

TO: General Government Committee
FROM: Gary Cooper, Local Planning Solutions, and Brad Medrud, Planning Manager
DATE: April 13, 2022
SUBJECT: Ordinance No. O2022-001, Eleven County Island Annexations

1) Recommended Action:

Review the eleven County island annexations ordinance and schedule discussion of the ordinance with the City Council at their April 26, 2022 worksession.

2) Background:

Tumwater has twelve unincorporated “islands” within the City limits. These islands were formed over the last century as annexations occurred and some parcels were left out of the annexation for one reason or another. These parcels were usually excluded because the owner did not want to annex at that time. These islands continue to exist because there was no method available to annex them without a willing owner. The islands range in size from a single quarter acre residential lot to over a hundred acres. The largest island, Trospen Lake, has several hundred residents.

In 2020, the Washington Legislature enacted a new annexation process (Engrossed Senate Substitute Bill 5224) into that law specifically to address the issue of County islands, and City will be using this process for these annexations. This new legislation allows the City to annex County islands by entering into an Interlocal Agreement with the County.

The County Board of Commissioners and the City Council held a joint hearing on January 18, 2022 to approve an Interlocal Agreement setting out the process for annexing all twelve islands. The City Council approved the Interlocal Agreement on January 18, 2022 and the County Board of Commissioners approved the Interlocal Agreement on January 25, 2022.

Notice of Intent applications for the twelve annexations were submitted to the Boundary Review Board for Thurston County on February 16, 2022, by the City of Tumwater Thurston County Boundary Review Board Notice of Intent process.

The Boundary Review Board for Thurston County approved the waivers of the 45-day period allowed for the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board to be invoked and returned nine of the twelve annexations to the City of Tumwater for final action on March 7, 2022. The nine annexations included the following:

1. 984 Liberty Street Annexation
2. Dennis Street Annexation
3. Linwood Avenue Annexation
4. Pioneer Street North Annexation
5. Pioneer Street South Annexation
6. Quince Street North Annexation
7. Quince Street South Annexation
8. Rural Road South Annexation
9. Sapp Road Annexation

The Boundary Review Board for Thurston County returned the remaining three annexations to the City of Tumwater for final action on April 4, 2022 after the 45-day period allowed for

the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board to be invoked was completed. The three annexations included the following:

1. Liberty Street Annexation
2. Rural Road North Annexation
3. Trosper Lake Annexation

The next step in the process will be consideration and approval of the "Eleven County Islands" annexation ordinance for the following eleven annexation areas:

1. 984 Liberty Street Annexation
2. Dennis Street Annexation
3. Linwood Avenue Annexation
4. Pioneer Street North Annexation
5. Pioneer Street South Annexation
6. Quince Street North Annexation
7. Quince Street South Annexation
8. Rural Road South Annexation
9. Sapp Road Annexation
10. Liberty Street Annexation
11. Rural Road North Annexation

A second ordinance for the Trosper Lake Island annexation will be considered by the City Council later in the spring of 2022.

3) Policy Support:

City Council Goal: Annex the unincorporated islands to enhance public safety.

County-Wide Planning Policy III: Promotion of Contiguous and Orderly Development, Provision of Urban Services, and Protection of Rural Areas

Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element Policy LU-2.4: Ensure new annexations adhere to the goals and policies of the City's Annexation Policy.

4) Alternatives:

☐ None

5) Fiscal Notes:

This is an internally funded work program item

6) Attachments:

- A. Ordinance No. O2022-001, Eleven County Island Annexations
- B. Exhibit "A" of Ordinance O2022-001 – Legal Descriptions and Maps for the "Eleven County Islands"
- C. Exhibit "B" of Ordinance O2022-001 – Interlocal Agreement between the City of Tumwater and Thurston County, Related to the Annexation of County Islands Located within the Surrounding Jurisdictions of the City
- D. Presentation