.5
5	4.2	3.6
6	3.0	3.9
7	4.6	4.5
8	7.1	6.6
9	7.9	7.5
N=	30	40

C. Occupation

	Prof Tech	white collar	Blue collar	Not in labor force
1	4.6	4.4	3.6	5.5
2	5.3	5.1	4.4	4.6
3	2.4	2.2	1.4	2.5
4	5.6	6.0	4.4	6.1
5	3.8	3.6	5.1	4.5
6	3.9	3.7	2.4	2.4
7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.5
8	6.5	7.0	6.6	6.5
9	7.7	8.2	5.2	8.3

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 2 (CONTINUED)

<u>Length of Residence</u>	<u>UNDER 3 Years</u>	<u>3-10 Years</u>	<u>OVER 10 Years</u>
1	3.0	1.8	3.1
2	4.9	5.6	4.7
3	2.8	2.2	2.0
4	5.3	6.3	5.5
5	5.0	3.3	4.0
6	3.8	4.0	3.2
7	3.6	4.4	4.6
8	7.3	6.8	6.5
9	8.1	7.9	7.5
N =	8	14	49

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 3

Age

	UNDER 34	25- 44	45 AND OVER
1.	4	4	8
2.	46	65	68
3.	10	7	8
4.	18	12	*
7.	<u>22</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100
			13

N=

49
Female

26
Male

B. Sex

1	34	49
2	3	4
3	31	16
4	29	21
7	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100

Prof Tech

White
CollarBlue
CollarNot in
Labor Force

C. Occupation

1	41	48	50	21
2	3	9	*	7
3	25	9	22	36
4	28	34	*	29
7	<u>3</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100

N=

36
10 years
or less

23
over
10 years

D. Length of Residence

1	37	42
2	*	7
3	20	25
4	43	15
7	<u>*</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 4

	<u>Under 25</u>	<u>25-34</u>	<u>35-44</u>	<u>45 & OVER</u>
1.	23	21	12	18
2.	23	24	38	35
3.	38	55	46	29
4.	16	*	4	18
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

N = 13 27 19 9

	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>
1.	19	16
2.	22	36
3.	53	43
4.	6	5
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

N = 24 42

Occupation

	<u>Prof. Tech</u>	<u>White collar</u>	<u>Blue Collar</u>	<u>Not in Labor Force</u>
1.	7	19	25	31
2.	33	29	30	31
3.	57	48	35	31
4.	3	5	10	7
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

N = 30 21 20 13

Length of Residence

	<u>10 Years or less</u>	<u>over 10 years</u>
1.	2	22
2.	11	23
3.	12	45
4.	*	10
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

N = 25 60

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 5

Age

	Under 34	35-44	45+ over
1.	4	4	8
2.	46	65	68
3.	10	8	8
4.	18	11	*
7.	22	12	16
	100	100	100
N=	49	26	13

Sex

	Female	Male
1.	*	8
2.	53	59
3.	11	6
4.	17	10
7.	19	17
	100	100

Occupation

	Prof-Techn	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1.	8	*	7	*
2.	45	70	46	64
3.	11	4	*	29
4.	14	9	20	17
7.	22	17	27	8
	101	100	100	100
N=	36	23	15	14

Length of Residence

	10 Years or less	More than 10 years
1.	7	4
2.	40	63
3.	17	12
4.	23	7
7.	23	14
	100	100
N=	30	57

ANALYSIS OF QUESTION 6

A. Age

	UNDER 25	25-34	35-44	45+ CUMUL
1.	18	32	25	31
2.	*	3	11	31
3.	70	54	50	15
7.	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>23</u>
	100	100	100	100
N=	17	35	28	13

SEX

	Female	Male
1.	32	22
2.	3	14
3.	45	56
7.	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100
N=	40	50

Occupation

	Prof. Tech	White Collar	Blue Collar	Not in Labor Force
1.	14	35	47	29
2.	5	4	12	14
3.	57	57	24	57
7.	<u>24</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
N=	37	23	17	14

Length of Residence

	10 Years or less	over 10 years
1.	19	30
2.	3	12
3.	56	50
7.	<u>22</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100
N=	32	60

Southcentral Demographics

		<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Mail-In</u>
Age	Under 25	19	7
	25-34	29	28
	35-44	20	22
	45-54	18	28
	55 and over	14	20
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Sex	Female	45	33
	Male	55	67
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Occupation	Prof Tech	37	34
	White Collar	22	23
	Blue Collar	17	21
	Officer	24	22
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Length of Residence

Years in Area	20	18
	32	27
	48	55
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Occup: 70 Stats
SE

		<u>%</u>
P-T	8873	10
WC	18274	20
BC	19593	21
Else	45798	49
	<u>92538</u>	<u>100</u>

N

		<u>%</u>
P-T	503	7
WC	607	9
BC	1310	19
Else	4518	65
	<u>8938</u>	<u>100</u>

SE

		<u>%</u>
P-T	3226	12
WC	5484	20
BC	7420	27
Else	11171	41
	<u>27301</u>	<u>100</u>

3.1a

1st choice

	<u>Anchorage</u>	<u>Harbor</u>	<u>Sea</u>
Save	23	31	29
Commun.	12	13	16
Industry	14	9	13
Review Res.	35	36	32
Indiv.	10	6	9
Other	6	5	1
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

21b.

step 4

		45	66
Taxacts	59-	18	27
Cash	17	46	37-
Rev. Share	43-	22	17
Services	25	39	31
Save	39	52	42-
Loan Communities	40-	29	38-
Industry	39	72	50-
Review Res.	66-	28	23
Indiv.	23	14	22
Other	18		

SE

Breakdown

Q2 Villages

	<u>Anchorage</u>	<u>Harbor</u>	<u>Mar-Sea</u>
Alcoholism	4.5 - 6	4.4 - 6	5.1 - 7
Child Care	4.3 - 6	4.2 - 5	4.3 - 5
Education	2.9 - 1	2.9 - 1	3.1 - 2
Elderly	4.1 - 4	4.0 - 4	3.8 - 3
Employment	3.1 - 2	3.1 - 2	2.7 - 1
Health	3.9 - 3	3.5 - 3	4.1 - 4
Housing	4.9 - 7	4.8 - 7	4.5 - 6
Other	5.8 - 8	5.8 - 8	6.2 - 8

Q3:

	<u>Anchorage</u>	<u>Leuca - Hormen</u>	<u>Mat-Su</u>
incinerator 1.	11	13	17
Eden 2.	13	17	16
property tax 3.	25	14	20
State 700 4.	31	36	26
Other 7.	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100	100

Q.4

1.	7-5	5-5	6-5
2.	33-1	40-1	46-1
3.	26-2	23-2	28-2
4.	11-4	6-4	7-4
5.	18-3	22-3	15-3
7	5-6	4-6	4-6
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

25

1.	2	1	2
2.	63	56	62
3.	8	7	11
4.	12	24	14
7.	$\frac{15}{100}$	$\frac{12}{100}$	$\frac{11}{100}$

26

1.	15	16	7
2.	25	24	17
3.	39	45	61
7	$\frac{21}{100}$	$\frac{15}{100}$	$\frac{15}{100}$

Demographic Characteristics

Age	10-25	10
	26-30	29
	31-44	21
	45-50	22
	51-64	18
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Sex	
Female	36
Male	64
	<u>100</u>

Occupation	
Prof. Tech	35
White Collar	23
Blue Collar	20
Not in labor force	22

Length of Residence	
5 years or less	18
4-10 years	29
More than 10 years	53
	<u>100</u>

Number of respondents = 1633

Question 1A

	Top Choice	Rank
	Percent	
Save 1.	24	2
Loan construction 2.	13	3
Industries 3.	13	3
Reversible Resources 4.	35	1
Individuals 5.	9	5
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
Other 6.	100	

N = 1633

Question 1B

	Percent	Rank
Taxcut 1.	31	1
Cash Payment 2.	5	6
Comm. Pers. Share 3.	9	4
State Savings 4.	4	8
Save 5.	13	3
Loan Comm. 6.	4	8
Loan Insurance 7.	5	6
Loan Insurance 8.	19	2
Industries 9.	3	10
Individual 10.	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	

QUESTION 2

		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Alcoholism	1.	12	3	4.5	6
Child Care	2.	6	7	4.3	5
Education	3.	26	2	2.9	1
Elderly	4.	9	4	4.1	4
Employment	5.	27	1	3.0	2
Health	6.	7	6	3.8	3
Housing	7.	5	8	4.8	7
Other	8.	<u>8</u>	5	5.8	8
		100			

N=1618

QUESTION 3

	<u>Percent</u>
INCOME TAX	12
SALES TAX	14
PROPERTY TAX	22
STATUS QUO	32
OTHER	<u>20</u>
	100

N=1633

QUESTION 4

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Raise Revenues	7	5	3.7	6
Meet Needs	34	1	2.1	1
Reversible Revenues	26	2	2.2	2
Industry	9	4	3.4	5
Preserve Nature	19	3	3.0	4
Other	<u>5</u>	6	2.9	3

N=1579

QUESTION 5

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Sell Fast	2	5
Constant Price	62	1
When Got Money	8	4
Don't Sell	14	2
Other	<u>14</u>	3
	100	

N=1,607

QUESTION 6

Sell for Money

Percent

Paul

14

4

Sell to govt. Industry

25

2

Residential Use

42

1

Other

19

3

100

N = 1020

% of
p choice
response

	under 25	25- 34	35- 44	45- 54	55+
1.	20	24	23	23	68
2.	17	13	15	11	27
3.	9	10	14	16	47
4.	41	38	35	35	60
5.	8	9	11	9	25
6.	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>24</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

QUESTION 1B

1.	47	51	64	61	59
2.	15	20	16	17	19
3.	46	47	47	40	37
4.	41	25	22	22	21
5.	39	47	34	34	36
6.	45	48	42	37	39
7.	24	30	38	45	45
8.	67	70	65	52	48
9.	21	25	25	24	26
10.	20	13	19	14	16

using
p 4
times)

QUESTION 3

1.	8	17	10	10	10
2.	9	11	11	17	21
3.	20	20	24	31	16
4.	38	32	28	26	36
7.	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

%
of possible
responses

QUESTION 4

1.	4-4	4-5	6-5	10-5	8-5
2.	23-2	36-1	34-1	35-1	39-1
3.	21-3	25-3	29-2	25-2	26-2
4.	7-5	5-4	9-4	14-3	13-3
5.	37-1	27-2	17-3	12-4	9-4
6.	<u>9-4</u>	<u>3-6</u>	<u>5-6</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>5-6</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

(%
of possible
choice
responses)

QUESTION 5

	<u>Under 25</u>	<u>25- 34</u>	<u>35- 44</u>	<u>45- 54</u>	<u>55+</u>
1.	1	1	2	3	2
2.	52	49	65	69	75
3.	11	10	7	7	6
4.	16	23	13	9	9
	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>
7.	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

QUESTION 6

1.	14	16	14	14	12
2.	9	16	25	33	33
3.	52	49	41	36	37
	<u>26</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
7.	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q1a

	Prof- Tech	which collar	Blue Collar	Not a Laborer
1.	29	25	23	26
2.	14	11	12	11
3.	11	15	14	12
4.	35	32	37	35
5.	8	8	10	9
6.	5	6	4	7
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q2b

1.	56	61	56	57
2.	16	15	22	20
3.	47	42	40	42
4.	25	21	24	28
5.	41	34	38	34
6.	44	41	44	38
7.	35	45	32	35
8.	65	63	68	68
9.	24	25	24	23
10.	15	14	17	18

Q3

1.	14-4	9-5	11-4	12-5
2.	10-5	20-3	10-5	15-4
3.	25-2	25-2	18-3	20-3
4.	29-1	26-1	42-1	32-1
7.	<u>22-3</u>	<u>20-1</u>	<u>19-2</u>	<u>21-2</u>
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q4

1.	6-5	7-5	7-4	7-6
2.	32-1	34-1	38-1	35-1
3.	25-3	27-2	22-2	28-2
4.	8-4	13-4	7-4	9-4
5.	26-2	15-3	21-3	13-3
6.	<u>3-6</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>5-5</u>	<u>8-5</u>
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

	<u>Prot.</u> <u>Tech</u>	<u>White</u> <u>collar</u>	<u>Blue</u> <u>Collar</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Cabin Fare</u>
1.	2	2	1	2
2.	57-1	67-1	58-1	67-1
3.	7	7	10	8
4.	16-3	11-3	19-2	11-3
7.	<u>18-2</u>	<u>13-2</u>	<u>12-3</u>	<u>12-2</u>
	100	100	100	100

1.	16	14	16	11
2.	22	31	22	25
3.	44	37	41	14
"	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>
7.	100	100	100	100

Q6

11 A

	<u>3 years or less</u>	<u>4-10 years</u>	<u>over 10 years</u>
1.	23	23	26
2.	13	13	12
3.	15	12	12
4.	38	40	33
5.	6	7	11
6.	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{6}{100}$

21 B

1.	56	53	59
2.	16	19	18
3.	47	44	42
4.	26	28	22
5.	44	40	35
6.	43	43	42
7.	38	33	39
8.	71	70	63
9.	18	23	27
10.	16	17	15

Q3.

1.	13	11	12
2.	11	12	16
3.	20-3	26-2	21-2
4.	34-1	28-1	33-1
7.	$\frac{22-2}{100}$	$\frac{23-3}{100}$	$\frac{18-3}{100}$

Q4.

