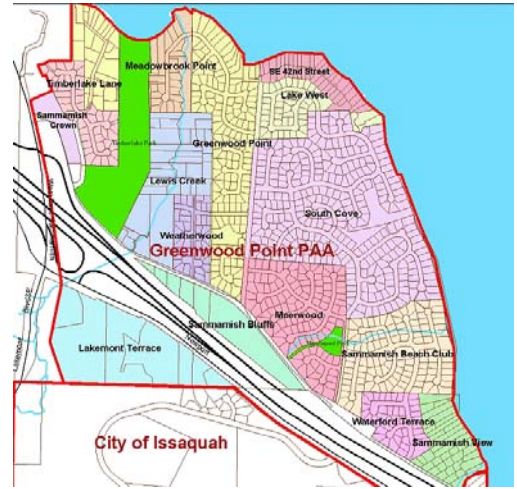


Vote November 8th!

ISSAQUAH
Yes²



For Better Government Services and Lower Taxes
Vote *Yes* for Annexation and
***Yes* for Assumption of Indebtedness**

In 2002, South Lake Sammamish neighborhoods joined together to decide whether we should seek to become part of a city or remain in unincorporated King County as long as possible. Neighbors had reported frustration due to inadequate police patrols, poor road maintenance, and a general lack of responsiveness from county agencies. A survey that year revealed that 83% of residents preferred to be annexed to Issaquah "sooner rather than later." The City listened and started the process in motion. *Now it is time for us to vote!*

November 8th Election

There will be two related questions on the ballot: (*paraphrased*)

- **Annexation:** Should the Greenwood Point-South Cove Annexation Area be annexed to the City of Issaquah?
- **Assumption of Indebtedness:** If annexed, should residents of the Greenwood Point-South Cove Annexation area pay the same property taxes as existing city residents and assume a proportional share of the responsibility to repay outstanding city bonds?

Why Annexation?

We believe that our area should become part of Issaquah because:

- Most of us already regard ourselves as Issaquah residents. Our address is Issaquah. We shop in Issaquah. We volunteer in Issaquah. We use Issaquah facilities. Why not be full members of the community?
- As Issaquah citizens, we will be able to participate in our community by voting for public officials or even running for office.

- Issaquah is small enough and close enough to be approachable on issues like speeding, parks, and the future of West Lake Sammamish Parkway.

- Issaquah has an extensive and successful community-oriented policing program, including Block Watch and D.A.R.E. More officers nearby will mean more patrols and quicker responses.



Issaquah Police Station and City Hall

- Issaquah property tax rates are far lower than county rates, making overall taxes lower for city residents.
- As part of Issaquah, our tax dollars will be put to use in our own community. A larger city population will also attract more state and federal funds here to help solve traffic problems.

Why Assume Indebtedness?

To be sure our area becomes part of Issaquah, we must vote **Yes** for "Assumption of Indebtedness." This gives permission for a portion of our property taxes to be used to help pay off the bonds on beneficial projects such as the Police Station, Senior Center and future Traffic Light Synchronization.

Issaquah property taxes, including the bonds, are **lower** than King County property taxes. The owner of a \$350,000 home in our unincorporated area pays over \$700 more in property tax than the owner of a \$350,000 home in the City. However, Issaquah residents also pay a utility tax of 6% (on electric, natural gas, phone, etc.). By joining Issaquah, this owner would save about \$500 a year overall.

(Taxes won't decrease immediately: the utility tax will take effect after annexation in 2006, but property taxes will remain at King County levels until 2007 or 2008, depending on the annexation date chosen by the City Council. After that transition, property owners in the annexation area will enjoy lower taxes overall.)

Vote **Yes for Annexation and **Yes** for Assumption of Indebtedness.
Both measures must pass to ensure annexation.**

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