



ANNEXATION NOTICE

Your property is now within Hanford city limits. Here are some FAQs to help you understand what's changing and what's staying the same.

Bills and Taxes:

Will my utility bills and taxes increase?

On average, the cost to the resident will be similar or slightly less in the city than in the county. No change will occur to your property tax rate (same rate in the city and county).

Public Works:

Do I have to connect to the city's sewer system if I already have a septic system?

No, if you are using a properly operating septic system. If your system violates health and building codes, city ordinances require homeowners to connect to a sewer system if one is available within 200 feet of the property.

Can I replace my septic tank or do substantial work on the leach field?

The city will issue permits for new septic tank work or substantial work on the leach field only if the sewer line is not adjacent to your property. Minor work on the leach field is allowed.

Can I keep my existing well and continue to use it after annexation to the city?

Yes, existing wells can be retained if a backflow device is installed on your domestic water service. The city encourages property owners to connect to city water.

Is there a time in which I must connect the house to city water?

No, you will only be required to connect to city water when major work on the well is needed. Minor work, such as cleaning or pump replacement, will not require connection.

Will the city build curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street trees, storm drains, or streetlights?

There is no requirement that curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street trees, storm drains, or streetlights be installed by the city. If a property owner undertakes substantial building remodeling or new building construction, then these improvements must be constructed by the property owner. If desired by a neighborhood, a special district could be established to install these items at the cost of the property owners.

I have trash service from a private contractor, can I keep my existing service?

You have 12 months after annexation before you are required to sign up for city trash service.

More FAQs on back side



Fire Service:

Who will be responsible for fire protection?

Fire protection service will be provided by the Hanford Fire Department.

Police Service:

Who will be responsible for police protection?

Police protection service will be provided by the Kings County Sheriff's Office until July 1, 2023. After that, the Hanford Police Department will be responsible for police protection.

Elections and Voting:

What changes will annexation have on elections?

The Kings County Elections Department conducts elections. City residents are entitled to vote in city elections and are eligible to hold elective and appointive city positions.

Zoning and Land Use:

What effects does annexation have on zoning?

The annexed areas now have city zoning and are subject to the city's zoning ordinance.

If a use is allowed in the county, but not allowed in the city, what happens?

A use shall be allowed to continue if it was lawfully commenced while in the county but does not conform to the city regulations.

For example: If you were legally operating (have a valid business license and all required permits for operation/structures) a vehicle repair shop in the county but upon annexation the use is not allowed in the city, you may still operate. However, if you discontinue the use for a period of six months or more, the use shall not be able to reestablish.

I have various animals in the county, can I keep them in the city?

A county-approved animal raising use that is not allowed in the city can continue if the intensity of the animal raising use (i.e., type and number of animals) does not change or increase.

Does the City of Hanford have code compliance?

Yes, the city has code compliance officers and will enforce regulations related to abandoned vehicles, junk and debris, property maintenance, buildings without permits, etc.

Will my address be changed?

If you currently do not have a city-style address, you will be reassigned one; city-style addressing is typically four numbers versus county-style, which is five. The city will notify you and the post office of the change.