

Annexation: Sustainability, Growth and a Prosperous Future

The Town of Drayton Valley is looking to tomorrow. We are developing a plan that will lay out a prosperous future for our municipality. Our aim is to build a robust, viable community that will provide generous employment opportunities, quality education, and a high standard of services for current and future generations. The annexation of a portion of land from Brazeau County is an important part of that process.

Frequently asked questions regarding the Town of Drayton Valley's annexation request.

Does the Town have a development plan in place for the land covered in the annexation request?

The Town is proposing that that land in this area be earmarked for future residential growth. However, the decision of whether to develop or to continue with the current land use lies solely with the owner of the property.

I am currently a land owner in Brazeau County and my land is within the area noted in the annexation request. If the annexation request is approved:

a) What will happen to my property taxes?

As part of the Settlement Agreement with the County, the Town has committed that the lands in this area will be taxed at the lower of the tax rates established by Brazeau County and the Town of Drayton Valley for 50 years. That will only cease if the land is subdivided (except for the first parcel out for a homestead parcel) or ceases to be used as farmland or for any of the uses contained within the County's Land Use Bylaw within the Agriculture District (AG). This is the same agreement which was successfully implemented after the 2001 annexation, but with a longer time frame.

b) How will my community services be affected?

At the very least services in the annexed area will be maintained at current levels. It's our expectation that the general level of services will improve over time.

c) How will the Town's Land Use/Zoning Bylaws affect the uses of my land?

The Town of Drayton Valley will not change existing land uses in the annexation area unless that change is initiated by the landowner.

I am currently a resident of Brazeau County and my land is not inside the annexation area. What impact will this land transfer have on my County taxes?

Our annexation request is not a tax grab. It's anticipated that this annexation will have no measureable impact on taxes within the County.

I am currently a resident of the Town of Drayton Valley. What will happen to my taxes and services if the annexation request is approved?

Services for existing residents will continue at current levels. The impact on property tax rates within Town is expected to be minimal.

What really is annexation? How far along is the process?

Annexation is the legal incorporation and transfer of land administered by one municipality to another municipality. Ownership of the land doesn't change - only the municipal jurisdiction of the land changes.

This application for annexation is part of an agreement between the Town of Drayton Valley and Brazeau County. As a result, the Town is now working with the County to advance the proposed annexation to the Municipal Government Board. The board will then make a recommendation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for cabinet approval.

The Town of Drayton Valley remains committed to providing information to interested residents and affected parties. Questions can be directed to info@draytonvalley.ca or by contacting the Town Office at 780-514-2200.

