



November 2013

Boulevard/I-5 Area Annexation

The City is using the “Inter-local Agreement Method” of annexation – what does that mean?

First, a little bit of background....

The state law on annexation provides citizens and local governments several different options. In fact, there are currently 10 different types of annexation process:

- Election Method, Initiated by Ten Percent Petition.
- Election Method, Initiated by Resolution.
- The Sixty Percent Petition Annexation Method.
- Alternative Petition Annexation Method.
- Annexation for Municipal Purposes (RCW 35A.14.300).
- Annexation of Federally Owned Areas.
- Annexation of Unincorporated Islands.
- Alternative Unincorporated Island-Inter-local Method of Annexation.
- *Inter-local Agreement Annexation of Area Served by Fire District(s)*.
- Boundary Line Adjustments

Highlighted in *italics*, above, is the method the City of Olympia is using for the I-5/Boulevard Road annexation. The state law that spells out this method can be found at **RCW 35A.14.480**. For a thorough understanding of this process we encourage you to review the RCW. However, as a summary, some key features of the inter-local method are:

1. The City initiates this process by contacting the local fire district and the county to announce its desire to annex the territory and to ask the Fire District and County to enter into an inter-local agreement.
2. The Fire District and County have 45 days to respond to the City’s request. If either the Fire District or the County object to the City’s request, then the inter-local agreement cannot be used. If there is no response at all in the 45 day time period, then that counts as a “yes” and the City can proceed to work with the County and Fire District to finalize an agreement.
3. The City, Fire District and County draft an inter-local agreement that establishes what their respective roles and responsibilities will be after the territory is annexed.
4. Once an inter-local agreement is agreed upon by all the parties, the City Council holds a

hearing and decides whether to annex the area.

Can You Vote on this Annexation?

The inter-local agreement method does not have a voting process. However, you can comment to the elected official of all three entities and at the City's public hearing.

Why is the City Using this Method?

Although the City currently could use the direct petition method, which requires petitions from owners of greater than 50% of the land in the area as measured by assessed value, the inter-local agreement method is the most efficient and least costly to our taxpayers.

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