1.	7-4	5-5	7-5
2.	30-1	34-1	36-1
3.	23-3	24-2	28-2
4.	7-4	10-4	10-4
5.	29-2	24-2	14-3
7.	$\frac{4-5}{100}$	$\frac{3-6}{100}$	$\frac{5-6}{100}$

25

	<u>3 years or less</u>	<u>4-10 years</u>	<u>Over 10 years</u>
1	3	2	2
2.	56-1	57-1	66-1
3.	10	8	8
4.	17-2	19-2	11-3
5.	<u>14-3</u>	<u>14-3</u>	<u>13-2</u>
	100	100	100

26

1.	15	17	13
2.	22	20	28
3.	46	13	40
7.	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
	100	100	100

11a

	Female	Male
1.	27	23
2.	12	13
3.	10	14
4.	39	34
5.	6	11
6	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100

1b

1.	55	58
2.	17	18
3.	51	39
4.	29	22
5.	35	40
6.	45	41
7.	32	40
8.	67	66
9.	22	26
10.	14	17

Q. 3

income tax 1.	12	12
Sales 2.	15	13
prop tax 3.	21	23
State tax 4.	32	31
Other 7.	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100

Q4

Revenues 1.	6	7
Net needs 2.	33	36
Resources 3.	27	25
Indust 4.	7	10
Natural 5.	26	18
enviro	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Other 6.	100	100

86X

Q5

	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>
1.	2	2
2.	62	62
3.	10	7
4.	13	15
	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
7.	100	100

26

1.	13	15
2.	24	25
3.	45	40
	<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>
7.	100	100

SC

Q1a

	<u>Workshop</u>	<u>And In</u>
Save	26	25
Common	13	12
Industry	11	13
Renewable	34	36
Indiv.	8	9
Other	8	5
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q1b (Apr 4)

Taxent	40	62
Cash	12	20
Rev. Sh.	45	43
Stat. Serv.	20	26
Save	49	35
Community Loan	44	42
Industry	30	39
Renew. R.	68	46
Individuals	23	24
Other	23	14

Q2

1	Alcoholism	4.2 -6	4.6 -6
2	Child care	4.2 -5	4.3 -5
3	Education	2.6 -1	3.0 -2
4	Elderly	4.1 -4	4.1 -4
5	Employ.	3.3 -2	3.0 -2
6	Health	3.8 -3	3.8 -3
7	Housing	5.0 -8	4.8 -7
8	Other	4.9 -7	6.0 -8

~345

~1080

Q3

Ward J.
Custody
Income tax 12 4
Sales tax 12 4
Property tax 23 2
Spent money 21 3
Other 32 1
100
17 4

Q4

Raise Rev. 5 6
West-Florida 30 1
Raven Rev. 26 2
Industry 9 4
Proctor Hotel 21 3
Other 9 5
100
3 6
18 3
15 4
26 2
34 1
7 5

10 =

1476 1356

Q5

Post 2
Contract 53
Advanced 4
Dept. III 17
Other 24
100
16
9
65
2

Q6

Money 14
Industry 19
Post-Office 31 2
Other 36 1
100
14
45 1

PLEASE NOTE: THE PRECEDING PAGES WERE TREATED
AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ALASKA GROWTH POLICY COUNCIL
ALASKA PUBLIC FORUM

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

Phone 276-5262
Loussac-Sogn Building
429 D Street, Suite 310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 1977

Alaska Public Forum Presentation

The findings from the first half year of the Alaska Public Forum were presented to Governor Jay Hammond and legislators by the Alaska Growth Policy Council today at the Court House building in Juneau.

The eleven member Growth Policy Council, chaired by Lt. Governor Lowell Thomas, Jr. has spent the last five months talking to the people of the state about major state issues which now face the administration and the legislature. The findings from the first three and a half months were presented in the Mid-Year Report to decision-makers.

Council member Harold Pomeroy briefed the state leaders on the general impressions of the program and the thinking of over 2,200 people in 49 communities. Statements on each of the three regions and the summation of the findings in each were presented by Council members Frank Homan for Southeast, Leonard Lane for the North and Lidia Sellkregg for Southcentral.

Some of the major themes coming out of the Forum include to:

- Use the new oil and gas revenues to promote sound and lasting renewable resource industries and
- Provide assistance to communities whether through loans to communities or community revenue sharing and grants.
- Provide aid to all human resource areas with the emphasis on education, alcoholism, employment and health.

-more-

- Manage Alaska's land to provide for people's needs (specifically homesites) and to promote renewable resource industries.
- Lease Alaska's oil and gas lands at a moderate pace to assure a steady flow of income over a long period of time.
- Provide for in-state residential use of Alaska's royalty oil and gas.
- Recognize the local concerns of Alaskans in the areas of transportation, alternative energy sources, communications, and growing government inefficiency.

The full report from the Alaska Public Forum may be obtained from that office at 429 D Street, Anchorage, 99501.

For further information please contact Diane Burgin, Alaska Public Forum, 276-5262.



Mid-Year Report

March 1977

The Alaska Public Forum

A program of the Alaska Growth Policy Council

The people who make the Forum work

It's the people, pure and simple. It's the people who give up an evening or even a weekend to find out what the Alaska Public Forum really is, only to discover that they are the Forum.

We don't know how or why it evolves as it does. But we who are closely connected with the Public Forum have had any previous skepticism stripped away by the people who have come to work with us. They come hesitantly, cynically, reluctantly, expectantly, curiously, and sometimes late. They come to listen, to complain, to learn and to lobby.

Some come because the governor has offered to bring them to a regional center to talk to him and local legislators. Others come because they have a cause, something they want to get off their minds, in person, not through a letter.

A few people come timidly because they have rarely been out of their communities before and they don't know what they're going to say. But after all, the governor asked them, so they should go. Some people have a great deal of experience at the supermarket, gas station, and at local school meetings but have no experience with government and no idea what such things as "royalty oil and gas" mean. However, what better time to find out and maybe meet the governor and their legislators.

Whatever motivates them, and most generally from evaluation comments it appears to be curiosity, people do come to the Public Forum bringing their interests, experiences and perspectives. But even more exciting, they stay. Not for an hour or two, but for the whole day. And they come back on Sunday. They talk. First, hesitantly, but then more readily, anxious that the group understand exactly what the issues mean to their own community, or their family, or their schools. They talk with each other; they participate.

It is a remarkable experience to sit at a table and watch a fisherman, a teacher, a student, a welfare worker, a self-employed businessman, a subsistence hunter, a legislator, a bookkeeper, and a Teamster trucker exchange ideas about the future of Alaska.

And what is most important about the Alaska Public Forum is that before these people leave the table, they generally have reached a consensus about almost every issue. They might vote one way as individuals answering each question, but placed in a group where they must consider other interests and trade-offs, participants become policy-makers. Their considerations become broad; their basis for selecting answers for less personal and far more sensitive to the general good.

It is these people then, through their hard work, their commitment to the future of Alaska, their determination to give the democratic process another try, and their belief that someone is listening that has made the Alaska Public Forum's first half-year a very important experience. And, it is the people's sincerity and energy that will help us keep their opinions before decision-makers.

We begin with this report.

The Alaska Growth Policy Council
March 1977

Thank you

To the People of Alaska who have given the State their time, energy and enthusiasm through the Alaska Public Forum, reconfirming their belief in the democratic process and the future of Alaska.

And to State leaders who can respond with sensitivity to the People of Alaska through their leadership and policy decisions.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ALASKA GROWTH POLICY COUNCIL
ALASKA PUBLIC FORUM

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

Phone 276-5262
Loussac-Sogn Building
429 D Street, Suite 310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Alaska Public Forum friends,

What you will find on the following pages is a compilation of the suggestions for the first half year of the Alaska Public Forum program. It is the opinions and words of over 1,500 people who have attended community meetings and regional workshops representing a total of 49 communities throughout three regions — Southeast, North, and Southcentral. It is the work of three and a half months, eleven Growth Policy Council members, a fulltime staff of six, and numbers of volunteers.

When we ask people to participate in the Alaska Public Forum, we ask them what they think about some major state issues identified by the Governor, legislators, state officials, the Growth Policy Council, and people throughout Alaska. These issues have then been framed in six questions and together with a seventh "you tell us" question make up the agenda for the Alaska Public Forum.

The summary of suggestions on the questions is written from two sets of information 1) the results of the Public Forum meetings based on notes and recordings; and 2) the tabulated responses of the Alaska Public Forum questionnaires which people fill out and return after attending a meeting or retrieving the questionnaire from a newspaper insert.

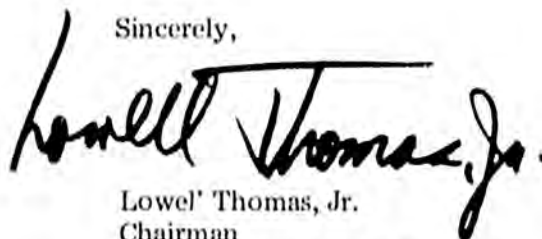
These two forms of information have the potential to provide very different responses to the questions. One of the exciting features of the Public Forum meeting is that people have the opportunity to sit together and reach a consensus on different subjects. This option is not available to the participant who fills out his form alone at home.

A second and important consideration is that a major effort has been in every regional meeting to have representatives from throughout the area attend and present their local viewpoints. The method has been to select participants at random from voter registration lists and bring to the regional meetings those that accept the invitation. From some of the comments we receive — "I've never sat down at the same table with so many different types of people before" — it appears that there is generally a good cross-section of people. This seems to be a major achievement of the Alaska Public Forum so far. Yet it also indicates that many of these participants have never been involved in anything like the Forum before. Within a short time, workshop participants receive background on the questions from the newspaper publication, the small group moderators, state resource people and often, each other. This information, with the exception of the newspaper, is not available to the participant filling out the form at home.

The base of information from which the answers spring must be considered and varying interpretations on subjects such as tax cuts, or land for public needs for example, must all go into any analysis of the findings.

Most important, what you will find are a series of comments, a grouping of statistics, an indication of what we've heard, but there is always so much more — so many innovative ideas, imaginative suggestions, sensible solutions. We've tried to weave those in but it is impossible to cover them all. And so on that note of caution, we present the first half-year of the Alaska Public Forum.

Sincerely,



Lowell Thomas, Jr.
Chairman
Alaska Growth Policy Council

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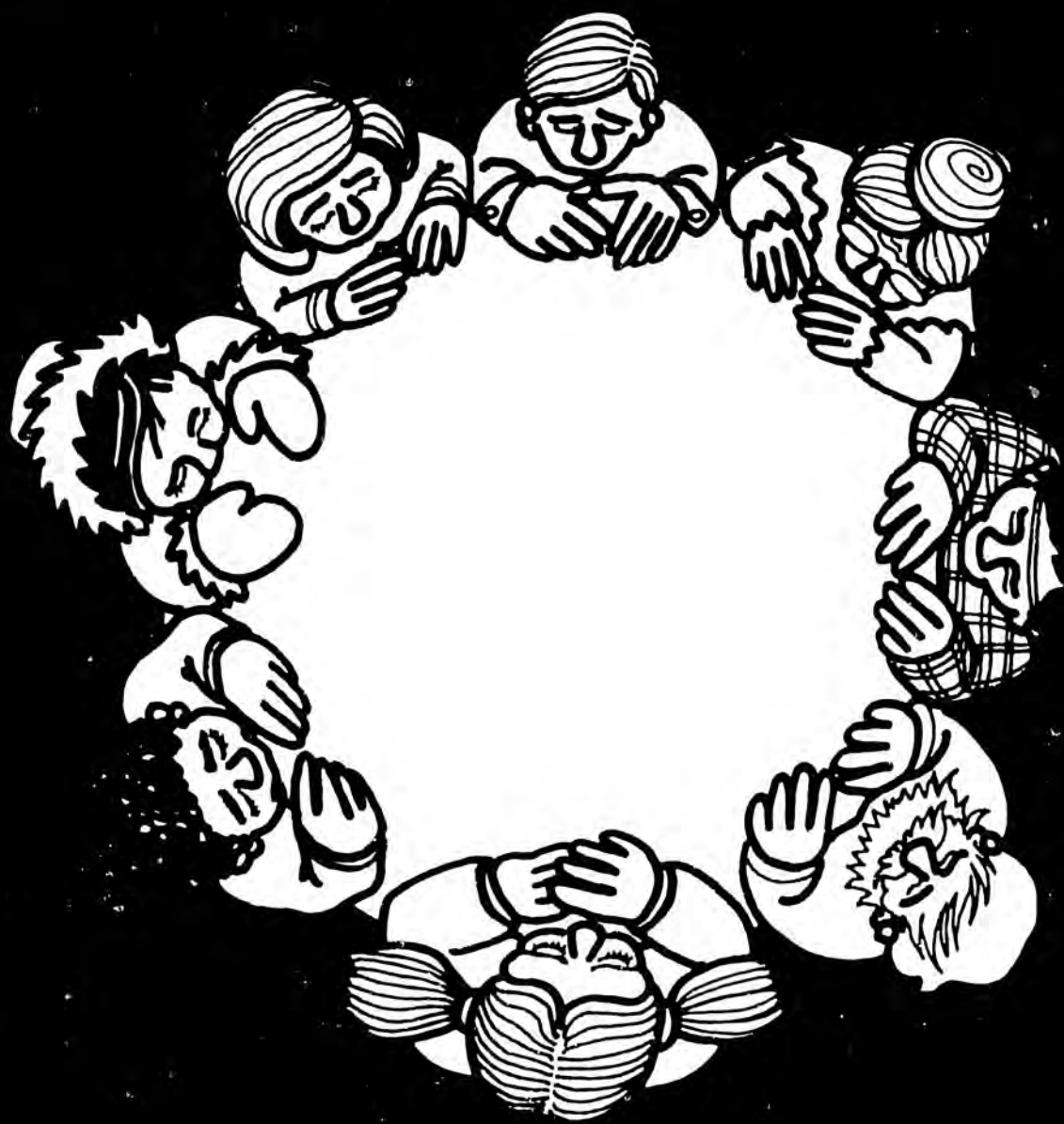
The Alaska Public Forum

A program of the Alaska Growth Policy Council

The Alaska Public Forum is the people of Alaska discussing major state issues and making recommendations on them to the Governor, legislators, and other state leaders. It is the leaders of the state listening to these suggestions and incorporating them into the decisions that will shape the future of Alaska.

The Public Forum is a program of the Alaska Growth Policy Council, and eleven-member board created by Governor Hammond to provide him with a broad range of citizen recommendations on major state issues. Through the Alaska Public Forum, the Council is taking six issues of immediate state concern to the people of Alaska and listening to a seventh issue area chosen by the people, the latter providing a regional perspective. The public makes recommendations on these seven issues through regional workshops, local community meetings, and mail-in questionnaires. Their comments are turned over to decision-makers — the Governor, legislators and state officials for action.

