



# CITY *of* CLOVIS

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

1033 FIFTH STREET • CLOVIS, CA 93612

### **City of Clovis Annexation Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. I have large animals (horses and cattle). What happens to them after annexation?**  
You can maintain animals as allowed under the zoning you had as a County resident. This right to keep and maintain farm animals and livestock on the property is only allowed for you as the owner at time of annexation. This right cannot be assigned to another owner should the property be sold or transferred.
- 2. Do I have to connect to the city sewer line immediately?**  
You are required to connect to the City's sewer system within three years after it has been made available to your property. Until this occurs, you may continue to use and maintain the existing septic tank on the property. Responsibility for the use and maintenance of the system will still reside with you as the property owner and you must comply with Fresno County Environmental Health Department standards.
- 3. Can I replace my septic tank or do substantial work on the leach field once I am in the City of Clovis?**  
Repairs may be allowed in certain instances. Generally, a connection to the City's public sewer system is required unless a deferment is granted by the City Engineer and Building Official under specific conditions as defined in the Municipal Code.
- 4. What does it cost to connect a house to the city sewer and does the city offer financing?**  
If you would like to connect to Clovis utility services following annexation, the City may provide you with financing for connection costs to the property line. For more information regarding septic/sewer connection requirements, you can contact Planning and Development Services, Engineering Department at 559-324-2350.
- 5. Can I keep my existing well and continue to use it after annexation to the City of Clovis?**  
As the owner, you may continue to use the existing well(s) on your property and defer connection to the Clovis water system. Use and maintenance of the system are your responsibility, and they must be kept in a condition consistent with Fresno County Environmental Health Department standards.
- 6. Is there a time in which I must connect the house to city water, what is the cost, and is there any financing available?**  
There is no defined time when you are required to connect to the City water system once your land has been annexed. If you would like to connect to Clovis utility services following annexation, the City may provide you with financing for connection costs to the property line. For more information regarding water connectivity and usage, please contact Planning and Development Services, Engineering Department (559) 324-2350.

7. **When connecting to city water, will I get a meter and how much will I pay?**  
Yes, you will get a meter and the cost will be included with the connection fees. In addition to this fee, you will be charged \$10 to set up a billing account with the City. Water usage is billed with a base charge and then a tiered usage rate.
8. **If my well goes out, can I re-drill it to provide water for landscaping and irrigation?**  
New wells are prohibited within the City unless approved by the City Engineer and Building Official under specific conditions as defined in the Municipal Code.
9. **I now have trash service from a private contractor, can I keep my existing service and for how long?**  
You can change to City service immediately, or you can keep your existing franchised service provider for up to five years from the date of annexation. After that, you will be required to sign up for the City's services.
10. **Will my property taxes change after annexation?**  
It is our understanding under the rules the voters of California approved under Proposition 13, that annexation alone does not change your taxes. Additional improvements to your property in the City of Clovis or the County of Fresno may result in a change in your tax bill. For more information, contact the Fresno County Assessor at (559) 600-3534.
11. **What happens to my street address after annexation?**  
When your property is annexed into the City, you will receive a Change of Address Request. This will need to be filled out and sent to the Fresno County Assessor/Recorder's office. Your new address information will be uploaded into the respective dispatch system for emergency response services.
12. **I have a home-based business. What happens to it after annexation?**  
In order to operate a home-based business within the City, you will need to apply for a Home Occupation Business License. You will need to complete the application and submit it along with a completed Business Registration and Tax Certificate Application to the City's Finance Department. According to the Clovis Municipal Code, there are two tiers of home occupation permits, which have their own submittal fee.
  - a. Small Home Occupation (\$119.00 due at time of submittal) – A residence utilizing one room of a dwelling for business purposes.
  - b. Large Home Occupation (\$250.00 due at time of submittal) – The use of two or more rooms in a dwelling for business purposes. Permitted uses are Group Housing Situations in compliance with Article 6 of Chapter 9.4.110 of the Clovis Municipal Code.Please reference the Clovis Municipal Code Chapter 9.58 for detailed information regarding the Clovis Home Occupation Permit requirements.
13. **I have dogs, how much are city licenses?**  
The City of Clovis dog licenses are \$5 a year for all dogs that are spayed/neutered and need to be renewed each year. Licenses for dogs that are **not** spayed or neutered are \$25 per year and will also need to be renewed on an annual basis. Senior citizens can purchase licenses for their dogs regardless of their spay or neutering status at a rate of \$5 per year. Licenses can be obtained by mail or visiting the City's finance lobby or by stopping by the Animal Services building (by appointment only). Dog owners must present proof of spay or neuter as well as a current and valid rabies certificate to obtain a dog license.

14. **I have access to Fresno Irrigation District (FID) water and my neighbors want to sell their property to subdivide, will I still be able to continue receiving my FID water?**  
Yes, you will be able to continue receiving your FID water until your property is connected to the City's water system. Upon connection, the water allocation you receive from FID shall be transferred to the City and the City will become the water provider.
15. **My individual circumstances do not really fit any of the things we have discussed. Can special arrangements be made?**  
City staff can be made available to discuss your specific circumstances. Please contact the Long Range Planning section of Planning Division at (559)324-2340 for more information or to set up a meeting.

Thank you for your interest in annexing to the City of Clovis. The City of Clovis strives to provide its citizens with superior service consistent with its vision statement, which is as follows:

*A City that is committed to the Clovis Community Family, their needs, their values, and a quality way of life for all; reflecting that commitment in how it develops and in the activities it undertakes.*

***For more information, feel free to call the Planning Division at (559) 324-2340.***