

What is the Law?

Under the terms of the Capital Relocation Initiative, each potential capital site had to meet certain requirements with respect to size, location, access, and availability of the land. The Initiative required that all sites be located west of Meridian 141° west longitude (commonly known as Western Alaska) and at a distance beyond a 30-mile radius of Anchorage and Fairbanks. All sites were to consist of not less than 100 square miles of land owned by or available to the State at no cost. The Initiative further required that sites were to be chosen with due regard to accessibility by road, railroad, 24-hour airline service, and have terrain suitable for airport construction.

The capital site selection process was to be directed by a nine member Capital Site Selection Committee selected from every major geographic region of the State, and to also include the Commissioner of Natural Resources. This Committee was charged with selecting not more than three potential Capital sites by December 11, 1975.

The voters of Alaska are to choose from among these three sites the site of the new capital in the 1976 election. The Initiative requires that the public be involved in the capital site selection process through public hearings to be held in every judicial district of the State. The move to the new capital is to begin no later than October 1, 1980.



The election

In the 1976 election, you will be asked to go to the polls and choose one site from the three presented on the ballot. (As the Initiative reads "the site receiving the greatest number of votes...will become the new capital site.") This decision will affect generations of Alaskans to come. Because of the importance and long-term effect of this historic vote we urge you to carefully read this supplement and the information contained in the Voter Information Handbook prior to the election. Even if you voted against the Capital Relocation Initiative, we urge you to become a part of this important decision.



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