The overall goal of the Alaska Public Forum is to open the communications network between Alaskans and their state leaders by broadening people's participation in developing major state policy, particularly in areas that have the most serious implications for the future of all Alaskans.



Background

Determining the issues

The early months of the Public Forum were spent selecting the six major issues. The Growth Policy Council, made recommendations on a list of concerns and passed them on to the legislature and state agencies for comment.

The product of this was taken to the public, inviting suggestions through letters and a statewide meeting held in Anchorage on October 20, 1976. The Growth Policy Council then made its final recommendations to Governor Hammond based on all the above involvement.

Informing the public

Once the issues were chosen, background on them was written up in the Alaska Public Forum newspaper. The first edition was completed in time to serve as the agenda for the first regional workshop held in Ketchikan on November 13 and 14.

It should be noted that the first edition of the newspaper was tested in both the Southeast and Northern regions of the state. Problems were noted and corrected for a reprinted version used in the Southcentral and subsequent regions.

The newspaper is an educational package as well as the agenda for the Forum process. It poses a question, suggests possible options and provides background information on each issue. It defines terms such as "renewable resources" and "royalty oil and gas" and discusses previous state policy like the use of oil and gas revenues so that Public Forum participants have a framework in which to view the state's present situation.

The Alaska Public Forum newspaper is the key tool in the program so it must be distributed widely in order to get maximum participation. The principle method is to place it in local newspapers.

Then there are the meetings.

The Public Forum is the people who participate, but the outreach to spark the enthusiasm of a community is a long process. Like it or not, Alaskans are "workshopped to death." These days, reaction to a meeting is rarely more than a ho-hum. But anyone who has had anything to do with the Alaska Public Forum will support the Anchorage workshop theme — Not Just Another Boring Meeting.

The effort to explain this generally begins several months before the workshop. It begins with the enthusiasm for the Alaska Public Forum. The rest, then, becomes easier. It can include as many as two or three preworkshop trips by staff and sometimes Growth Policy Council members. It involves time aside to

appear on radio and television talk shows; creating and taping public service announcements, news stories and newspaper advertisements, endless appearances at luncheons and dinners for the Lions, the Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce; it involves presentations to

Come to the Forum*



[Not just another boring meeting]

*** The Alaska Public Forum**

Alaskans deciding Alaska Issues

Coming to Anchorage the weekend of January 15th & 16th

city councils, village councils, Native corporations — profit and nonprofit; discussions with business, school, and government officials requesting their help to notify their employees; it includes mass distribution of the Public Forum newspaper through local mailboxes, and community papers; and hours of time around town leaving newspapers on store counters and hanging posters telling people when and where; it means time aside to talk to senior citizens' lunch groups, church meetings, social service gatherings, and of course visits to Bingo games. And it means, after all this, to find out that three days earlier the school scheduled a makeup basketball game the same time as the Public Forum meeting. But the day of the workshop arrives and the people come. And once they are there, they usually become supporters.

All this activity occurs for both types of Alaska Public Forum meetings — the regional and the community meeting. However, for a regional workshop there is one added step — inviting the "randomly

selected participants." It starts by pouring over voter registration lists, mathematically counting and selecting the names of people from every area of a region. These people are then sent a letter from the Lt. Governor asking them to participate in the Public Forum as the guests of the Alaska Growth Policy Council. Other letters of invitation are sent to community leaders throughout a region but only those randomly chosen have their expenses paid by the Public Forum. In this way, people who don't usually attend meetings are invited and encouraged to participate. And after the newness of the first few hours, they generally make use of the opportunity and jump right in.

Regional Workshops

There are seven regional workshops scheduled for the Alaska Public Forum. The first three regional meetings have been held:

<u>Southeast:</u>	<u>North:</u>	<u>Southcentral:</u>
Ketchikan	Kotzebue	Anchorage
November 13, 14	December 4, 5	January 15, 16

The regional workshops are two-day meetings. On the first day, participants break into small workshop groups to discuss the six issues and a seventh which all the participants have voted their most important concern. The second day, group spokespersons report the recommendations of their small groups to a general session. At that time, people can discuss majority and minority views on each issue.

There are resource people on hand at each regional workshop and at some community meetings to provide background on the technical issues. These resource people are usually state persons familiar with all aspects of a given area, i.e., oil and gas, lands, health and social services, etc.

Community Meetings

The second type of meeting, the community meeting, is usually held in several locations throughout each region. Generally, it takes place in the evening and is three to four hours in length. This means that the amount of discussion on each issue is less detailed than in a regional meeting. It also means that an abbreviated format is used. If the participants break into small workshop groups, they only have time to discuss two or three issues and then report those back to a general session later in the evening. In some community meetings, participants only meet as one large group and discuss the options to each question in a general session.

Barrow provided an exception to both the local evening meetings and the regional workshop format. In

this study, the North Slope is treated as a part of the Northern region but participants from the North Slope did not attend the Kotzebue regional workshop because of the travel expense. Instead, a special one-day meeting was held in Barrow, January 29, with representatives from six North Slope villages among the participants.

The Governor, Legislators and Growth Policy Council

The Governor has been a regular participant in the regional Public Forum meetings, as have local legislators. In Southeast, the Governor spent the second day of the weekend listening to recommendations of workshop participants. In the North, he spoke with participants on the first day of the workshop and along with legislators attended the small group discussions to watch the recommendation process evolve.

Finally, in Southcentral, on the first day, he visited small group discussions at five meetings around Anchorage. On the second day, he, along with many local legislators, listened to and discussed the results of these small meetings at a general session at the Captain Cook Hotel.

Throughout all the meetings, members of the Growth Policy Council have moderated and recorded the proceedings in order to document the recommendations and various ideas of participants. These, along with questionnaire tabulation will be formally presented by them to the legislature and the Governor through this midyear report and a year-end summary.

The Questionnaire

The third method of participating in the Alaska Public Forum is by filling out and mailing in the questionnaire on the back page of the Public Forum newspaper. This has been used by a wide range of people above and beyond workshop participants. The results of these suggestions have been tabulated and documented in this report, but because the questionnaires continue to arrive every day the information is current but not final.

Funding

The Alaska Public Forum operates on a budget of \$290,000 appropriated by the state legislature and supplemental funding of \$60,000 from the State Department of Commerce and Economic Development; \$40,000 from the State Coastal Zone Management Program and \$25,000 from the Alaska Humanities Forum.

Recommendations

People who have participated in the Alaska Public Forum have given their time, energy and enthusiasm to the process. They spend long hours analyzing every Public Forum issue. They look at the positive and the negative side, what it means to their culture, their family, their schools, their communities, their employment. They discuss the trade-offs implicit in each decision and then they vote for what they think state leaders ought to do.

Common comments on the Forum range from "Why couldn't it have been longer?" to "We'll see if anyone is really listening." But, almost everyone seems anxious that the process continue. For this reason, follow-up is very important.

Follow-up in this case means respecting the energy and the expectations of the people who have participated in the Forum. And follow-up carries with it a responsibility for two groups of people: 1) The Alaska Growth Policy Council, who, first, will see that the suggestions of participants reach the state's decision-makers; and second, keep in touch with participants so that the Forum is in fact a continuing process; and 2) State leaders who will make every effort to act on these recommendations in a serious, thoughtful manner.

The Public Forum recommendations come in two forms which make the findings unique.

First, out of the regional workshops and community meetings with more than 1,500 people, come recommendations often in the form of group consensus. These are valuable because they are the result of discussing trade-offs and often provide a balance of community and state, personal and group needs. The suggestions are generally a group's assessment of the

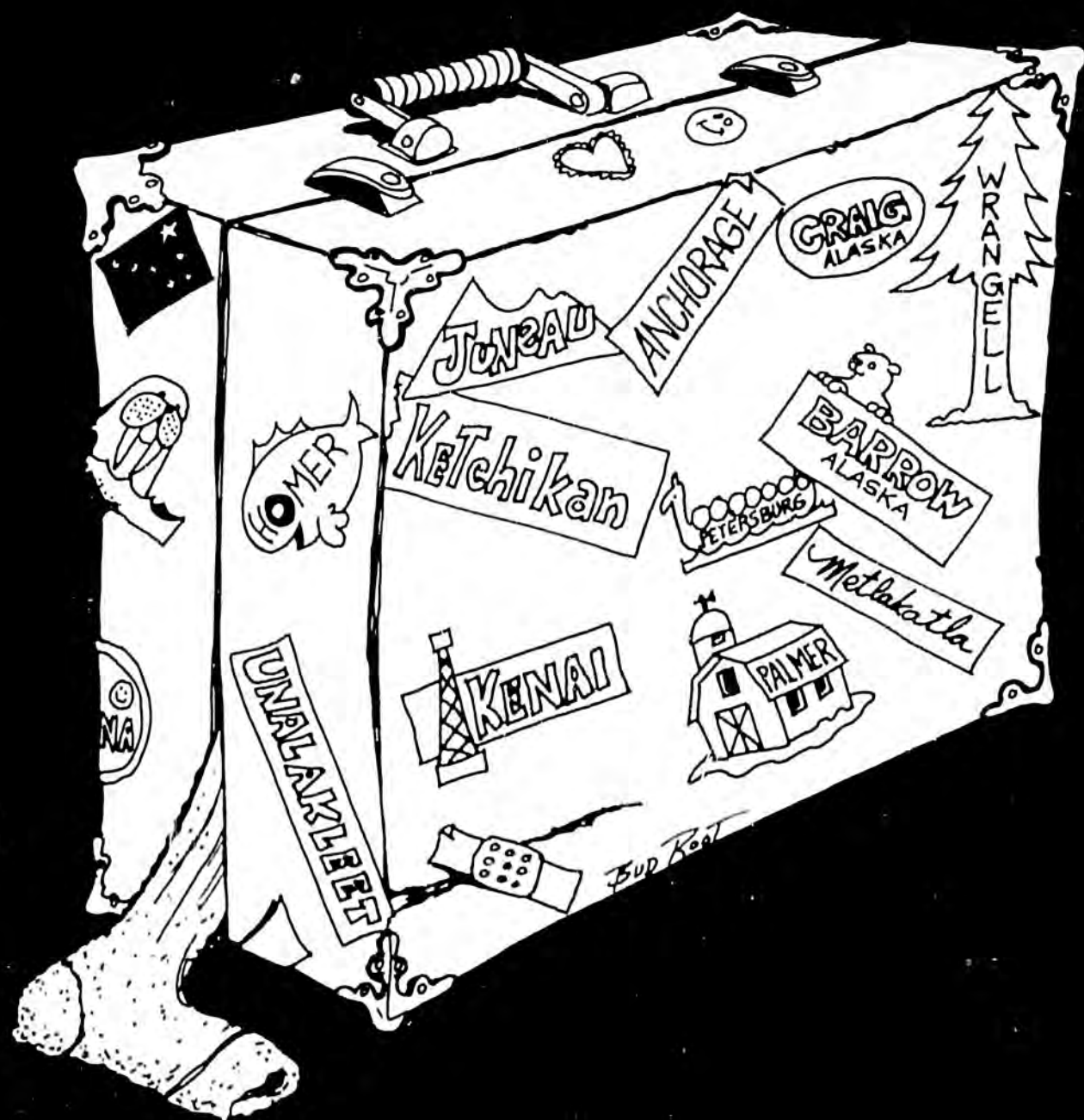
"best way to go." As one participant explained in a Letter to the Editor in the Anchorage Times:

"For those attending (a Public Forum regional meeting), it was a small taste of what our men in Juneau go through when they have so many things to learn at once and so little time in which to come up with the right answers."

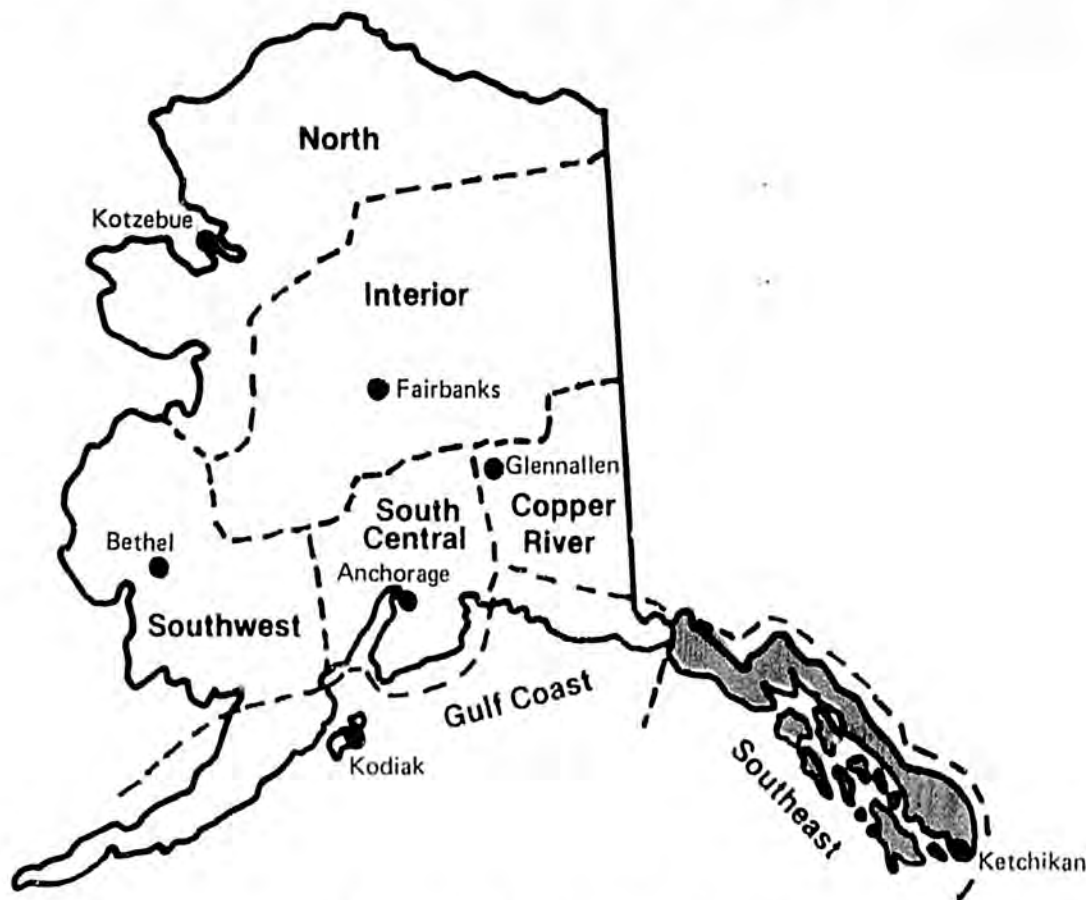
Second, the Public Forum asks both workshop participants and those unable to attend a meeting to respond to the same seven questions by filling out and returning the questionnaire at the end of the Alaska Public Forum newspaper. Over 2,200 people have participated in the Forum through the questionnaire. In Southcentral, 1,100 of the 1,633 questionnaires received were mail-ins. However, 475 questionnaires in Southeast, and 134 in the North were submitted but most of those were handed in by meeting participants.

