



Planning & Community Development
1812 Main Street
P.O. Box 257
Lake Stevens, WA 98258

August 31, 2020

RE: Notice of Proposed City Annexation (LUA2020-0117) and September 21 Public Meeting

Dear Property Owner:

The city of Lake Stevens has long had a goal to create “One Community Around the Lake.” As part of this effort, Lake Stevens has initiated an interlocal annexation process with Snohomish County to annex your neighborhood into the city, and has scheduled a public meeting on September 21 to provide information and answer questions about the proposed annexation (see opposite side for more information on the meeting).

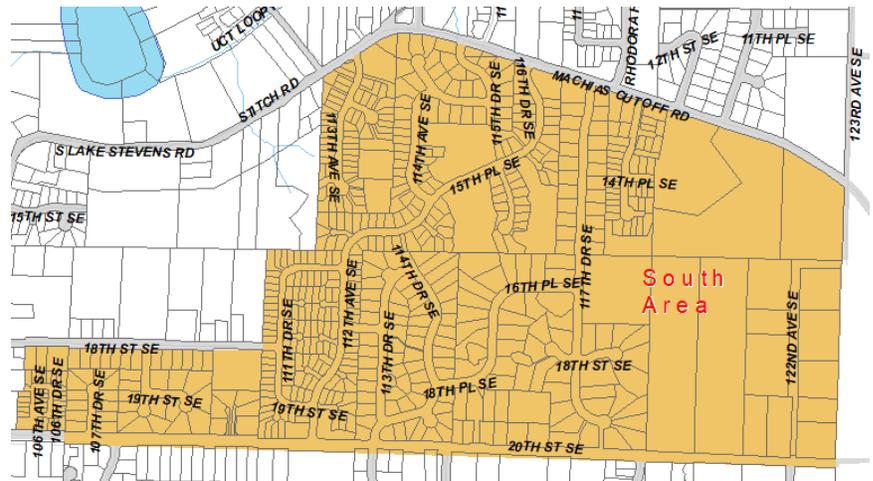
Annexations through Interlocal Agreement

In March 2020, the Washington state legislature passed Senate Bill 5522, which created a new annexation method that allows cities to annex unincorporated areas within their Urban Growth Area (UGA) pursuant to an interlocal agreement (ILA) between the city and the county. Since October 2005, the city and Snohomish County have had a master ILA that addresses certain actions related to annexation within the city’s UGA. This ILA will supplement that document and address a variety of topics specific to this area, including the transfer of county infrastructure and facilities for roads, surface water, stormwater, lake management, and parks. On July 14, 2020, the Lake Stevens City Council passed Resolution 2020-017, initiating the Southeast Interlocal Annexation.

As required by SB 5522, the city provided written notice of the proposed annexation to the local fire district (Snohomish County Fire District 7), sewer district (Lake Stevens Sewer District), and water district (Snohomish County PUD), and offered them the opportunity to contest the annexation and/or join as a party to the ILA. None of the districts elected to oppose the annexation, and the sewer district and fire district have opted to join as parties to the ILA. The proposed annexation would have no impact on fire services (the entire area is already served by the fire district), while the sewer district will be extending its service area to match the annexation boundaries and is currently analyzing how and when it might expand future sewer service in the area.

Southeast Interlocal Annexation (LUA2020-0117)

The proposed annexation covers two areas on either side of the Rhodora Heights area and would also annex the entirety of the lake. The north area includes approximately 260 acres west of 123rd Ave SE north to the existing city boundary near 8th St NE, while the south area includes approximately 240 acres west of 123rd Ave SE between Machias Cutoff Road and 20th St SE. Both areas are currently developed with primarily single-family homes. In November 2019, the City Council adopted Comprehensive Plan and zoning land use pre-designations for the areas which most closely matched the existing county designations.



Public Meeting

The City will hold a public information meeting on September 21, 2020, at 6:30 pm via the Zoom online platform (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82955785478>; Meeting ID 829 5578 5478; phone option 253-215-8782). The meeting will cover the annexation process and timeline, how public services will be provided, and any financial impacts. Representatives from the fire district and sewer district along with city staff and police will be attendance. The city and county will hold a joint public hearing in the future; details will be provided at a later date.

Attached is an annexation fact sheet that provides information about Lake Stevens and the benefits of annexing into the city. More information about the annexation can be found on the project website (<https://www.lakestevenswa.gov/491/Annexation>) including the attached fact sheet, information on the process, and the proposed zoning designations. If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to submit comments, please contact me by email (dlevitan@lakestevenswa.gov) or phone (425-622-9425). City Hall is closed to the public until further notice, so email is currently the best option for a timely response.

Regards,

David Levitan

David Levitan, AICP