



# Freeman Road Annexation Fact Sheet

## What is Annexation?

Annexation is the process of transferring land from one jurisdiction to another. The City of Puyallup is working with Pierce County to facilitate the annexation of the Freeman Road area, west of current City limits between Valley Ave and Levee Road—not presently part of any city or town—into the City of Puyallup. Annexation would give residents and property owners in this area a greater voice as part of the Puyallup community, and expand access to municipal services such as utilities, police, and government representation.

## How Would This Impact Me?

What would remain the same:

### Schools

Tacoma Public Schools would continue to serve families in the area.

### Electric, Natural Gas, Water, and Wastewater Providers

Tacoma Public Utilities provides electric service and Puget Sound Energy provides natural gas service. For customers not utilizing wells or septic, Tacoma Public Utilities also provides municipal water and wastewater service. Rates would not change for electric, natural gas, commercial water, or wastewater.



## Area Profile

Population: 54

Median Age: 53

Households: 26

Size: 140 acres

Single family homes

Manufacturing / Industrial

Shares a boundary with Puyallup, Fife, and Edgewood

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## How Would This Impact Me?

What would change:

### Local Government Administration

The City of Puyallup would provide several services that are currently offered by the County, such as pet licensing, solid waste management, business licensing, and parking regulation.

### Surface Water Management Fee

Local jurisdictions manage surface water runoff to reduce flooding and prevent water pollution, billing property owners for this service. Fees for this service would likely increase with annexation into the City of Puyallup. As an example, a typical single-family residence would see rates increase from \$127 per year to \$153 per year; a 25,000 square foot commercial building would see charges increase from \$1,057 per year to \$1,377 per year.

### Fire and Police

Fire protection services that are currently provided by the Tacoma Fire Department would transition to Central Pierce Fire and Rescue if annexed to the City of Puyallup. Police services would be provided by the Puyallup Police Department, where they are currently provided by Pierce County Sheriff.

### Roads

Freeman Road is within the City of Fife and would remain so. However, the City of Puyallup Public Works Department would take over responsibility from Pierce County Planning and Public Works for maintaining and improving the remaining public roads in the neighborhood. Puyallup would study the need for new street name signs, parking restrictions, traffic safety measures, speed limits, and other elements.

### Addresses

Becoming part of Puyallup would result in changes to neighborhood street names to conform with those in the rest of the City. For example, Valley Ave E would become Valley Ave NW. Puyallup would work with the US Postal Service to update addresses, and would notify residents and businesses when the change is approved.

### Building, Planning and Zoning

Pierce County currently regulates land and building in the neighborhood under the Employment Center designation, which allows a broad variety of commercial and industrial land uses including day-care centers, utility facilities, offices, agricultural supply, restaurants and bars, auto sales, contractor yards, manufacturing facilities and warehouses. Up to 60-foot-tall buildings could be permitted with these uses. The existing uses in the area include residential, agriculture, and industrial. Puyallup would carefully study and determine how to zone the area upon annexation, but current land use designations call for a majority of industrial and about 25% residential zoning.

### Solid Waste

The City of Puyallup contracts with DM Disposal to provide garbage service. Residential rates for City of Puyallup customers start at \$3.63 every other month; commercial rates for a one-cubic-yard container start at \$42.49 every other month. Recycling and food/yard waste pickup is also offered.

### Business Licenses and Taxes

Puyallup requires that businesses obtain a Business License from the City, while Pierce County does for only a few types of businesses. Puyallup business license fees are assessed yearly and are based on the number of employees working within city limits, varying from \$75 to \$500. More information may be found at <http://www.cityofpuyallup.org/527/General-Business-Licenses>. Neither Pierce County nor Puyallup assess Business and Occupation taxes.

### Elected Representative

This Freeman area neighborhood would be included within Puyallup City Council District 1; City Councilmembers Robin Farris and Jim Kastama currently serve this district. County Councilmember Pam Roach would continue to represent residents at the County level.

### Property Taxes

In 2019, property owners in this unincorporated area paid .0122% of their property's assessed value in property taxes; in contrast, residents nearby within the City of Puyallup paid .0114% of assessed value in property taxes. For example, for the average single-family home worth \$350,000, a homeowner would have owed \$3990 in property taxes as a resident of the City of Puyallup, as compared with paying \$4270 in the unincorporated County.

### Libraries

Pierce County libraries are available to residents of the Freeman Road area. With annexation, residents would be free to utilize the Puyallup Public Library as well.