These written suggestions have been tabulated and discussed throughout the report. The answers cut across demographic categories and indicate that Public Forum participants although not a true proportional cross-section of each region (see regional profile sections) respond similarly to the various recommendations. Where there are differences in groups, these have been noted in the text.

This report will look at both sets of responses — individual and group. It will also quote directly from the people. It is hoped that through these different methods of hearing the public, you will come away understanding both the common thread of people's hopes for the future of Alaska and at the same time their extraordinary individuality.



Southeast Regional Profile^{1.}



The major concerns of Southeast participants in all the meetings were renewable resources, community services, land selections and transportation. A look at the region may help explain some of the comments that appear in response to the seven questions.

Southeastern Alaska has throughout its history under American rule been a center of government and trading. It is an area rich in wood, fish and minerals, all of which have kept the area bustling and kept it the focus of most outsiders' attention.

The Southeast population in the 1970 census count was 39,472 which is approximately 13% of the total state population. More than three-fourths of the people live in the five towns of Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka, Petersburg and Wrangell. Most of the total Southeast population (71%) is white which is a slightly lower proportion of white to nonwhite than in the rest of the state where the figure is closer to 79%. The nonwhite population is made up almost entirely of Tlingit, Haidas and Tsimshian Indians with a small number of Blacks and Chinese.

The economy of Southeast has depended largely on its natural resource wealth — fish, timber and minerals which are far from depleted and may continue to provide a stable economic base in the years ahead.

Government is the largest employer in the region. However, with the plans to move the state capital and most of the federal and state services with it, a disruption will be created. In Juneau, a 1976 survey showed that government employment included 3,319

state employees, 1,158 federal employees, 719 local government employees or nearly 58% of the Juneau work force.^{2.}

Today, timber is the main economic support in the Southeast region and the third largest in the state. Fishing which has always been an economic contributor to the area, today ranks closely behind the timber industry. Tourism and recreation are third among Southeast industries and growing rapidly.

Close to 95% of the land in the Southeast region is under federal control, 73% of that is in the Tongass National Forest. Although portions of this may be selected by the state for its use or it may be made available to boroughs and cities throughout the region, not much of this has been done to date. Therefore, little land exists that may be used for homes and recreational purposes in this part of the state, which is a problem for many Southeasterners.

For the most part, people have located along waterways in small isolated communities connected to the outside world through Alaska Marine Highway system and charter plane service. There is commercial air service as well through the five larger towns, although it is often said to be inadequate by the people who depend upon it. There are few roads in Southeast.

1. Source: *Alaska Regional Profiles, Southeast Region Vol. IV*, Lidia Selkregg, University of Alaska, Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center.

2. *State and Federal Government Employment in Juneau, City and Borough of Juneau, 1976*.

Alaska Public Forum Participants:

Southeast

	1970 Census Information on Population Distribution ¹ . Southeast	Alaska Public Forum Participants Population Distribution ² . Southeast
<u>Age:</u>		
Under 25	23%	14%
25-34	24%	26%
35-44	19%	20%
45-54	16%	20%
55 and over	18%	20%
<u>Sex:</u>		
Female	47%	33%
Male	53%	67%
<u>Occupation:</u> (Civilian Population) ³ .		
Professional-Technical	27%	29%
White Collar	20%	24%
Blue Collar	12%	26%
Not in the Civilian Labor Force	41%	21%
<u>Length of Residency in Alaska:</u>		
3 years or less	—	18%
4-10 years	—	23%
over 10 years	—	59%

1. Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970, General Population of Characteristics, Alaska.

2. Alaska Public Forum Newspaper demographic information from 475 Southeast questionnaires.

3. Occupational Categories:

Professional-Technical includes:

Accountants, Engineers, Lawyers, Librarians, Doctors, Nurses, Clergymen, Social and Recreational workers, Teachers, Pilots, Technicians, Counselors, Writers, Researchers, etc.

White Collar includes:

School Administrators, Postmasters, Hotel managers, Sales personnel, Insurance agents, Real estate agents, Bank tellers, Cashiers, Bookkeepers, File clerks, Insurance adjustors, Mail Carriers, Payroll clerks, Receptionists, Secretaries, Teacher aides, Telephone operators, etc.

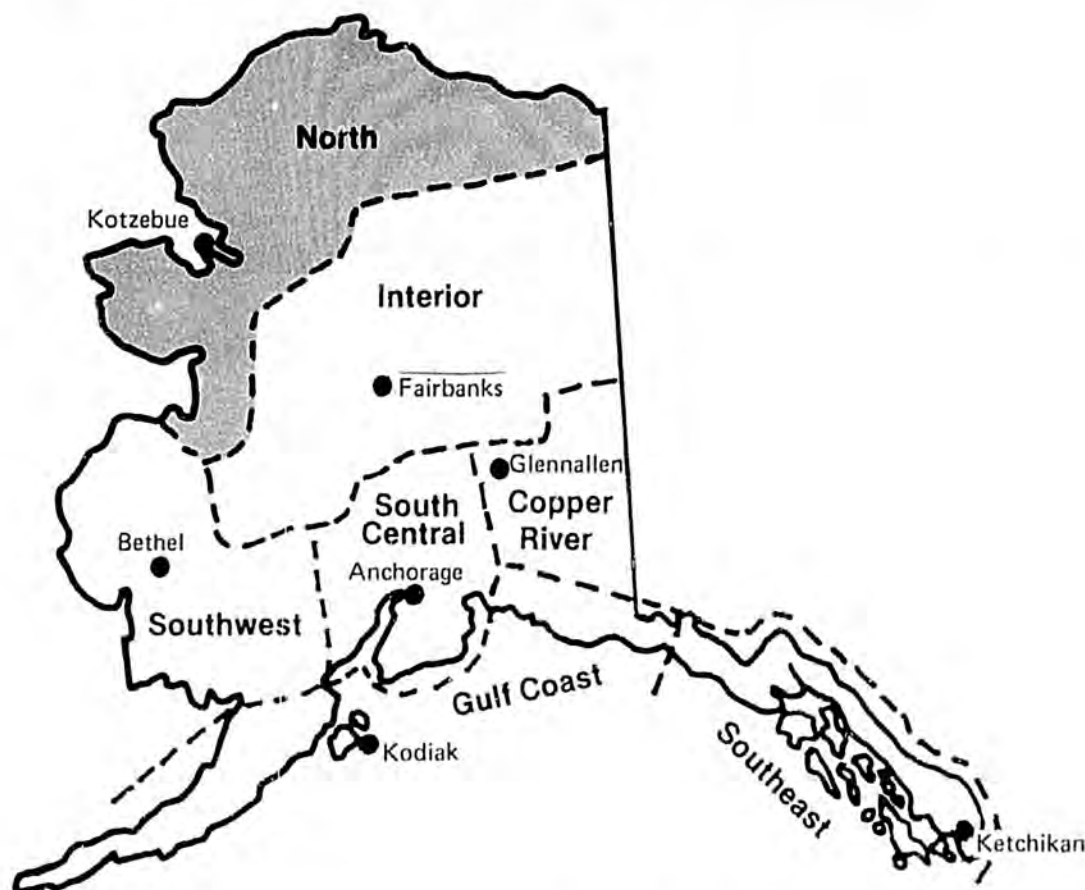
Blue Collar includes:

Carpenters, Dental technicians, Electricians, Road machine operators, Mechanics, Repairmen, Plasterers, Plumbers, Roofers, Tailors, Dressmakers, Gas station attendants, Graders, Welders, Bus drivers, Taxicab drivers, Construction workers, Fishermen, Lumbermen, Teamsters, Warehousemen, Farmers, Bartenders, Hotel maids, Cooks, Dishwashers, Dental assistants, Health aides, Airline stewardesses, Barbers, Child care workers, Firemen, Policemen, etc.

Not in the Civilian Labor Force includes:

Military, Housewives, Unemployed, Retired, Subsistence hunters, or persons for any other reason not in the labor force.

North Regional Profile



First, it should be noted that findings in the North tended to be regional in perspective. The geographic boundaries of the area the Public Forum called the North, included three distinct Native regions — Bering Straits, NANA, and the Arctic Slope. Despite the fact that the entire area is made up principally of Inupiat Eskimo people (with a generous sprinkling of whites), the thinking from one area to another was often very different.

Nome participants, to a large extent, were representative of that town's white community. Participants from this meeting made up one-third of the questionnaire sample and the statistics on them indicate that they were generally between the ages of 35-44, male and most often in the professional-technical occupation category. Although 46% of the Nome people were residents of Alaska for over 10 years, this figure is far less than the 76% in the rest of the North.

Generally, the themes coming out of the North correspond closely with those in Southeast. People expressed concern over their communities, renewable resources and the land. In the North, these three areas are closely intertwined. For example, it is often difficult to determine where concern for renewable resources as an economic factor ends and renewable resources as a subsistence need begins.

The North region of today is the product of both its traditional culture and the sometimes painful "opening up" experiences it has gone through. First with the

arrival of the whalers, then the miners, and eventually government activities whether through management of Federal Reserves like Pet 4 and the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory on the Arctic Slope or through government services throughout the region. Now the area finds itself in the middle of yet another "opening up" experience with oil and gas exploration.

The initial and most severe disruption was from the whalers. While the Eskimos exchanged gifts of baleen, caribou meat and furs with the whalers, they received in return, rifles, ammunition, liquor, flour, black tobacco, molasses and lead — not to mention, measles, smallpox, whooping cough and influenza. While disease caused the death rate to soar, at the same time there was a serious depletion of caribou herds either due to the use of firearms or the cyclical change in caribou population. Both of these factors saw populations decrease radically. For example, Barrow declined from 1,000 persons in 1828 to 309 people in 1863.

Today, the 1970 census figures show the North region with a population of 13,334 or slightly larger than 4% of the state's population. Alaska Natives make up 85% of the 1970 figure for the region. There is a much higher percentage of young to middle-aged people than old.

The economy is based on subsistence life styles but there is an involvement with a cash economy, particularly among the white population. Nonetheless, low income and high unemployment characterize the re-

gion's position. Most of the employment that exists is seasonal and includes commercial fishing, herding, limited tourism and arts and crafts. Government, pipeline and mining jobs throughout the North provide some alternatives to seasonal employment.

Although government is a major employer, it is perhaps even more so, in the North Slope area of the state which is now under borough status and has an active administrative office in Barrow, managing the services throughout its far-flung region. The rest of the North for the most part, is unincorporated and a part of the unorganized borough and looks to the state legislature to meet its local government needs.

Land in the North is largely under federal jurisdiction with large sections of it tied up in the Pet 4 and Arctic Wildlife reserves. Other sections will be released to local Natives through the Land Claims Settlement Act. All the land in this region has been and continues to be used primarily for subsistence with the exception

of natural resource exploration and development.

People generally have chosen to live in isolated, small communities along coastal and river sites favorable for subsistence activities. Only Nome owes its development to mining rather than subsistence pursuits. In more recent years however, people are beginning to move into the larger service areas of Nome, Kotzebue and Barrow, to gain access to better services and more employment opportunities. Poor transportation and communications have in the past and continue today, to hamper the delivery of services throughout the region.

