

City of Sugar Hill
Planning Staff Report



DATE: January 29, 2020
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Planning Director *JA*
SUBJECT: Annexation Fee Moratorium

SUGGESTED ACTION

Approve resolution to adopt a 12-month moratorium on the collection of annexation and zoning fees for all petitions to annex any parcel of land which contains a habitable dwelling and is five acres or less in size.

DISCUSSION

In response to feedback we've received from the community about the city's annexation strategy the Mayor and City Council are proposing to temporarily eliminate the fees associated with filing an annexation petition.

This proposed resolution would, for a period of 12 months, waive the annexation and zoning fees for any property on which a habitable dwelling stands and which property is five acres or less in land area.

There are four methods of annexation available by Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 36-36-01 et seq.). This proposed moratorium would allow for all interested owners of property which satisfy the criteria above to file a request under the 100% and 60% methods to annex into the city as prescribed by state law.

In order to be eligible for annexation, the area to be annexed must be contiguous with the city (at least one-eighth or 50' of its entire external boundary must touch the existing boundary of the city) and the annexation petition must also be accepted by the city.

The 100% method allows property owners of all the land in a specific area to request their property be annexed into an adjacent city by signing a petition.

The 60% method allows an area of land to be considered for annexation by an adjacent city by petition signed by the owners of at least 60% of the property and at least 60% of the resident electors in the area to be annexed.

