



I. PURPOSE

An annexation policy sets forth a framework for phasing the growth of the City of Kirksville. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the efficient delivery of adequate public services to new development as it occurs in a manner that is most beneficial to the citizens of the community. This will be accomplished by adherence to the Comprehensive Plan and adopted master plans for City services, including master sewer and water plans, and within the laws of RSMo 71.015.

II. FOCUS OF ANNEXATION

The City will focus on the following areas when considering a proposed annexation.

- A. The City shall pursue an annexation program that adds to the economic stability of the City, protects and enhances its quality of life, and protects its environmental resources.
- B. The City shall use annexation as a tool for the protection of valuable natural resources such as the Hazel Creek and Forest Lake Watersheds.
- C. The City shall use annexation as a tool to establish environmental practices that will eliminate over-the-hill sewage systems, establish stormwater management; and ensure that the groundwater of Kirksville is protected and preserved.
- D. The City shall use annexation as a way to control the type, quality, and location of development in areas currently outside the City limits guiding the growth in the extra-territorial jurisdiction by focusing infrastructure spending in less environmentally sensitive areas and into preferred growth corridors.

III. GENERAL POLICIES

The City shall develop an Annexation Plan to include preferred growth corridors with input from the City's Planning and Zoning Commission, Lakes, Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport and Transportation Commission, Tourism Advisory Board, Watershed Management Commission, and outside organizations such as the Adair County Rural Water District, Adair County Commission, Missouri Department of Transportation, Kirksville Regional Economic Development, Inc. the Chamber of Commerce, and Northeast Regional Planning Commission.

The City's Annexation Plan should be reviewed and updated no less than every five years in conjunction with the review, revision, and update of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

The City will pursue the annexation of contiguous properties outlined in the Annexation Plan identified as preferred growth corridors for desired development using appropriate methods allowed under state law.

Inform the public of all annexation proceedings, in full accordance with state law. Consider the impact of annexation on all citizens during the annexation process.

The City shall perform a preliminary fiscal impact analysis and provide an initial service plan for all areas proposed for annexation.

The timing of annexation proposals will be determined based on what is most beneficial to the citizens of the community.

IV. MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES

To maintain efficient city service provision, Kirksville will discourage annexations that would result in irregular city boundaries.

Annexations will include the largest practicable area contiguous to the city limits that still results in logical city boundaries.

Proposed boundaries should include the annexation of existing public roadways that provide access to the desired annexed property.

V. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND ZONING

The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Kirksville shall incorporate the Annexation Plan.

Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan must follow the required processes.

VI. EXTENSION OF SERVICES

The City of Kirksville will continue to support the existing extensions of public water and sewer services within the extra-territorial areas that include the Orrick Mine and Michigan Trail area without any commitment or plan of annexation.

Owners of unincorporated properties must annex to receive City water or sewer service if the properties are contiguous to city limits and are configured in a manner that conforms to annexation policies.

The City of Kirksville will consider the existing boundaries of special purpose districts when reviewing annexation proposals. Affected districts will be notified and provided the opportunity to comment on annexation proposals.

VII. UNPLANNED ANNEXATIONS/VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

From time to time, it may become necessary for the City of Kirksville to consider the annexation of property that is not part of the established Annexation Plan. In addition, a property owner may voluntarily decide that it is in their best interest to seek annexation with the City of Kirksville.

This policy will not prohibit either to be considered. However, all requests for annexation must comply with all applicable state laws. In addition, the requirements and expectations of this policy-will apply to these unplanned annexations.

VIII. COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS

The City Council may request the completion of a cost/benefit analysis on any annexation proposal. Such cost/benefit analysis should be primarily to evaluate the annexation's impact on the City's resources and in turn the economic impact of its addition to the municipal boundary. The cost per resident shall not exceed a rate of return greater than 20 years.

IX. PUBLIC INFORMATION

The City of Kirksville will make available to any interested person annexation information sheets that explain the process and benefits of annexing into Kirksville. All annexation proceedings will be conducted in full accordance with state law, including at least one public hearing.