**Source: Alaska Regional Profiles, Northwest Region Vol. V, and Arctic Region Vol. II, Lidia Selkregg, University of Alaska, Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center.*

Alaska Public Forum Participants: North

	1970 Census Information on Population Distribution ¹ North	Alaska Public Forum Participants Population Distribution ² North
<u>Age:</u>		
under 25	34%	17%
25-34	22%	36%
35-44	16%	29%
45-54	12%	10%
55 and over	16%	8%
<u>Sex:</u>		
Female	45%	42%
Male	55%	58%
<u>Occupation:</u> (Civilian Population) ³		
Professional-Technical	7%	38%
White Collar	9%	24%
Blue Collar	19%	23%
Not in the Civilian Labor Force	65%	15%
<u>Length of Residency in Alaska:</u>		
3 years or less	—	14%
4-10 years	—	20%
over 10 years	—	66%

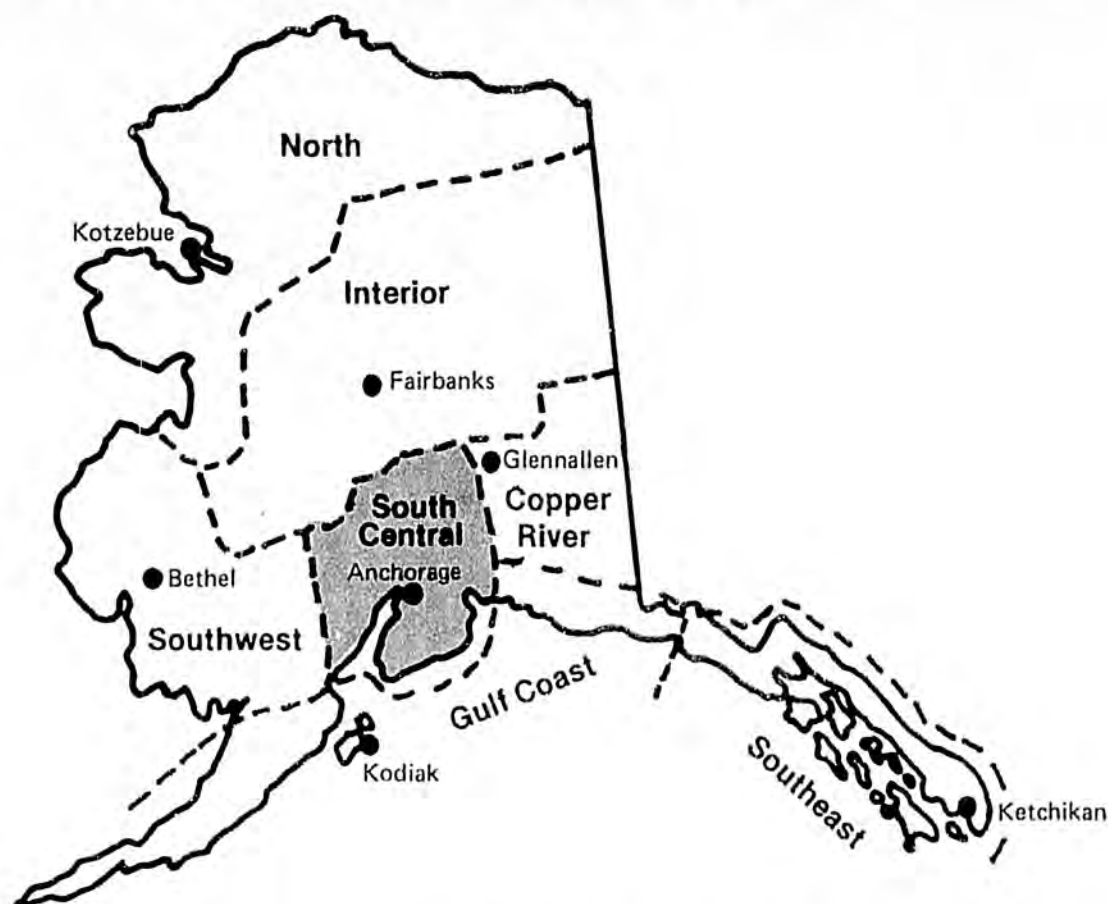
1. Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970, General Population of Characteristics, Alaska.

2. Alaska Public Forum Newspaper demographic information

from 134 North questionnaires.

3. Occupational Categories: See Southeast Section.

Southcentral Regional Profile*



The Southcentral region has the largest population in the state. However, most of those people are located in Anchorage, the state's only metropolitan area. Anchorage is more recently developed than other urban areas in Alaska, it feels the influence of the lower 48 more sharply and its population is often made up of large numbers of professional, but temporary, residents. Outside of Anchorage, the population more closely resembles other parts of Alaska. A look at the region might help put some of the Public Forum responses in perspective.

Southcentral's development is the product of a more recent history than that experienced throughout the rest of the state, and this often sets it apart from other areas of Alaska. Waves of people migrated into the region at different periods beginning with railroad construction workers at the turn of the century. Population growth continued with the arrival of the Matanuska Valley colonists in the mid-thirties, through the influx of military personnel during World War II, then into the present-day growth from oil activities in the Kenai and Prudhoe Bay fields.

In the 1970 census, Southcentral region consisted of 145,301 people, or close to 48% of the state's population. Today, it contains over half of the people in the state. Close to 90% of the 1970 population is white, much higher than the state average of 79%. Much of the nonwhite population of the region is Alaska Native — both those who have migrated to Anchorage from

around the state and the original local inhabitants, the Athapaskan Indians and Chugach Eskimo. There is a significant proportion of Blacks, Filipinos and Orientals, as well. In Southcentral a large percentage of the population is young to middle aged.

The economic base of the region has shifted as the area has grown. At first, the economy was supported by fishing and mining, with some trapping and hunting. Many people maintained a subsistence existence. During World War II, military and federal government activities became the economic base for the region until more recently when Anchorage has become the center for operations of the state's private sector. The petroleum industry is also a dominant economic force.

Southcentral can boast the highest level of employment and the largest share of Alaska's total personal income. Fisheries are the oldest industry of major importance in the region but its activity has become modified by economic and biological factors. The petroleum industry, which includes secondary businesses as well as oil company activities, has recently taken the lead as the region's largest private industry. The federal government, both military and civilian, has decreased its impact on the economy slowly since World War II and its role as employer is now shared with the state and local governments. The entire region is made up of two boroughs — Kenai Peninsula, Matanuska-Susitna and the Municipality of Anchorage. Government, then, is the largest employer in South-

central followed by trade for goods and services.

Land in Southcentral has been developed in a relatively small amount. Less than 3% is privately owned and not all that is developed. Uses of the land may range from metropolitan to subsistence in close proximity.

Half the population of the state resides in and around Anchorage. To the south, Kenai Peninsula is a secondary population and commercial area within the region. The city of Kenai maintains a strong industrial base with Homer, Soldotna and Seward serving as important population centers. To the north of Anchor-

age, the Matanuska and Susitna Valleys are the agricultural bases for the region and offer extensive summer and winter recreational activities.

The Southcentral region is tied together by a complete highway system radiating out of Anchorage. The region is also an air center providing a connecting link to all parts of the state, the lower 48 and the world.

**Source: Alaska Regional Profiles, Southcentral Region Vol. 1, Lidia Selkregg, University of Alaska, Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center.*

Alaska Public Forum Participants: Southcentral

	<u>1970 Census Information on Population Distribution¹</u> Southcentral	<u>Alaska Public Forum Participants Population Distribution²</u> Southcentral
<u>Age:</u>		
Under 25	30%	10%
25-34	26%	29%
35-44	21%	21%
45-54	14%	22%
55 and over	9%	18%
<u>Sex:</u>		
Female	45%	36%
Male	55%	64%
<u>Occupation:</u> (Civilian Population) ³		
Professional-Technical	10%	35%
White Collar	20%	23%
Blue Collar	21%	20%
Not in the Civilian Labor Force	49%	22%
<u>Length of Residency in Alaska:</u>		
3 years or less	—	18%
4-10 years	—	29%
over 10 years	—	53%

SOURCE:

1. U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970, General Population of Characteristics, Alaska.

2. Alaska Public Forum Newspaper, demographic information

from 1,633 Southcentral questionnaires

3. Occupational Categories: See Southeast Section.

Alaska Public Forum Meetings:

Southeast

LOCATION	DATE AND TIME	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED	ELECTED OFFICIALS	RESOURCE PEOPLE	GROWTH POLICY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
KETCHIKAN Regional Workshop	Nov. 13-14, 1976 all day—both days	100	18 S.E. communities 21 random selection participants	Gov. Jay Hammond Rep. Terry Gardiner	Department of Health and Social Services Coastal Zone Management	Lowell Thomas, Jr. Frank Homan Leonard Lane Harold Pomeroy
WRANGELL	Nov. 16, 1976 evening	40	1	None	None	Harold Pomeroy
PETERSBURG	Nov. 17, 1976 evening	40	1	Rep. Ernie Haugen	None	Harold Pomeroy
JUNEAU	Nov. 18, 1976 evening	71	1	Gov. Jay Hammond Rep. Jim Duncan	None	Frank Homan Harold Pomeroy
SITKA	Nov. 22, 1976	64	1	Sen. Pete Meland	None	Frank Homan
SKAGWAY	Nov. 23, 1976	6	1	None	None	None
HAINES	Nov. 30, 1976 evening	20	(Klukwan) 2	None	None	Lowell Thomas, Jr.
CRAIG	Dec. 6, 1976	11	1	None	None	None
KLAWOCK	Dec. 7, 1976	12	1	None	None	None
THORNE BAY	Dec. 8, 1976	20	1	None	None	None
ANGOON	Dec. 9, 1976 evening	51	1	None	None	
METLAKATLA	Dec. 13, 1976 evening	12	1	None	None	None
HOONAH	Dec. 14, 1976 evening	2	1	None	None	Leonard Lane

Alaska Public Forum Meetings: North

LOCATION	DATE AND TIME	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED	ELECTED OFFICIALS	RESOURCE PEOPLE	GROWTH POLICY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
KOTZEBUE Regional Workshop	Dec. 4-5, 1976 all day—both days	100	12 Northwest communities 15 random selection participants	Gov. Jay Hammond Sen. Frank Ferguson Rep. Leo Schaeffer	1. Div. of Land 2. Div. of Oil and Gas 3. Div. of Coastal Zone Management	Lowell Thomas, Jr. Frank Homan Leonard Lane Harold Pomeroy Herb Smelcer Diana Tillion
BARROW One-day Workshop	Jan. 29, 1977 all day	34	6 North Slope villages	Lt. Gov. Lowell Thomas, Jr.	1. Div. of Oil and Gas 2. Div. of Coastal Zone Management	Lowell Thomas, Jr. Herb Smelcer
NOME	Nov. 18, 1976 evening	68	1	Rep. Al Nakak	None	Leonard Lane
KIVALINA	Nov. 22, 1976 afternoon	20	1	Rep. Leo Schaeffer	None	None
DEERING	Dec. 2, 1976 afternoon	21	1	None	None	None
SHUNGNAK	Nov. 24, 1976 afternoon	15	1	Rep. Leo Schaeffer	None	None
KOBUK	Nov. 24, 1976 evening	6	1	Rep. Leo Schaeffer	None	None
GAMBELL	Jan. 21, 1977	30	1	None	None	None
STEBBINS	Jan. 27, 1977	28	1	None	None	None
SAINT MICHAEL	Jan. 28, 1977	15	1	None	None	None
UNALAKLEET	Jan. 31, 1977	23	1	None	None	None

Alaska Public Forum Meetings:

Southcentral

LOCATION	DATE AND TIME	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED	ELECTED OFFICIALS	RESOURCE PEOPLE	GROWTH POLICY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
ANCHORAGE Regional Workshop	Jan. 15-16, 1977 all day—both days	Sat. 450 Sun. 520	13 Southcentral communities 30 random selection participants	Gov. Jay Hammond Sen. Chancey Croft Sen. W. E. Bradley Sen. Pat Rodey Sen. Ed Willis Rep. Mike Beirne Rep. Kris Lethin Rep. Lisa Rudd	1. Div. of Lands 2. Div. of Oil and Gas 3. Dept. of Health and Social Services 4. Dept. of Coastal Zone Management	Lowell Thomas, Jr. Mark Boesser Tim Bradner Frank Homan David Klein Leonard Lane Harold Pomeroy
KENAI-SOLDOTNA	Jan. 24, 1977 evening	42	2 Kenai and Soldotna	None	Department of Health and Social Services	Mark Boesser Harold Pomeroy Diana Tillion
HOMER	Jan. 31, 1977 evening	93	1	None	Department of Health and Social Services	Mark Boesser Harold Pomeroy Diana Tillion
PALMER	Feb. 9, 1977 evening	22	1	None	None	Mark Boesser Harold Pomeroy Lidia Selkregg
TALKEETNA	Feb. 16, 1977	45	1	None	None	Mark Boesser



Southeast

"Renewable resources will sustain the state and our emphasis should be on them. Their protection, proper use and future plans for management must be uppermost in our considerations if we're to make it over the long haul."

Petersburg

Q. How should the state use its new oil and gas money in the future?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 446

- 14% Save it
- 6% Loan it to communities
- 4% Loan it for industrial development
- 32% Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
- 4% Loan it to individuals
- 17% Use it for tax cuts for Alaskans
- 14% Use it for revenue sharing and community grants
- 4% Use it for more state services and public facilities
- 6% Other: Not to move the capital, pay off bonds

Meeting Results

1. Loans to develop renewable resource industries
2. Community development either through
 - A. Loans to communities or
 - B. Community revenue sharing and community grants

Clearly, the highest priority for use of the new oil and gas money among people participating in the Public Forum in Southeast was to provide loans to promote renewable resource industries. Although a tax cut for Alaskans appears to be the second choice, it is likely that this second priority position should go to some type of community assistance option, instead. The reason for this assumption is that 1) there was resounding concern by people attending the workshops and meetings for their communities, but 2) people had trouble deciding the best way to go about this and were divided between the options of providing loans to communities or increasing revenue sharing and community grants.

Some people supported one option, others staunchly backed the other but their concern for their communities was the same. With this in mind, it is interesting to combine the two options and in so doing, community needs receive 20 per cent of the count and a slight edge over the tax cut option.

The responses to the questionnaires indicated that people between the ages of 25 and 44 voted most heavily for loans to renewable resources. Those in younger age brackets up to 25 voted to save the money and those over 45 generally were most interested in tax

cuts, even a rather skeptical 55-year-old pulp mill employee from Sitka who said: "It seems to me that I'll never, never see any of this money. But if the state were to cut its income tax, I might. That's what I want."

Loans to Renewable Resource Industries:

The enormous response to this choice as the top priority use of oil and gas revenues, set the tone for the Regional workshop and most of the meetings from Skagway to Metlakatla which were to follow in the Southeast region. As a 29-year-old fisherman from Petersburg said: "Renewable resources will sustain the state and our emphasis should be on them. Their protection, proper use and future plans for management must be uppermost in our considerations if we're going to make it over the long haul."

Loans to Communities:

This choice tied with community revenue sharing and grants for the second highest priority among Ketchikan workshop participants. Many people throughout the region preferred this method of community assistance because the state would be generat-

ing interest on loans at the same time that communities would be benefitting from the money. However, the same people tended to oppose community revenue sharing and community grants, feeling that in essence, the money would produce no return and would disappear like the \$900 million from the Prudhoe Bay lease sale.

Many participants in smaller communities such as Sitka, Petersburg, Wrangell and Skagway supported the idea of loans for communities, particularly for hydroelectric projects and small businesses.

