

RESOLUTION NO. R08-22

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE
CITY OF LAUREL ANNEXATION POLICY**

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City of Laurel to properly guide and monitor growth that is in the best interests of the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the City Council to adopt an Annexation Policy that governs proposed annexations to the City in accordance with Ordinance No. 008-02 § 16.12.020; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed and accepted the attached Annexation Policy for the City of Laurel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana,

The Council hereby adopts the City of Laurel Annexation Policy in its current form and content. All resolutions adopting any other annexation policies that conflict or are inconsistent with these policies are hereby repealed, voided and of no further effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be enforceable on the effective date of Ordinance No. 008-02.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on March 4, 2008, by Council Member
Hart.


PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel this 4th day of March, 2008.

APPROVED by the Mayor this 4th day of March, 2008.

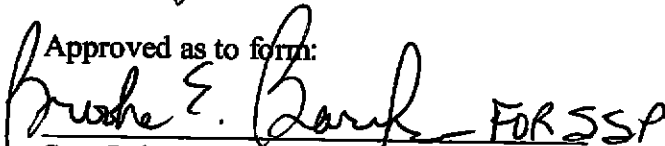
CITY OF LAUREL


Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved as to form:


Sam Painter, Legal Counsel
Elk River Law Office, P.L.L.P.

CITY OF LAUREL ANNEXATION POLICY

Service outside city limits—Conditions. No water or sewer services shall be extended outside of the incorporated city limits without meeting the following conditions:

- A. The property and improvements are in the same condition as is required for properties and improvements within the city's corporate limits;
- B. The city system is capable of serving the area;
- C. The extension is in the best interest of the city;
- D. The cost of the extension shall be at the expense of the requesting party;
- E. The city council has granted its approval. (Prior code § 18.76.010(A)); and
- F. The property is annexed.

Consent to Annexation and/or Waiver of Protest.

- A. Any property owner requesting or receiving city water or sewer service outside of the incorporated city limits shall, as a condition of initiating or continuing city services, consent to annexation of the property beneficially receiving services. The consent to annexation may be limited to the property that will benefit or is benefiting from the provision of city services.
- B. Whenever annexation is sought pursuant to a petition submitted to the city by a property owner requesting annexation, the property owner shall execute a written waiver of protest in a form approved by city staff for purposes of recording. The waiver of protest constitutes a covenant that will run with the land to be annexed and shall waive all right of protest and judicial review to the creation of any future special improvement district. (Prior code § 18.76.010(B))

Annexation Fee.

Property owner shall pay the city's applicable annexation fee prior to the city's consideration of the annexation request.

Annexation Criteria and Requirements.

- A. The City Council shall consider the following criteria when it receives a written petition for annexation:
 - The property must be located within an area identified by city staff as a location for future city annexation or annexation of the property will promote orderly growth of the city to protect the health, safety and welfare in areas intensely utilized for residential, commercial, institutional and governmental purposes;
 - The city must be able to provide adequate city services within a time period mutually agreed to by the property owner requesting annexation and the city;
 - Existing or proposed public improvements within the area to be annexed must meet all city standards. If the public improvements are not constructed at the time of annexation, the property owner shall provide the city a bond or letter of credit that equals 125% of the estimated engineering costs for the construction of improvements. If the property owner fails to construct the improvements or to obtain the agreed upon engineering, the city shall utilize the bond or letter of

credit to pay for the construction, including engineering; In accordance with GASB-34, the Developer or Landowner shall provide the city the total cost and/or value of the improvements including, but not limited to, parks, sidewalks, curb and gutter, lift stations, and sewer and water lines, that are conveyed to the city.

- All property owners within the area to be annexed must sign a Waiver of Right to Protest the creation of Special Improvement Districts for engineering and construction of improvements including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, curb and gutter and the creation of a Park Maintenance District, in a form acceptable and approved by the city;
- All residential property owners must execute a Waiver of Right-to-Protest the creation of Special Improvement Districts for engineering and construction of improvements including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, curb and gutter and the creation of a Park Maintenance District, in a form acceptable and approved by the city;
- Residential densities within the area to be annexed must be rezoned at a minimum density of R-7500 or greater; and
- The proposed land use within the area to be annexed must conform to the goals of the Laurel-Yellowstone City-County Planning Board Growth Policy.

B. The City Council may decide to either condition the approval of the annexation in order to meet the criteria listed in Section A herein or require an annexation agreement. The conditions of approval must be clearly stated in the resolution of annexation or if required, the annexation agreement. If the property to be annexed is not developed, the conditions of approval or annexation agreement shall include a requirement for:

1. A development agreement prior to the issuance of a building permit;
2. A subdivision improvements agreement at the time of final subdivision plat approval, if applicable and
3. An executed Waiver of Right-to-Protest creation of Special Improvement Districts for engineering and construction of improvements including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, curb and gutter and the creation of a Park Maintenance District, in a form acceptable and approved by the city.

If the property is developed and contains public improvements that are not constructed to city standards, the city shall require an annexation agreement. The annexation agreement shall specify that the public improvements must be upgraded and/or installed to city standards, as well as a time period and mechanism to finance the construction and installation of those improvements. All construction or installation of improvements must be completed within two years of annexation.

In any case, all public improvements, whether existing or proposed, shall meet city standards.