



## Draft Annexation Policy

To: Davidson Board of Commissioners  
From: Jamie Justice, Town Manager  
Date: August 28, 2018  
Re: Draft Annexation Policy

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### 1. OVERVIEW

Annexation is the accepting of a property into the city limits of a municipality. Annexation is governed by state law. State law significantly limits the ability of towns to do involuntary annexations. However, voluntary annexations are still allowable by law and are very common annexations that occur with towns across the state. The process for voluntary annexations is well defined by the state statute.

Staff was asked to bring forth a draft annexation policy for the town board to consider. A draft was created for consideration and was reviewed with the town board at the August 7, 2018 board meeting. The board decided to consider approving the Draft Annexation Policy at the August 28, 2018 board meeting.

Attached to the agenda is the Draft Annexation Policy.

### 2. RELATED TOWN GOALS

#### **Strategic Plan:**

Land Use Goal: the town of Davidson will align land-use policies including revision of development processes, zoning, and regulations to preserve our architectural history, manage residential growth, reduce the scale of future development, and enhance downtown (i.e., connect North and South Main streets).

#### **Core Value(s):**

- Davidson's traditional character is that of a small, historic college town, so land planning will reflect its historic patterns of village-centered growth including connection of neighborhoods, preservation of our historic resources, conservation of rural area, and provision of public spaces.
- Davidson's economic health is essential to its remaining a sustainable community, so town government will judiciously encourage and guide the location of new business opportunities.
- Citizens entrust town government with the stewardship of public funds, so government will provide high quality services at a reasonable cost.

#### **Constituents served:**

All citizens.

### 3. OPTIONS/PROS & CONS

#### **Option 1: Approve the Draft Annexation Policy.**

Pros:

A written policy is created to replace the unwritten policy.

New criteria for viewing annexation requests is created and can be used to consider future annexation requests.

The Board makes the annexation decision directly for growth management purposes.

Cons:

None.

#### **Option 2: Defer action until after the September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 mini-retreat.**

Pros:

Allows for further study of the policy options.

Allows for full review of all the growth management tools so the annexation policy option can be considered with all the options.

Cons:

Continues the uncertainty.

#### **Option 3: Do nothing which results in the current unwritten annexation process remaining in place.**

Pros:

Allows the unwritten policy to continue.

Cons:

No written policy is created to replace the unwritten policy.

The new criteria for viewing annexation requests is not created and used to consider future annexation requests.

### 4. FYI or RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the town board select Option 1 and approve the Draft Annexation Policy.

### 5. NEXT STEPS

If the Board approves Option 1, the policy would go into effect immediately.