

Incentives

The City of Greenwood, in conjunction with the Greenwood Commissioners of Public Works (CPW), offers many infrastructure reimbursement programs for residential and commercial developments. The programs tend to be project specific, therefore the City encourages developers to set up a meeting early in their design process. The level of assistance is determined on a project-by-project basis.

Contacts

For more information....



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Annexation Q&A

What is annexation?

Municipalities in South Carolina can expand their boundaries (corporate limits) through annexation, a legal procedure by which land outside a city or town can become a part of the municipality to receive its benefits and city services.

How do South Carolina cities and towns have the authority to annex property?

The S.C. General Assembly has delegated this authority to municipalities. The Legislature sets out the responsibility and authority of municipalities, and annexation of contiguous property is permitted.

What is the process for annexation to occur?

1. An individual property owner may petition the city for annexation of a specific parcel(s) as long as the property is contiguous (touches) the existing city limits line. This is the most common form of annexation into the city limits of Greenwood.
2. Where multiple property owners desire to annex a larger area, a petition may be made by 75% of the individual property owners having title to 75% of the total assessed value of all the property in the designated annexation area.
3. In larger areas, annexation of 25 percent of the qualified electors in the area desiring to be annexed can petition the city council to call for an election within the area proposed to be annexed.

Can a city or town annex anywhere it wants to?

No. The General Assembly set up strict standards for annexation. If the land does not comply with those standards, it cannot be annexed.

ANNEXATION

BECOMING PART OF A VITAL COMMUNITY



The City of
GREENWOOD
South Carolina



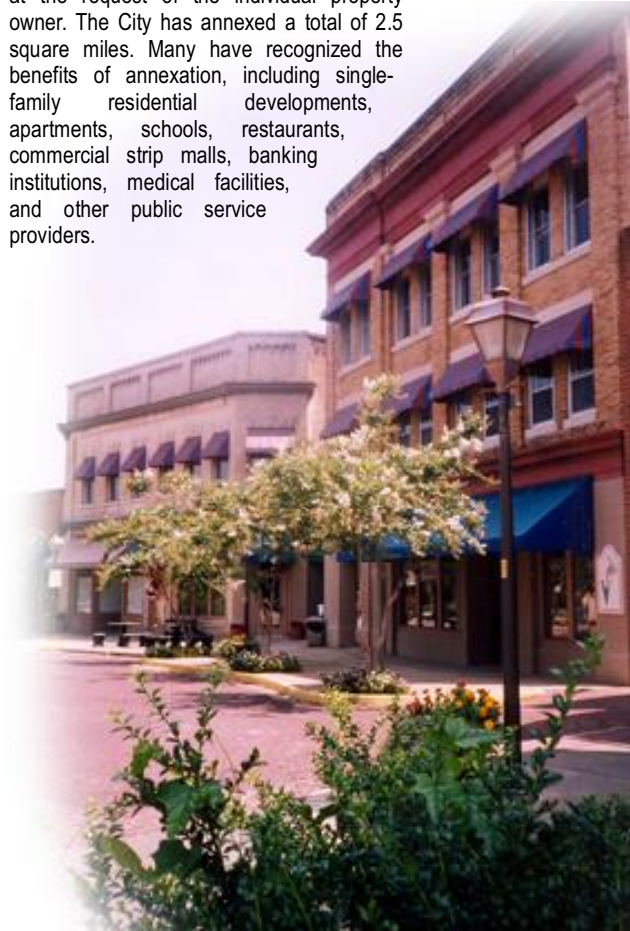
Come, Discover



The City of
GREENWOOD
South Carolina

www.cityofgreenwoodsc.com

The City of Greenwood, located in Upstate South Carolina, provides a friendly, small-town setting along with the progressive and active environment of a larger city. Greenwood is the home to numerous community assets including Lander University, Piedmont Technical College, Connie Maxwell Children's Home, Uptown Greenwood, Self Regional Healthcare, Wesley Commons Retirement Community, excellent schools, churches, cultural opportunities, nearby Lake Greenwood, and much, much more. Over the last decade, the City has had over 60 annexations at the request of the individual property owner. The City has annexed a total of 2.5 square miles. Many have recognized the benefits of annexation, including single-family residential developments, apartments, schools, restaurants, commercial strip malls, banking institutions, medical facilities, and other public service providers.



