



JOIN THE CITY

*City of Charleston, South Carolina
Department of Planning, Preservation, and Sustainability*

What is annexation?

It is the process of transferring parcels of land from unincorporated areas of a county into the service area and jurisdiction of a city. It comes with many benefits detailed in this flier.

Who is eligible?

Any property in West Ashley contiguous or “touching” a city boundary or across a street or waterway from a city boundary is eligible. You can check on-line on our GIS page or contact the City to request eligibility status.

Why should I annex?

By annexing into the City you will gain the ability to steer the future of the area by being eligible to vote in City elections as well as County, and State elections. This will also help to keep the costs of services low by increasing efficiency of services to the area. Some other benefits are:

Reductions in

- *Water and Sewer Rates from CWS*
- *Property Tax Rates and Credits*
- *City of Charleston Recreation Fees*

Additional Access to

- *Stormwater Services*
- *Police and Fire Services*
- *Curbside Garbage Pick Up*
- *Road and Sidewalk Maintenance*

ANNEXATION PROCESS

1. Contact the City about eligibility to annex.
2. Submit an annexation application (petition) to request bringing your property into the City. You may discuss with City Planning staff your preference for a specific zoning district (typically Single-Family Residential if you are annexing your home) for your property.
3. City staff will prepare your annexation petition and place it on the agenda of the next available meeting of City Council where they will discuss and approve the request. The request must then go to a second meeting of Council to be ratified; at which time the property will officially be a part of the City.
4. You will receive a letter from the City detailing your new services and contact information for City departments and elected officials. The City will notify utilities and other jurisdictions about the annexation. Within a month or two, you will see a decrease in your CWS water/sewer bill. Property tax reductions will not be reflected until the subsequent year's tax bills are issued by Charleston County.
5. After annexing, the Planning Commission will hear the request for zoning the property and make a recommendation to City Council. City Council will review the recommended zoning district and vote on it at two separate meetings before it is finalized. The total time for an annexation and zoning is typically about two (2) months.

Contact Information: annex@charleston-sc.gov | 843.724.3789 | www.charleston-sc.gov/join