Use it for Community Revenue Sharing and Community Grants:

This option was the other second preference of Ketchikan workshop participants for use of the state's oil and gas monies. People who selected this option usually did so because they felt that loans to communities were inappropriate for areas where there was no tax base to repay loans.

People also felt local communities could best handle their own needs. A 38-year-resident of Wrangell and a self-employed business woman commented that "cities and towns should be given the responsibility of knowing the needs of their local community — no strings attached . . . if local needs are more in one area than another, let them decide."

This option received a large amount of support in community meetings throughout Southeast. Some of the people recommending this answer also pointed out that grants were preferable to revenue sharing because the latter is distributed on a population basis, a hardship for sparsely populated communities.

This option was high among people's priorities in Haines, Angoon, Klawock, Thorne Bay, Metlakatla and Craig.

Tax Cuts for Alaskans:

Tax cuts was ranked third by participants at the Ketchikan workshop but they were not sure whether they loved the idea or hated it. Some felt that it provided a false sense of prosperity leaving the government too dependent on oil and gas revenues which would eventually run out. Others felt that a tax cut was the only way they would ever benefit from the new wealth. Yet others cautioned that this might cause people from the lower 48 to pour into the state to enjoy the tax break.

And so it was with the communities that chose tax

cuts as one of their considerations. Skagway was all for it and Metlakatla was vehemently opposed.

Save it:

This option gained support from Ketchikan workshop participants who suggested that the state save its money for a rainy day. As one Juneauite added, "In Southeast I'm afraid we'd have to do a lot of that." Petersburg supported this idea and made it their first priority. Juneau participants also agreed with this thinking but their suggestion was to increase the size of the Permanent Fund.

Loans for Industrial Development:

This answer did not receive much support among Public Forum participants. "The State *should not* encourage or subsidize industrial development," said a 30-year-old construction worker from Kupreanof who has lived in Alaska for five years. "It should allow industry to grow as needed and feasible within the industry's own ability to do so."

However, industrial development was rated high in several communities such as Haines and Craig where people are experiencing unemployment problems. It should be noted that the use of the term industrial development generally included small-scale industry to support efforts for renewable resources, i.e., lumber mills, canneries, etc.

Other:

Two notable ideas emerged under the classification of "other" suggestions. The first was no surprise. Strings of protests were leveled at the idea of financing the capital move with oil and gas revenues. "We should use our money to benefit people through education, roads, health programs, alcoholism programs, better housing," said a 36-year-old teacher and a seven-year resident of Alaska, and not spend millions or *billions* on unnecessary wasteful things like moving the capital."

Only the people in Angoon supported the move, "providing the state move the capital here," said a young Angoonian. "Otherwise forget it." Almost every community went on record decrying first the move, and second financing it with the oil and gas wealth.

The second suggestion under "other" came up in both Petersburg and Craig when the people in those communities recommended that the state use the oil and gas revenues to pay off its bonded indebtedness.

North

"If the only way to receive grants, revenue sharing funds and other sources of income requires...complying with mountains of regulations and restrictions and considerable time and expertise, then how can a small village hope to obtain its fair share when everyone is busy just trying to stay alive."

Kaktovik

Q. How should the state use its new oil and gas money in the future?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 133

- 15% Save it
- 7% Loan it to communities
- 7% Loan it for industrial development
- 15% Loan it for renewable resource industries
- 2% Loan it to individuals
- 14% Use it for tax cuts
- 27% Use it for revenue sharing and community grants
- 8% Use it for more state services and public facilities
- 6% Other: Services equalized throughout state; oil-producing regions receive larger share of revenues.

Meeting Results

1. Community revenue sharing and grants often including more state services
2. Loans for renewable resources
3. Save it and tax cuts

The general response to Question One throughout the North was to use the oil and gas money for community services which is not surprising for an area as remote and with as few services as this northern part of the state. Like Southeast, the isolation of many villages throughout the North has produced a need for people to be self-sufficient. Yet the introduction of western practices disrupted the independent life style of people in this region and ultimately created a dependency on the state and federal government for new but vital services such as housing, fuel, health care and education.

Community Revenue Sharing and Community Grants:

"Make sure the revenue sharing formula includes pipeline population," a five-year-resident Alaskan from Barrow wrote on the side of her questionnaire. This category of use for the new oil and gas money received the highest rating in both the northern regional meetings and the questionnaire tabulations.

People expressed concern over local control of community programs. "The state should share its role

of providing services with local communities," said a 33-year-old Kotzebue resident. "After all, the state government is not a profit-making corporation."

Coupled with the support of community grants and revenue sharing for local communities was the criticism of revenue sharing procedures. At the Kotzebue regional meeting, people vigorously protested using population figures to determine revenue sharing allocations. "This leaves no room for community needs," commented a young school teacher.

However, a 37-year-old postmaster and mayor of Kaktovik had another complaint. "If the only way to receive grants, revenue sharing funds and other sources of income required not only for basic administration but for any type of improvement, is by complying with mountains of regulations and restrictions which require considerable time and expertise, then how can a small village hope to obtain its fair share when everyone is busy just trying to stay alive."

Participants in Barrow supported the option of community revenue sharing and grants as the best use of the new oil and gas wealth, however they echoed

the reservations, of others over methods of allocating the money. Reacting to this, people suggested that a greater percentage of oil revenues go to communities where oil has been discovered and which, as a consequence, have suffered some impact. This response was often filled in as an "other" on questionnaires from Barrow. Conversely, people in Nome often recommended on their forms that state services should be provided equally throughout Alaska.

Nome, as well as the smaller communities of Kivalina, Shungnak, Gambell, Stebbins, St. Michaels, Koluk and Deering, joined most of the region by selecting the community revenue sharing and grants option as the most important use of oil revenues.

State Services and Public Facilities:

This was often ranked as a second priority for Question one. In rural Alaska, state services are viewed as a complement to revenue sharing and grants. If the two options were combined in the above chart, it would add even more weight to the importance of community development in rural Alaska. Among the supporters of this option were Unalakleet residents who made it their first priority, and St. Michaels, Gambell, Kotzebue, Nome and Barrow people who made it either their second or third choice.

Loans to Renewable Resources:

This was the highest priority for use of oil and gas wealth at the Kotzebue workshop as people spoke up for the preservation of fish and game which participants viewed both as their renewable resource industry and their livelihood. A carpenter in Point Lay who has lived in Alaska for 22 years spoke for many when he said, "I feel more should be done about using the natural resources in the state, such as farming and fishing and it should be done now."

The importance of renewable resources, both as they preserve subsistence activities and contribute to

the growing commercial fishing and reindeer herding industries were widely supported in almost every area of the north, and this was a theme that was to recur throughout each meeting.

A young Barrow Native reaching far back into the history of North Slope people questioned the disappearance of the reindeer industry in that region. "I believe that 'loans to renewable resources' could provide the incentive needed to develop strong support for a reindeer industry in the Arctic Slope for subsistence as well as revenue," he put forth to participants.

The Kotzebue area, through the NANA Native Corporation, has recently resumed the reindeer herding industry. Their efforts drew support for herding in the Northwest from Public Forum participants.

Save it and Tax Cuts:

Save it as an option tied with renewable resources statistically although it was third behind community services and renewable resources in meeting discussion groups. Participants often chose this option out of concern that the state might repeat its experience with the \$900 million from the Prudhoe Bay lease sales.

Participants in Kotzebue generally suggested that the money be saved in banks or government bonds or wisely invested. Several workshop groups recommended that the Permanent Fund should be increased to 50% of oil and gas revenues.

Tax cuts seemed to rick up support in several smaller villages such as Unalakleet and Stebbins and it ranked high in the tabulated questionnaire responses.

Community Loans:

One note on this option. Although some Northern participants favored community loans, it generally ranked lower than in other regions because as people often commented: "In this area we have no tax base from which to repay loans."

Southcentral

"I got to thinking, what good is \$50 in a tax cut for me when all of the Mat Valley could get a hydroelectric plant, or Homer could get some more fish."

Anchorage

Q. A. How should the Permanent Fund money be invested?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 1,633

- 24% Save it
- 13% Loan it to communities
- 13% Loan it for industrial development
- 39% Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
- 9% Loan it to individuals
- 6% Other: Combination of the above

Meeting Results: Anchorage

1. Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
2. Save it
3. Loan it to communities

Outside Anchorage:

1. Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
 2. Loan it to communities
 3. Save it
 4. Tax cuts
-

Q. B. How should the state use its new oil and gas money? (All revenues except those invested in the Permanent Fund.)

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 1,633

- 31% Use it for tax cuts for Alaskans
- 5% Use it for cash payments for Alaskans
- 9% Use it for more community revenue sharing and community grants
- 4% Use it for more state services
- 13% Save it by increasing the Permanent Fund
- 4% Loan it to communities
- 3% Loan it for industrial development
- 19% Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
- 5% Loan it to individuals
- 7% Other:

Meeting Results: Anchorage

1. Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
2. Save it by increasing the Permanent Fund
3. Loan it to communities
4. Use it for more state services

Outside Anchorage:

1. Loan it to develop renewable resource industries
 2. Loan it to communities
 3. Save it by increasing the Permanent Fund
-

Permanent Fund Investment

Loans to Renewable Resource Industries:

The overall theme coming from the Southcentral Public Forum was the people's desire to see more attention placed in the area of renewable resource development. To the Homer residents, that meant using the Permanent Fund monies to rehabilitate the fishing industry and develop the area's farming potential. To the Matanuska-Susitna Valley participants, renewable resource priorities included farming. "Do something about our farmland being whittled away by real estate scalpers and make the land safe to use for long-range farming goals," said one farmer. Valley participants also pointed to game management as a renewable resource need particularly so people could resume some subsistence hunting.

Southcentral respondents who came from the greater Anchorage area, indicated that fishing was their renewable resource priority. Several wanted to see the fishing built up for sport and recreational activities. But, others were sensitive to the needs of commercial fishermen. Many Anchorage participants cited timber, farming and the management of caribou and reindeer to meet the needs of others throughout the state as their reason for supporting Permanent Fund investment in renewable resources.

There appeared to be little rhyme or reason among those who preferred certain investment or spending alternatives. But, the people who had lived in the state under 10 years, favored the investment of the Permanent Fund in renewable resource areas. Those long-time residents (over 10 years) and those over 55 years old voiced their preference for saving the Permanent Fund monies as a first option and they opted for renewable resources as a second alternative for investment.

There was little difference in the priorities selected by men and women, white collar or blue collar workers, or different age groups. However, while Permanent Fund investment for industrial development ranked lowest among the five selections presented, women ranked it lower than men did. Professional and technical people supported investment for renewable resources slightly more than those in blue collar, white collar and nonworking occupational categories.

Other:

It might be interesting to note that those people who marked off "other" generally suggested that the state offer a portfolio of all the options listed above. One Anchorage accountant and investment counselor said the state should not put all its collective eggs in one investment nest "or else we might end up with one big goose egg in our monies-received column."

New Oil and Gas Money Spending

Tax Cuts:

Of all the questions placed before the Southcentral people by the Public Forum, the spending of the oil and gas revenues provided the largest inconsistency

between the voting of people in meetings and those voting on mail-in questionnaires. While people attending the meetings in Anchorage and in the surrounding communities tended to prefer using the money for renewable resources, loans to communities and saving more of the Permanent Fund earnings, the people who sat at home to fill out their questionnaire strongly supported using that money for a tax cut.

At least 62% of more than 1,100 respondents who mailed in their newspaper questionnaires, listed a tax cut among their highest priorities, while only 40% of the 725 people who attended the meetings ranked tax cuts among their top priorities.

A 73-year-old Anchorage woman who attended the regional workshop said she had been tempted to rank the tax cut as her favorite. She went on to write on the side, back and top of her newspaper, "... then I talked with some people in my discussion group and I got to thinking, what good is \$50 in a tax cut for me when all of the Matanuska Valley could get a hydroelectric plant, or Homer could get some more fish. You know, it just didn't make much sense."

Those people who indicated a preference for tax cuts often mentioned that this was how they could touch the oil and gas wealth themselves. The people who came to the meetings, however, were skeptical of tax cuts and direct cash payments to individuals. "It's just another rip-off program where we'll spend bunches of state dollars trying to administer these programs," said a former Kenai Peninsula legislator. "Every Tom, Dick and Jane from outside will be up here to get in on the deal," said an outspoken Homer fisherman.

In defending the tax cut alternative, a Palmer doctor wrote he might be more inclined to support the railbelt's heavy financing of education in the bush, "if there were just one thing where everyone in the state got an equal crack." One young homesteader along the railbelt simply placed 16 exclamation points beside her choice of a tax cut.

Loans to Renewable Resource Industries:

When you look at those options for using the new wealth, the same priorities as those for investment of the Permanent Fund (namely renewable resources followed by saving more money, either through safe investments or greater amounts set aside for the Permanent Fund) ranked after the tax cut alternatives.

In all the local meetings as well as the two-day workshop, Question One drew the most comments and took the most time to discuss, whether the question was placed first on the meeting agenda or last. More than any other question, the participants seemed to feel that here was a control they could exercise. "I know we're talking about more money than I can even conceive of, but if I get to put my two cents' worth in regarding the investment of the state's two billion dollars, then no matter what gets done with it, I'll have the feeling it's more mine," said a retired school teacher who wrote two pages' worth of comments about the Permanent Fund question.



Southeast

"I had an idea that a tax should be put on booze so that people that have to be rehabilitated can help pay their own way. After all, it is a self-inflicted disease, just like if you chopped your toes off with an axe..."

Ketchikan

Q. What human needs do you think are most important?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 355

- 13% Alcoholism
- 6% Children
- 37% Education
- 6% Elderly
- 21% Employment
- 9% Health
- 5% Housing
- 2% Income Maintenance
- 1% Rehabilitation

Meeting Results

1. Education
2. Alcoholism
3. Employment
4. Health

The top five priorities in the area of human needs remain similar throughout southeast Alaska with education consistently the number one concern. Only the second through fifth choices shift around due primarily to the various responses and reactions to the controversial issue of alcoholism.

