



Snohomish County

Planning and Development Services

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

Councilmember Jared Mead, District 4, Council Chair
Councilmember Nate Nehring, District 1, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Megan Dunn, District 2
Councilmember Strom Peterson, District 3
Councilmember Sam Low, District 5

Dave Somers
County Executive

VIA:

Michael McCrary, Director
Planning and Development Services

FROM:

Eileen Canola, Senior Planner
Planning and Development Services

SUBJECT: Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the County Executive to Enter into an Annexation-Specific Interlocal Agreement with the City of Monroe

DATE: November 14, 2024

PURPOSE

The attached ordinance would authorize the County Executive to enter the annexation-specific interlocal agreement (ILA) with the City of Monroe (City) to address the orderly transition of responsibilities and services for the proposed Monroe 30 Annexation. The County and City currently do not have a master annexation interlocal agreement (MAILA) in effect. The most recent MAILA between the City and County expired on December 31, 2022.

BACKGROUND

As the County and City lack a MAILA to guide the transition of jurisdiction and services, the attached ILA titled, *Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Monroe and Snohomish County Concerning the Monroe 30 Annexation Pursuant to RCW 35A.14.120* would serve to facilitate the Monroe 30 Annexation proposal.

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) underscores the need for managed growth, orderly development, and coordination between counties and municipalities in planning for services and infrastructure in urban areas as expressed in GMA Planning Goal 1 – (RCW 36.70A.020(1)).

Goal (1) Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.

The Snohomish County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) support the coordinated planning of urban areas between the County and cities and are expressed in the following Joint Planning (JP) policies:

- CPP Policy JP-1, “Coordination of county and municipal planning particularly for urban services, governance, and annexation is fundamental in implementing the Regional Growth Strategy and GMA directives related to urban growth areas in RCW 36.70A.110. Interlocal agreements for this purpose are encouraged pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act (chapter 39.34 RCW). These agreements should emphasize the importance of early and continuous public participation, focus on decision-making by elected or other appropriate officials, and review the consistency of comprehensive plans with each other and the Growth Management Act, where applicable. Appendix F provides an illustrative list of issues that could be considered appropriate for Interlocal Agreements.”
- CPP Policy JP-4, “The County and cities shall develop comprehensive plan policies and development regulations that provide for the orderly transition of unincorporated Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) to incorporated areas in UGAs. Mutual agreements may be utilized to address governance issues and expedite the transition.”

Policies in the Interjurisdictional Coordination (IC) and Land Use (LU) chapters of the County’s comprehensive plan promote the use of interlocal agreements to help facilitate the orderly development of urban areas and transfer of services and jurisdiction. Said policies include:

- GPP Policy IC 1.B.1, “The county shall work with cities in planning for orderly transfer of service responsibilities in anticipation of potential or planned annexations or incorporations within UGAs.”
- GPP Policy IC 1.B.3, “The county shall seek interlocal agreements with the cities to establish a process for transferring authority over pending projects, permits, and records and establishes reciprocal impact mitigation for transportation, parks, and schools prior to potential or planned annexations or incorporations.”
- GPP Policy LU 2.A.1, “Maintain development regulations that will require that new residential subdivisions achieve a minimum net density of 4 dwelling units per acre in all unincorporated UGAs, except (1) in the UGAs of Darrington, Index, and Gold Bar as long as those cities do not have sanitary sewer systems and (2) in areas without sanitary sewers which the sewer purveyor with jurisdiction, or in nearest reasonable servicing proximity will certify are either an unsewered urban enclave or are not capable of being connected to public sewers via annexation within the next six years or by the improvements provided pursuant to its adopted

six year capital facilities plan, (3) where regulations for development on steep slopes require reduced lot or dwelling unit yields, or (4) where a lower density is necessary because of the existence of critical areas that are large in scope, with a high rank order value, and are complex in structure and function. Lot size averaging, planned residential developments, sewerage regulations and other techniques may be used to maintain minimum density or to insure later development at minimum densities is not inhibited when sanitary sewers become available.”

- Policy LU 2.A.2, “The county shall not support any proposed annexation by a city unless and until an annexation agreement has been signed by the county and said city ensuring the continued implementation of Policy LU 2.A.1 for the area to be annexed.”

Consistent with the direction petition method of annexation per RCW 35A.14.120, the City Council, on March 26, 2024, approved Resolution 2024-007 accepting a 10 percent petition for the annexation of ten parcels comprising the Monroe 30 Annexation area and authorizing the circulation of the sixty percent petition. On August 27, 2024, the City Council held a public hearing regarding the sixty percent petition and submitting a Notice of Intention (NOI) to Annex to the Snohomish County Boundary Review Board (BRB) for the Monroe 30 annexation.

The City submitted a NOI to the BRB, which the BRB deemed complete on September 18, 2024 with BRB File No. 2024-03. However, the City withdrew its NOI, to provide time to negotiate and finalize an interlocal agreement (ILA) with the County specific to the Monroe 30 Annexation.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

The attached ILA specifies the annexation area and covers procedural and topical issues to help guide the annexation consistent with the County and City comprehensive plans including:

- Airport compatibility policies and regulations regarding the First Air Airfield
- Residential density requirements for consistency with the County’s comprehensive plan and to implement the Regional Growth Strategy
- Permit processing
- Transfer of Records
- Stormwater Management
- Roads and Transportation
- Police Services
- Criminal Justice Service; and
- Fire Marshal Service.

ANALYSIS

The following describes how this annexation-specific ILA for the Monroe 30 Annexation meets the requirements and goals of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), the Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs), and the County’s comprehensive plan:

1. GMA planning goals (RCW 36.70A.020): The proposed ILA for the Monroe 30 Annexation is consistent with the GMA planning goals, including goal (1) Urban Growth. The proposed annexation area is designated within the Monroe UGA, and the City is the logical provider of public facilities and services.
2. The ILA is consistent with the CPPs by engaging in a mutual agreement that furthers the GMA and implements the comprehensive plans of both the City and County.
3. The ILA is consistent with policies in the County's comprehensive plan regarding the use of agreements to help facilitate annexations and the orderly transition of services from the County to the City.

RECOMMENDATION

PDS recommends approval of the ordinance authorizing the County Executive to execute the interlocal agreement between the County and City to help facilitate the transition of services and jurisdiction for the Monroe 30 Annexation.

cc: Ken Klein, Executive Director
Mike McCrary, Director, PDS
David Killingstad, Manager, PDS
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