

Guide to the Annexation Process



ANNEXATIONS
City of Clovis

The City Welcomes New Citizens

Becoming a resident of the Clovis community offers citizens a number of advantages. Annexation to the City of Clovis provides an opportunity to share existing, efficient public services as well as allowing for a more extensive involvement in City and community affairs.



A major advantage of living in Clovis is the service and protection offered by the municipal police and fire departments. The Clovis Police Department provides fast and courteous service responses to citizens in

need of police services. In addition, the Police Department offers diligent law enforcement and greater patrol presence. A strong Neighborhood Watch program and special services to youth in the community are also offered by the Police Department.

The Clovis Fire Department provides quick responses to citizens in need of fire protection or emergency medical care. Regular service by the Clovis Fire Department will include the advantage of better fire service during summer months when traditionally, county district protection is reduced in urban areas when units patrol for fires in wildland areas. In addition to education programs offered in public schools, the Fire Department also offers Clovis citizens ongoing CPR training programs.



New City residents can immediately receive other City services such as Round-up public transportation (for seniors and disabled residents) and Stageline general public transportation with direct connection to Fresno Area Express (FAX). Solid waste collection street sweeping, recycling, greenwaste pickup, and public improvements are available upon annexation.

Annexation allows residents of the Clovis community to enjoy not only the above services, but also the real



involvement in the working of the City. Citizens are encouraged to attend the regular City Council and Planning Commission meeting held at the City's centrally located Civic Center. These meetings are designed to allow every citizen in the community the opportunity to be involved in important issues and a chance to speak up

An Overview of the Annexation Process

The City of Clovis considers annexation to the City beneficial both to prospective residents of Clovis and to the City. Annexations are however, subject to legal procedures and policy guidelines established to ensure orderly City growth and the efficient provision of service to new City residents and to remaining County residents.



Proposals for reorganization are subject to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, and to review by the Fresno County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). A LAFCO has been established in each county of California to serve as an impartial body responsible for overseeing the formation and boundary changes of cities and special districts. LAFCO is required by state law to review and make determination of approval or denial of all annexations or other changes of organization to cities and special districts.

The act of reorganization transfers political jurisdiction for an area from one local government agency to another. Reorganizations are characterized as either uninhabited (less than 12 registered voters) or inhabited (12 or more registered voters). An annexation to a city that includes detachment from special districts located in the county is called reorganization. Annexations to the City of Clovis involve detachment of the area to be annexed from Fresno County Fire Protection District and the Kings River Conservation District and are therefore, entitled “reorganizations.”

How Property is Annexed

Property owners interested in having their property annexed to Clovis should direct any questions to Ryan Burnett, Associate Planner at (559)324-2340. City staff will discuss the details of the annexation process and the proposal. During this initial discussion, City staff will assist the applicant in determining the prospects for City and LAFCO approval of the annexation and review the annexation application processing fees. Each annexation proposal can be unique, and there are a number of factors that can effect the prospects for gaining approval. Generally, the annexation proposal will be reviewed for compliance with the following:

1. The property must be located within the City’s Sphere of Influence and be contiguous to the existing City limits;
2. A majority of the property owners in the proposal area must consent, in writing, to the annexation.
3. Urban services must be adjacent to the property or there must be a commitment, as demonstrated in the service plan for the property, to make such urban services available to the property within three years; and
4. The proposal encourages orderly urban expansion, is needed to meet growth needs of the community, and does not create isolated City service areas or county islands.

Once a property owner has expressed interest in annexation, City staff may survey adjacent property owners in the general area to determine if there is broad interest in annexing a larger area. The City initiates contact through a letter explaining the benefits derived from annexation to Clovis. If necessary, a meeting may be scheduled between the property

owners and City staff to allow for questions and answers about the proposal and the annexation process in general.

Public hearings to make decisions about annexations are held by the Local Agency Formation Commission. Notices for these public hearings are the responsibility of LAFCO. LAFCO may be contacted at 2115 Kern Street, Suite 310, Fresno, CA 93721, (559) 495-0604.

Thank you for your interest in annexing to the City of Clovis. The City of Clovis strives to provide its citizens with superior service consistent with its vision statement, which is as follows:

A City that is committed to the Clovis Community Family, their needs, their values, and a quality way of life for all; reflecting that commitment in how it develops and in the activities it undertakes.

For More Information, Please Contact Us:

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