

CITY OF LA GRANDE
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2978
SERIES 2001

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA GRANDE, OREGON,
ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ANNEXATION OF LAND BY
PETITION TO THE CITY OF LA GRANDE**

WHEREAS, annexation is the first step in converting urbanizable lands to urban land within the La Grande Urban Growth Boundary and, as such, annexation is an important part of the process of providing for timely and orderly urban growth; and,

WHEREAS, annexation and subsequent development may provide economic and social benefits to the City of La Grande through the creation of housing, business and commercial enterprise, creation of construction and permanent jobs and expansion of the City's tax base; and,

WHEREAS, State law permits cities to annex upon proper petition and consent from the owners and electors of the territory in question; and,

WHEREAS, the City must determine if the territory proposed for annexation is eligible to be annexed; and,

WHEREAS, the City must determine that the timing of any proposed annexation is appropriate considering the extent to which municipal services and infrastructure can be logically, economically, and efficiently provided;

THE CITY OF LA GRANDE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Application for Annexation.

The petitioner for annexation shall complete an application form provided by the Community Development Department Planning Division. The application fee, established by Resolution of the City Council, shall be paid before the application is deemed complete. The application shall also include:

- A. A map demonstrating that the proposed annexation is contiguous to the City.
- B. A legal description of the land proposed to be annexed. Lengthy metes and bounds legal descriptions shall be provided in Microsoft Word compatible format.
- C. Names and ages of all residents and list of registered voters in the proposed annexation area.
- D. Current assessed valuation of land and improvements as shown on the current Union County Assessor's tax rolls.
- E. Addresses of all parcels within the proposed annexation area.
- F. Consent to Annexation forms, in a form provided by the City, with notarized signatures of all property owners and electors within the proposed annexation area.
- G. A narrative statement of facts regarding the availability, capacity and status of existing water, sewer, storm drainage, transportation, parks and other City services that would be provided to the annexed area.
- H. A narrative statement of facts regarding any increased demand on City services listed above that would result from the proposed annexation, whether additional

facilities are needed and, if so, how such will be financed and when these facilities will be available for use.

- I. A narrative statement of facts regarding the public need for the uses which are existing or anticipated on the land proposed for annexation.

SECTION 2: Application Procedure.

Annexation is a land use decision and is subject to applicable provisions of the City of La Grande Land Development Code and Oregon Statutes (ORS) and Administrative Rules (OAR). In addition, the procedures below shall be followed:

- A. Annexation petitions shall first be presented to the City Council. If the City Council feels that the annexation proposal has merit, it may accept the petition by Resolution and refer the proposal to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation.
- B. The Planning Commission shall conduct a public hearing after notification of all property owners within two hundred feet (200') of the boundaries of the proposed annexation. The Planning Commission shall review the proposal for compliance with the annexation policies contained in this Ordinance and make a recommendation to the City Council.
- C. Upon receipt of the Planning Commission recommendation, the City Council shall conduct a public hearing and consider an Ordinance declaring the requested lands to be annexed to the City of La Grande.

SECTION 3: Annexation Criteria.

Lands may be annexed only if the City Council finds that the following criteria are met:

- A. The property is contiguous to the City limits.
- B. The property is located within the City's Urban Growth Boundary.
- C. The annexation meets at least one of the following purposes:
 1. To serve lands needing City water or sewer to alleviate a present or potential health hazard;
 2. To provide land to accommodate future urban development;
 3. To provide land for provision of needed transportation or utility facilities; or
 4. To ensure that lands adjacent to the City are developed in a manner consistent with City standards.
- D. The petitioner has adequately addressed infrastructure supply and demand issues. The annexation is considered timely in that an adequate level of urban services and infrastructure can be provided upon annexation or a plan is in place for the provision of such services or infrastructure in a reasonable period of time.

SECTION 4: Size of Annexation.

The City prefers to consider annexation of larger areas versus small, single parcels. The City Council may reject an annexation petition if the petitioner cannot demonstrate that an effort was made to solicit participation from surrounding property owners.

SECTION 5: Health Hazard Annexations.

The City shall annex those areas constituting a State-declared health hazard in accordance with State law, taking into consideration the ability of the City to provide necessary services.

SECTION 6: Other Methods of Annexation.

This Ordinance shall not limit the ability of the City of La Grande to annex territory by other means available in State law, such as but not limited to the Urban Service Provider Annexation.

SECTION 7: Filing of Annexation Records.

The City shall report all changes in the boundaries of the City to the Union County Clerk, Union County Assessor, utility service providers and the Secretary of State as required by State law.

SECTION 8: Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its adoption by the City Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon and its approval by the Mayor; specifically, July 6, 2001.

ADOPTED this Sixth (6th) day of June 2001, by _____ (____) of _____ (____) Councilors present voting therefor.

APPROVED this Sixth (6th) day of June 2001.

Colleen F. Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Alexandra Norgan Lund
City Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

_____ for
Ricker and Roberson
Legal Counsel for the City of La Grande