

## **TOWN ANNEXATION CONSIDERATIONS IN VIRGINIA**

### **Advantages of Town Annexation:**

1. Annexation provides additional vacant land for future town growth.
2. Annexation provides additional tax revenue for the town from existing development in areas annexed.
3. Annexation provides additional population to improve the economies of scale of existing or planned town services.
4. Annexation provides additional population to participate in municipal affairs and to serve on town board and commissions.
5. Annexation gives the town control over existing development that has occurred around its borders.
6. Annexation extends municipal services to adjacent areas that may not have such services, and thus, relieve the county of existing or future urban service responsibilities.
7. Annexation increases the town's influence in county or State affairs.
8. Annexation unifies the town with adjacent areas that share common sociological, economic, cultural, and geographic characteristics.
9. Annexation supports community economic and development goals by negotiating annexation agreements to attract business, industry, and housing developments.
10. Annexation achieves logical town growth and boundaries.

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### **Disadvantages of Town Annexation:**

1. Annexation restricts county nonproperty tax revenues.
2. Annexation requires the town to extend municipal services to areas annexed, the cost of which may exceed potential revenues that would be immediately derived from such areas.
3. Annexation increases the urban services expectations of the residents of annexed areas.
4. Residents of areas annexed may consider municipal services to be unneeded, undesirable, or duplicative.
5. Residents of areas annexed may not wish to pay additional taxes and fees for town services.
6. Residents of areas annexed may not feel community of interest with adjacent town.
7. Annexation may require that new municipal elections be held.
8. Annexation disrupts county efforts to plan for growth and the delivery of services.
9. Annexation disrupts the utility network or customer base of a county or a service authority.
10. Annexation involves administrative and legal reviews and a successful outcome is not guaranteed.
11. Annexation disrupts town-county relations.

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