

North Merced Annexation Update Builders Roundtable October 11, 2018

Development Continuum

Annexation – incorporation into City

- Tentative Map for area Subdivision
- Final Map agreement executed and bonds held for security
- Public Improvements constructed and accepted by City
- District formation
- Properties developed Buildings and improvements on private property

Current Annexations

Yosemite & Gardner – University Village 28.6 acres of mixed use commercial and multifamily project – 330 units proposed. CEQA work is underway.

 Commercial Project at Hwy 59 and Santa Fe Dr. – Olive Ave. Approved, pending LAFCO
Rogina Annexation – 150 acres

Pre Application for Yosemite Lake Estates

Proposed Annexation Areas

Area 7 – 1,267 acres for industrial – business park

Area 6 – 728 acres for industrial – business park

Bellevue Road near extension of R St. (Bellevue Ranch)

Considerations of an Annexation Area

- Are the properties contiguous to the City?
- Are they noncontiguous to the City?
- Is the area inhabited or uninhabited?
- Can the area be served by the City?
- Is there a Finance and Utility Plan for Services?
- Are there potential obstacles?
 - Opposition to being annexed by voters property owners?
 - Can project entitlements separate from annexation be obtained?
 - Environmental Constraint's?
 - Mitigation Measures? Costs to mitigate?

Key terms - Acronyms

- LAFCO Local Agency Formation Commission
- SOI the City's Sphere of Influence where it can grow or annex
- GP General Plan
- Zoning land uses permitted in either the city or county zoning code
- Pre Zoning a transitional designation until territory is annexed
- GPA general plan amendment
- PD planned development a unique zoning area
- Site Plan or Utilization Plan a conceptual plan of a project area, Master Plan or Specific Plan fall into this category too
- CEQA the California Environmental Quality Act
- EIR an Environmental Impact Report
- IS an environmental initial study
- Neg Dec a negative declaration under CEQA
- MSR Municipal Service Review a verification of the city's service ability
- DA Development Agreement or Pre-Annexation Development Agreement

Other terminology

- Incorporated
- Unincorporated
- Inhabited
- Uninhabited
- Contiguous
- Noncontiguous
- Justification of Services Proposal
- Planned, logical, and orderly progression of urban expansion
- Land Use Entitlements & Permits
- Agricultural Mitigation 1:1
- Ground water sustainability
- Mitigation Monitoring Program

Typical services provided by a City

- Waste Water collection and treatment
- Domestic Water
- Police and Emergency Response
- Fire Protection
- General Governance
- Land Use and Entitlement Approvals
- Public Facility Maintenance
- Other special services such as parks and recreation
- Storm water collection, treatment, and disposal
- Road maintenance and street lighting
- Garbage, recycling, and green waste collection

North Merced Annexation



North Merced Annexation

Proposed Annexation of ~7668.858 Acres

Annexation Area contains 689 Parcels



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles 0 1,050 2,100 4,200 Feet



Some key issues

- Properties that are non-contiguous to the City need support from others to provide a path for an annexation – registered voters have rights and other property owners have rights as well in the process
- LAFCO policies and procedures logical and orderly, no islands, no peninsulas
- What entitlements besides annexation does the proposed development area need to develop – what's the timing to achieve those?
- Are there other regulatory permits or approvals that may be necessary?
- Interim Sewer Capacity vs. completion of the Waste Water Master Plan. When and how much capacity is needed?
- What role will UC Merced play?

Waste Water Collection System

- The City's consultant Stantec has prepared the Master Plan to serve the entire General Plan area
- Environmental (EIR) work has been initiated
- LAFCO will need to know that the City has a plan in place to provide the services – financial and utility or engineering
- The City has an "interim" available capacity of 500,000 gallons per day (.5 MGD) – this can accommodate just over 1,500 homes or a combination of homes and other development types
- Likely to be similar to an assessment district with annual payments to offset debt services or bond payments made by the City

Timing – Next Steps

- For now the horizon and scope is just to assess the proposed annexation boundary, perform community outreach, provide information, and other related activities.
- An RFP was prepared in late August to solicit proposals two were received. They will be reviewed by a City Committee.
- A Stakeholder meeting will be held to discuss the proposals, costs, and timing. City's expectation is that development will pay for the costs to proceed.
- The consultant work focus on the annexation boundaries, phasing, and ability to proceed. Much of the work is education and outreach.