After education, employment statistically receives the most support. But it should be noted that at meetings, alcoholism usually usurped the second priority position. Like several other Public Forum questions — i.e., land management and oil and gas leasing policies — there are some concerns that become gut-level issues and provoke a strong response at meetings. Alcoholism is such an issue. However, when a person is left to record a vote on the questionnaire, employment moves ahead of alcoholism. And by the time all nine issues are averaged, alcoholism drops to fifth place.

Nonetheless, if we look at both the questionnaire responses and meeting results, it appears safe to say that education, employment and alcoholism were among the top three concerns among the people of Southeast who participated in the Public Forum. The rest of the issues fall in behind these with health first, care of children second, followed by programs for the

elderly, housing, income maintenance and rehabilitation in that order.

It is also interesting that people had some difficulty initially sorting out priorities. Some felt that education was the key to arresting the problems of alcoholism, unemployment, health care, etc. Others felt strongly that employment provided the solution to the problems of almost all the other categories. Still others said if you're not healthy you can't be educated or work. And so it went, implying a basic interdependency — one need upon another.

It is important to point out that people discussing this question felt a need for more information. Although the question was designed to be answered within a personal frame of reference, people rejected this idea and wanted more background. Significantly, this means people generally are uninformed about state services in the area of human needs.

Education:

At the Ketchikan workshop, as in the rest of Southeast, Public Forum participants selected education to head the list of human needs. At the Juneau meeting a young biologist articulated a reason why this

might be the case when he said: "Education really provides an umbrella solution to many of the other human needs. If we start there we can cover other problems at the same time."

In Skagway, the theme switched as people discussed the need for a local university, adult and vocational education classes. Only in Wrangell did people take exception to this issue saying that because education was required by state law it should not be included on this list of human needs.

Alcoholism:

This option had a slight edge over care of children as people's second priority at the Ketchikan Regional Workshop. It was suggested that a tax be placed on alcohol to help cover the cost of rehabilitating the alcoholic. This recommendation was to be repeated over and over again at Public Forum meetings throughout Southeast and other regions around the state. As a middle-aged lumberman said: "I had an idea that a tax should be put on booze so that the people that have to be rehabilitated can help pay their own way. After all, it is a self-inflicted disease, you know, just like if you chopped your toes off with an axe, so I'm boostin' for a tax on booze to help the alcoholic."

The people of Skagway also recommended a tax on alcoholic beverages. In Craig, Public Forum participants specifically expressed the importance of rehabilitation programs, and in Wrangell people criticized efforts that place too little importance on reintegrating the recovered alcoholic into the mainstream of society. People in Petersburg, Haines, Angoon, Sitka and Juneau all placed alcoholism among their top three priorities.

Employment:

Ketchikan workshop participants stressed the need to employ people locally in Alaska, and to design vocational training programs to meet existing job opportunities in the state. Sitka participants echoed this need for realistic employment training, while in Craig, people pointed out that in their community unemployment hardships are aggravated by contractors who bring in employees from other areas to work on projects that should be employing the local people of Craig.

Participants in both Haines and Metlakatla placed employment high on their priority list based on their particular needs. In Haines, the two lumber mills, formerly the town's major employers, had recently closed, leaving many people in the community unemployed. In Metlakatla, residents have always depended on seasonal employment and at the Public Forum meeting they expressed an interest in developing some kind of year-round industry to provide more jobs.

Angoon people also ranked employment high on the list of human need priorities, adding that employment could eliminate a lot of alcoholism problems. As one young woman said: "People usually drink when they

have nothing else to do and job opportunities might turn this around."

Health:

Ketchikan workshop participants centered their health care discussions around poor standards and inadequate delivery service in remote communities.

These criticisms were repeated in the general sense in Juneau, Angoon and Craig meetings, but Thorne Bay and Metlakatla participants cited specific medical care deficiencies in their communities, expressing the need for a health nurse and some kind of clinic.

Care of Children:

This was the other human need area rated second by the people attending the Ketchikan workshop. However, it did not receive as high a ranking in other Southeast meetings. Most of the concern was for more day care facilities. As a 32-year-old woman from Ketchikan commented: "18,000 children under school age in the most crucial years of their lives have working parents in Alaska. Day care should be subsidized as are the schools."

Another Ketchikan participant, a 57-year-old, eight-year resident voiced his concern for better preschools. "Having reared three children . . . we believe programs are needed to teach and stimulate those very young while they are in the age group where they are developing at least 50% of their potential I.Q. . . . our children are our main reason for surviving. We should spare nothing to expand their potential, but new thinking is required."

Juneau Public Forum participants also encouraged that more emphasis be placed on preschool activities while Sitka, Haines and Klawock expressed a concern for day care facilities, the latter stressing that there was a real need in Klawock, particularly in the summer when the cannery is open.

Beyond these areas, the comments begin to become more fragmented. There were some expressions of concern regarding programs for the elderly which if not commonly repeated are worth noting. On the tabulated questionnaire responses, it was the long-time resident Alaskans that indicated a higher priority for programs for the elderly and care of children.

Programs for the Elderly:

Petersburg participants expressed a concern that housing be made available for senior citizens in the communities in which they live so that they will not have to be moved to strange surroundings to have a roof over their heads. "Smaller rest homes for the aged is very important," said a 56-year-old Petersburg woman. "Old people feel, when they leave home and friends, they leave to die."

In Wrangell, participants discussed the independent spirit of Alaska's pioneers and recommended that this be supported by providing employment opportunities for elderly people.

North

"I go with education...I've always said you cannot force human beings but you can lead them — with understanding."

Barrow

Q. What human needs do you think are most important?

A. Questionnaire Results Number of Respondents: 104

- 15% Alcoholism
- 5% Care of Children
- 36% Education
- 4% Programs for the Elderly
- 10% Employment
- 15% Health
- 10% Housing
- 2% Income Maintenance
- 3% Rehabilitation

Meeting Results

1. Education
2. Alcoholism
3. Health
4. Employment

The overall priorities for Question Two at meetings in the North were education, health, alcoholism and employment. Alcoholism again proved to be an erratic issue always ranking high but in some instances, much higher than others.

On the questionnaire tabulations, the issue of alcoholism appears to have gathered its greatest support among younger and blue collar participants. On the other hand, middle-aged people tended to list employment higher among their concerns.

Education:

Throughout the North, education had no competition, capturing the number one priority position among human needs. An elderly Native leader in Barrow explained quietly why he thought education was so important. "I go with education," he said when asked his priorities. "I've always said, you cannot force human beings but you can lead them — with understanding."

In Kotzebue, people voiced expressions of satisfaction with the new independent school districts in the Northwest but accompanied the praise with concern that the funding was not adequate to maintain a high-quality education.

In the North as in other regions, education was viewed as the link to many other human needs. A young Native leader in Kotzebue broadened the education process explaining why it was an important issue to him. "Education is a very high priority but the part that has not been dealt with is that education can

apply to all those programs that you've listed as problems...we're dealing with these issues after the fact. Alcoholism, after the fact, health care after the fact, but with education we can learn about these problems and deal with them before they get out of hand and then, education really becomes a number one priority."

In Barrow, in the same vein, several participants had trouble separating the importance of education and employment. "I can't do it," said one middle-aged engineer. "You can't get employed without having a good education...and a lot of times, if you don't have a job other things don't follow."

In most other communities, from Nome to Deering, participants chose education as their top human need priority. However, in several cases health was listed as the number one concern.

Health:

People in Barrow along with those in Kobuk and Stebbins put health care at the top of their list of human needs. In most of the meetings, the health concerns centered around inadequate village health care, as the man from Point Hope indicated when he told workshop participants in Barrow: "I'm in more of an isolated area so I take health for one [priority] because we're about 170 miles from the Native hospital and at home we got a health aide who only can pass out aspirins and bandages."

People in Kobuk echoed the need for some health facilities for their village isolated at the end of the plane route to the far east of Kotzebue.

Alcoholism:

This was a well-discussed topic in Nome and Kotzebue but did not receive the same attention in the smaller villages with the exceptions of Gambell and Stebbins where people made it their second priority and Barrow, where it was treated as a part of health care. In Kotzebue participants felt so strongly about the issue, they repeated it as a local concern under Question Seven.

Probably the single most important recommendation coming out of the Kotzebue workshop was one suggesting that a tax be placed on alcohol to rehabilitate the alcoholic. A young, Native fisherman from Kotzebue explained his feeling on the tax. "If we had a two- or three-cent tax on a drink . . . the state could conceivably generate revenues of \$4 million in the period of a year. So if we're going to drink, we might as well not only have a tax, but know that it is contributing to alcohol problems. I only wish that we could institute it right away," he added.

There were strong pleas for more staff from people involved in alcohol rehabilitation programs in both Kotzebue and Nome. As a middle-aged woman in Kotzebue said: "Everything that is under Question Two is affected by alcohol. Children don't get to school to get a proper education; we have families that are broken up; we have illness and it is a community problem. One person can't solve it . . . When you have a total of 167 clients and you've got one counselor . . . it's just not realistic to think that one person can handle it."

A woman from Nome echoed this feeling describing the need in the Norton Sound area: "The problems that I've seen are all related to alcoholism. And not only alcoholism but drug abuse in not only Nome and Kotzebue but the outlying villages, also. Just two weeks ago there was a young boy — 13 years old — who was found frozen to death from drinking. First of all, who's selling alcohol to a 13-year-old kid and why aren't the police doing something about it? In Nome," she added, "there are only four people to deal with all these problems."

Employment:

Although this option rated third behind education and housing, the subject prompted very little discussion beyond the statement of need for job opportunities and the general concern that without employment, many people cannot meet their other needs.

Housing:

This subject on the other hand, was the topic of a great deal of discussion as both federal and state housing efforts came under fire at almost every meeting throughout the North. In Kotzebue, participants picked this as the second most important human need priority and went on to cite case after case of shoddy building and unfinished projects.

A middle-aged construction worker summed up his experience: "I hired out to Unalakleet to finish 19

homes there. I looked at the plans first in Anchorage at the ASHA office and I told them that they weren't up to the national standard building codes . . . I'd already been to Selawik and that's the disgrace of disgraces. Twenty-six houses up there and there's not one of them that anybody would ever call a house."

The problem becomes even more severe for elderly people who can't possibly maintain the ASHA houses, indicated a young woman from Nome. Further, she commented: "There's a real need for facilities for people to have some place to go when they are unable to take care of themselves anymore. They are often sent to Pioneer Homes. There they are away from their own culture and their friends. They are away from the foods they are used to. They are away from the dialect and languages they are used to. It is a terrible problem."

Other:

Although there was concern in turn with each of the issues on the needs list, it is probably more significant to note several new areas of discussion.

First, people in several of the communities brought up the problems in the criminal justice system and correctional facilities in the state. A woman in Kotzebue cited the lack of in-state facilities for offenders. "I have a son in jail and I'm very much aware of the needs that are there. How can we help rehabilitate offenders if we take them out of their element, out of their whole life style, often even out of state? They become regressed and there's no way to help them."

In Barrow, a legal aide explained the problem from his perspective. He indicated that "young delinquents are often put in jail because there is no place for them to go. People are forced to spend days in confinement waiting for a hearing and then they have to go to Fairbanks; the child advocacy program is suffering financial setbacks and the villages are in need of help but there is no one to serve them."

Another theme, was the need for efficient management of all the human need programs and more effective outreach into isolated communities. In Nome, participants were so frustrated with the poor service delivery, they repeatedly urged that local programs be managed at the local level rather than in Juneau.

"Quite often there's a lack of outreach for certain social or public assistance programs," a Barrow man observed. "If people in charge of the various programs — education, alcoholism, housing throughout the state are made aware of rural Alaska's needs, perhaps we would receive better services — or receive the services better. Let me put it this way — the problem is outreach."

A young woman in the same community working in the alcoholism program quietly reinforced this idea. On seven different occasions she was notified that employees from Juneau were coming to discuss her program. "Seven times I went to the airport to meet them. They never came and never called to tell me. The needs in rural Alaska just aren't that important to many of the people who run these programs."

Southcentral

"I don't think that there's a person here who wouldn't agree that the kids are our primary renewable resource and I'd always opt to put the dollars there."

Homer

Q. What areas of human need do you feel require the most attention?

A. Questionnaire Results Number of Respondents: 1,618

- 12% Alcoholism
- 6% Care of Children
- 26% Education
- 9% Programs for Elderly
- 27% Employment
- 6% Health Care
- 5% Housing
- 8% Other

Meeting Results: Anchorage

1. Education
2. Health Care
3. Alcoholism
4. Employment

Outside Anchorage:

1. Employment
2. Education
3. Health Care
4. Alcoholism

Education and Employment:

Employment and Education fared far better than the other human need priorities with people from throughout the area. In almost every case, young or old, men or women and one occupational group or another made little difference. These two were the top priorities.

"It's not that education needs a lot of cleaning up," volunteered a participant in the Homer meeting, "but it's from education that we can attack all of those other human needs that you outlined." The woman, a bank assistant, said, "I don't think that there's a person here who wouldn't agree that the kids are our primary renewable resource and I'd always opt to put the dollars there."

In every age group, education was the first or second priority, but the younger a participant was, the more inclined he or she was to make it a higher priority. Those over 45 generally made employment their top priority and education followed as the second choice. Also, the professional-technical workers favored education as their top priority while the blue collar, white collar and nonworkers placed employment first and education second among their choices.

The two top issues jelled for one man, a blue collar worker from Soldotna, who said, "The two of these

things should be one and the same; if you just put more emphasis on vocational education, then you would have more employment potential." Several people from Kenai voiced their concern for the lack of vocational facilities to break the substantial unemployment rate during off-work season when fishing and construction are down.

Education was the number one priority for both the Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula participants (in fact, the priorities in Anchorage and on the peninsula were exactly the same from the first priority to the last). However, the Matanuska Valley residents stressed employment as their top concern while further north in the Susitna Valley, Talkeetna residents put employment at the bottom of the list behind education, alcoholism and crime prevention.