Benefits of Annexation

- Police Protection
- Fire Protection - Class 2 ISO Rated
- Street Maintenance Services
- Solid waste collection
- Reduced water rates
- Competitive electrical rates
- Street lighting
- Residential trash service
- Community development
- Lower insurance rates

Public Safety

Greenwood City Council is committed to providing the highest quality public safety services. The City of Greenwood Fire Department has an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 2. ISO provides a public classification system based on a ten point scale – 1 being excellent and 10 indicating that the fire coverage does not meet ISO's minimum standard. Of the 683 fire departments in South Carolina, there are only 28 with a class two (2) designation or better. Statewide, that places the City of Greenwood Fire Department in the top 4.1 percent. All City of Greenwood firefighters are at a minimum certified Firefighter Level II. In addition, all of our personnel have a Hazmat Technician Level Certification.



Quality law enforcement services are essential to a growing community. The Greenwood Police Department is continuously working to improve such services to our citizens and visitors. The Department is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Law Enforcement Accreditation is a voluntary program, in which the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. has established 446 internationally recognized standards that an agency must comply with in order to be accredited. The Department typically provides 6 patrol units twenty-four hours per day to monitor the City's approximately 16 square miles. This does not include additional detectives, traffic units, and support staff. The Department provides traffic assistance in private parking lots including traffic accidents, parking violations, and fire lane compliance.

Statistics show that City of Greenwood is safe! Since 1996, violent crimes have decreased 51.72% within the City limits. During the same period, property crime decreased by 22.54%.

Why Annex

Best for Community

Annexations are critical to the City of Greenwood in planning for our future. It is important for us to respond to pressures of growth by ensuring urban development is comprehensively planned, serviced, and appropriately located. Annexation is a means of ensuring quality growth within the City limits while reducing the potential of urban sprawl. In order for the City of Greenwood to provide services as efficiently as possible, the City has identified logical areas for future growth, development and the provision of services. The most effective way for the City to manage growth is to annex the areas into the City. In many instances, residents outside of the City of Greenwood enjoy the benefit of city parks, city water, city streets, churches, social service agencies and other amenities, yet unless they are residents of the City, they are not able to vote for elected officials, serve on City boards or commissions, or generally influence City policy or decisions in a manner they consider appropriate. By annexing into the City of Greenwood, you will contribute to and have a voice in: shaping the City's future growth and development; maintaining the quality of life that makes Greenwood a wonderful place to live, work, and play; and to help ensure an appropriate and better-coordinated level of service. Whether a neighborhood is technically part of the City of Greenwood, or sits just outside of the city limits, we are all part of the same community. That sense of community is one of our area's strongest assets. Annexation is really nothing more than the official joining together of what is already connected.

Attract Industry

Greenwood is able to attract new industry by showing evidence of a growing and vibrant city. Through maintaining a supply of developable lands, a city can attract more industry. Periodic annexations facilitate a continuous supply/source for vacant undeveloped land. Greenwood will attract employers by offering more and diverse citizens to employ.

Greenwood Commissioners of Public Works

While Greenwood CPW provides water and natural gas throughout Greenwood County, CPW provides electricity within the City of Greenwood. The Electric Distribution System distributes power to more than 11,500 customers. The System includes five substations and approximately 180 miles of line. CPW belongs to the American Public Power Association and the South Carolina Association of Municipal Power Systems. A mutual aid agreement with 20 other members provide for mutual assistance in case of weather emergencies.

