

Annexation Task Force Open House

Summary of Public Comments

The following list contains a summary of the comments received at the Annexation Task Force Open House held on September 13, 2017.

- Provide a timeframe for when annexations will occur for each neighborhood or individual property. Address each one separately.
- Neighborhoods that are developed and self-maintained should be left as they are and never be annexed. They have all the services they need already.
- Shopping by those living outside the city is done in Sioux Falls and they pay all of the taxes everyone else pays.
- There should be a cost/benefit analysis completed prior to a vote on an annexation by the City Council that highlights the costs and benefits for both parties; the City and the property owner.
- Older subdivisions created prior to joint jurisdictional powers and agreements between the city and county, should be exempt from being annexed.
- There should be more discussion about water and sewer costs.
- Septic systems are superior to the city's sanitary sewer system. Property owners should be allowed to keep their septic systems.
- Who will provide fire service after annexation but before fire hydrants?
- The annexation process is confusing. Provide a flow diagram of the process to send to property owners.
- The City should be able to enter into an agreement with unannexed property owners, stating it will not annex a specific area for a defined number of years or even not at all.
- Provide better guidelines for city councils and citizens to know when a forcible annexation will be triggered. Also, better define what those triggers are.
- Better define the word "development" as it relates to triggers for a forced annexation.
- Annexation will result in some property owners having to sell their property due to the high cost.
- The City should pay for any property restoration costs.
- The property owner should not have to bear the costs of sidewalks if they are required by someone other than the property owner.
- Factors that initiate the requirement of sidewalks should be specified.
- Costs associated with required infrastructure should be fully funded by the City as well as maintenance.