Alcoholism:

Although people in each of the meetings heard a great deal about alcoholism as a human need, it ranked third among people's top concerns. "Sure, there isn't a person here who doesn't feel a bit ashamed about the state's alcoholism problem, but we'll probably see half of you in the bar after this, too," said one Kenai service station attendant.

"The problem is not that we're oblivious to the

situation, but pouring dollars into more rehabilitation programs doesn't strike me as the answer when the present programs aren't making much progress," he continued.

A tax on alcohol was raised independently in almost all of the Southcentral meetings as a good way to meet the increasing expenses of alcoholism programs. People in Homer wanted tighter controls on those who drink and drive, and people in Kenai wanted to put alcohol tax money into recreation and church programs to offer an alternative to drinking.

Interestingly enough, people here in the state for a shorter period of time (under 10 years) and those under 45 were more apt to rank alcoholism as a higher priority compared to older and more seasoned residents.

Health:

Health care appeared to be a major concern among people responding to the mail-in questionnaires. Only at the Homer meeting was it a strong favorite of the group. Yet, in the questionnaire responses, health ranked third, and it was the younger and older people

who gave it the highest rating. The middle-aged participants placed their priorities in other areas.

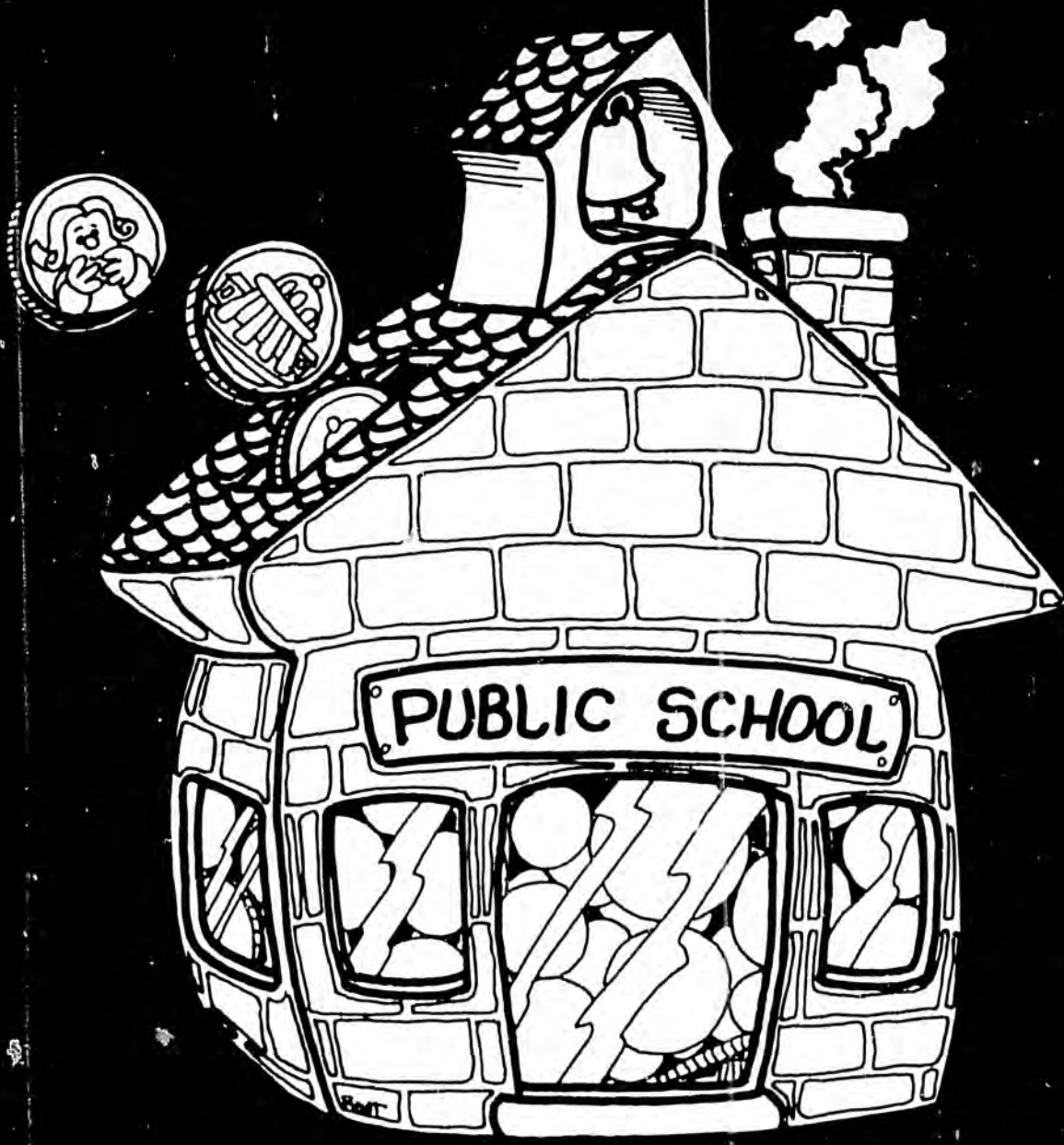
Programs for the Elderly:

Programs for the elderly were a high priority to the older-age participants. As an option it ranked fourth overall but did not fare quite so well at the local meetings where it was seldom mentioned as a priority, sparking one 67-year-old woman to comment at the Old Pioneer Schoolhouse meeting in Anchorage: "You young whippersnappers are all going to be old, someday, you know!"

At which point, a 69-year-old gentleman from Tyonek got up from across the room and retorted, "Yes, maybe that's so, but let's hope that when I get there, alcoholism and employment aren't the problems they are now!"

Other:

Of those people who took time to write out an "other," the vast majority simply put: an efficient management of all the above.



Southeast

"After all, a building is not an education."

Ketchikan

Q. How should public school construction be financed in both organized and unorganized boroughs?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 464

- 26% 100% State funding from the General Fund
- 9% 100% State funding from a statewide sales tax
- 17% Local property taxes in all areas and supplemental funding where needed
- 39% Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas
- 9% Other: Local participation

Meeting Results

1. Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas.

Question Three provided interesting discussions in the meetings because generally no one seemed to care for the options offered. Although participants ultimately chose to continue the present system of financing school construction moving toward local participation whenever possible, many new ideas were brought up before making this selection. It is not clear if these ideas emerged because people didn't want to select one of the existing answers or because they did not understand the issue as it was stated.

First, as a frame of reference, it is important to note that people in Southeast towns very early created municipalities to handle community affairs at the local level. This included their schools — both the construction and operation of them. Only several small villages such as Angoon, Thorne Bay and Metlakatla still look to the state for all their operational and construction needs.

What this means in Southeast for Question Three is that with the exception of those towns just mentioned, most of the communities are paying 50% of the construction costs of their schools through local property taxes in the same way that major boroughs such as Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks pay for theirs.

In this light then, it is interesting to note that throughout Southeast, the two options most often chosen were first, to continue the present system and second, fund construction from the General Fund.

In Ketchikan, out of six workshop groups, three of them chose to continue the present system of financing school construction; two groups chose 100% funding from the General Fund and one group suggested that there be local participation on a sliding scale. The group spokesperson explained the latter idea this way "for those who could afford it, construction would be funded 50% by the state and 50% by the local community. This rate would change based on the ability of a community to pay and could reach funding levels of 90% from the state and 10% from the local community, if needed."

This same type of solution was recommended by participants at the Juneau meeting but there the figures ranged from 0 to 20% from the local community depending on its financial capabilities and 80 to 100% from the state. All other options were rejected in favor of the sliding scale method. "Small communities should pay for their schools and improvements on a percentage basis," a 25-year-old secretary from Juneau wrote on her questionnaire.

In Ketchikan, despite the range of options, almost every group felt that there should be some sort of local involvement but no one provided any solutions. "Perhaps in the future," said a middle-aged realtor, "rural areas will be in a better financial position to participate than they are now."

Ketchikan participants also spoke out clearly against

the statewide sales tax. This was echoed in Wrangell. However, both Petersburg and Haines suggested it as a possible second option.

Other interesting ideas came out of the community meetings in Southeast. For example, Wrangell people suggested that the state should set standards for a basic school building and pay for its construction 100%. Any additional facilities or new rooms would be paid by the community.

In Petersburg and Sitka, participants had a difficult time reaching a consensus although Sitka people did feel that the state should provide education for those communities which cannot pay for it themselves.

Conversely, Skagway felt that the unorganized borough should start assuming some of its own costs. If this couldn't be done, the boarding home method of sending students to urban areas for high school should be resumed.

In Haines, participants suggested that resource revenues could cover school construction costs, a thought brought up later in other regions. On the other hand, "School funding should be on a fair tax base," offered a Haines welder and five-year resident of Alaska. "Only 100% from the General Fund will do this. Then everybody pays equally."

From a Juneau resident, a 26-year old air traffic controller, comes the suggestion to use the capital move monies. "Are the benefits of a capital move worth the costs? The finances poured into such a project . . . the billions of dollars could build our 126 high schools we need so much."

Veering off the subject of financing methods and on to educational needs, Southeast participants proposed some interesting ideas. For example, a participant at the Ketchikan workshop opened up the possibility of improving correspondence courses as a means of limiting the number of new schools in areas with only a few children. "After all, he said, 'a building is not an education.'"

This recommendation drew comments pro and con as people jockeyed around with the merits of correspondence courses. Many women in the room had brought up their children on these courses in logging camps and although some favored the method, others seemed to feel that schooling is more than just books and homework. As one woman, formerly of Thorne Bay, commented, "School involves, among other experiences, children relating to each other."

The people in Craig also felt the building was not the important issue but went on to suggest that when school construction is necessary, it should modestly fit community needs and not try to meet inapplicable and extravagant federal standards.

Metlakatla provided another alternative to constructing new buildings, suggesting that the state make use of its satellite communications system to provide schooling for students in small, isolated communities.

However, none of these comments get to the heart of the question and when all the suggestions are put aside, the majority opinion remains to continue the present system of financing school construction, with a qualifying clause reading — until local participation becomes a realistic option.



North

"Public school operation and construction should be funded on a statewide basis equal for all areas, not unequal as it is now because of property taxes."

Nome

Q. How should public school construction be financed in both organized and unorganized boroughs?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 127

- 44% 100% state funding from the General Fund
- 8% 100% state funding from a statewide sales tax
- 19% Local property taxes in all areas and supplemental funding where needed
- 23% Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas
- 6% Other; oil and gas revenues

Meeting Results

1. 100% Funding from the General Fund

The clear majority for Question Three in the North was to provide 100% state funding from the General Fund for school construction in both the organized and unorganized boroughs. As a 16-year Alaska resident and civil engineer in Nome suggested: "Public school operation and construction should be funded on a statewide basis equal for all areas, not unequal as it is now because of property taxes."

However, it is interesting to note that on the tabulated questionnaires, newcomers to Alaska chose option 4 — continue the present system — by 43%.

100% State Funding from the General Fund:

In Kotzebue, participants at the Public Forum regional workshop urged 100% state funding from the General Fund for both construction and operation in order to provide, as one older participant said: "Equal educational programs in both urban and rural places in Alaska."

People also suggested that the state should, in the words of a young woman, "Lend an ear to the local school boards when determining the quality and specific needs for each school."

Both Nome and Barrow repeated the priorities established in Kotzebue. In Barrow, there was a great deal of discussion about the high costs involved in building schools in rural Alaska. It was pointed out that a school with a gymnasium, kitchen facilities and

a space for school health services costs about \$4.5 million for approximately 120 children in the North Slope. Participants in general were concerned that even the taxes collected by the borough from Prudhoe Bay, could not cover these excessive costs.

A young man from the North Slope Borough commented, "I would go for an educational system which is 100% funded by the state with 100% local control . . . it's the type of educational system we need 'cause we have so many cross-cultural types of experiences."

Finally, people in smaller village meetings throughout the northern regions supported the choices of people in the regional centers and in almost every instance felt that school construction should be financed 100% through state funds.

Statewide Sales Tax:

This option was discussed and dismissed as an unsatisfactory solution throughout the region. There was strong opposition to this choice in Kotzebue as participants discussed the inequities of a tax that makes no allowance for income levels. People suggested that more affluent residents often order goods from outside and these people would not be sharing in a sales tax burden.

There was also negative reaction in Nome where people commented that "village property and sales taxes would not generate enough revenue to build very

much in this part of the state."

In Barrow, a woman indicated that she would rather have an increase in her income tax than a sales tax at which point another participant recommended looking at the new wealth the state would receive from oil and gas revenues and stop thinking about taxation. (It should be noted here that most of those people in the North who marked "other" for an answer generally recommended using oil and gas revenues for school

construction.)

Continue the Present System:

This option was suggested by the people in Stebbins, St. Michaels and Unalakleet, all of whom have schools run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Consequently, these communities are not directly involved in the state school system or the problem of financing school construction in their communities.

Southcentral

"I have the feeling I'm paying more than my share but I don't think I've ever griped about it. Consider this fair warning that I'll be watching in the future."

Anchorage

Q. How should school construction be financed in both organized and unorganized boroughs?

A. Questionnaire Results

Number of Respondents: 1,633

- 12% 100% state funding from the General Fund
- 14% 100% state funding from a statewide sales tax
- 22% Local property taxes in all areas and supplemental funding where needed
- 32% Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas
- 20% Other; oil and gas revenues

Meeting Results: Anchorage

1. Other.
2. Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas.
3. Local property tax.

Outside Anchorage:

1. Continue the present system which provides for property taxes plus supplemental state funding in organized areas, and 100% state funding in unorganized areas.
2. Local property tax.
3. Other.

The people who did the most to influence the results of this question were the participants who mailed their questionnaires in from their own homes. A substantial 32 per cent wanted to keep things the way they are now. As one homesteader who lives in the Mat-Su Borough wrote: "I guess the present system must be all right, as I don't really remember feeling a big pinch."

The same thoughts were echoed by an Anchorage businessman on his questionnaire, "I have the feeling I'm paying more than my share, but it can't be that outrageous as I don't think I've ever griped about it. Consider this fair warning that I'll be watching in the future, however."

The people who most preferred to continue the present system of financing the cost of school con-