



Frequently Asked Questions—Public Safety

On June 1, 2011, the Finn Hill, North Juanita and Kingsgate neighborhood areas will officially become part of the City of Kirkland. This largely residential area is approximately seven square miles, extending north of Kirkland to approximately NE 145th Street. It will add over 31,000 people to the City's current population of 48,000. The annexation will make Kirkland the 12th largest city in Washington and the 6th largest city in King County.

In November 2009, the question of annexation, zoning regulations, and assumption of indebtedness was placed on the ballot for a vote by annexation area residents. A majority of residents approved annexing to Kirkland and the Kirkland City Council accepted the annexation in December 2009. Annexation voters did not approve the assumption of indebtedness.

To ensure a smooth transition, City and County staff have been negotiating the transfer of services, property and assets that will be guided by the adoption of an Interlocal Agreement which will be approved by the Kirkland City Council and King County Council prior to the effective date.

A series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) handouts have been developed to answer common questions about changes in services, City finances, land use and building permit processes and regulations, and community and neighborhood involvement. The FAQs are available online at www.kirklandwa.gov/annexation and at City Hall.

The City of Kirkland welcomes our new residents and businesses and we look forward to serving you.

POLICE AND DISPATCH SERVICES

Will there be an increased number of officers patrolling the annexation area?

Yes. In anticipation of the annexation, the Kirkland Police Department began its hiring process in 2010 and expects to hire 37 commissioned officers by the end of 2011. Three patrol districts will be established in the annexation area adding to the existing five districts. In each district, an officer will be on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With the additional officers, annexation residents should see an improvement in the availability of officers. Residents in other areas of the City will continue to receive the same service levels as they have been receiving.

What about 9-1-1 and dispatch services?

The City of Kirkland, several East King County cities, and numerous fire departments are partners in the regional public safety dispatch center known as the North East King County Regional Public Safety Communications Agency (NORCOM). For more information on NORCOM, go to www.norcom.org.

How will my 9-1-1 call for police services be prioritized?

Upon receiving your 9-1-1 call, the NORCOM will prioritize emergency calls and dispatch officers as needed. "Priority 1" calls are requests for service of an emergency nature which require immediate police response as there is reason to believe that a continuing serious threat to life exists. Priority 1 calls will result in the dispatch of available officers to the incident. Non-life threatening calls will be handled based on a series of factors for each call (e.g. Is there a crime in progress? Is the district officer available?)



**City of Kirkland
Police Department**
425-587-3400

www.kirklandwa.gov/police

**City of Kirkland
Fire Department**
425-587-3650

www.kirklandwa.gov/fire

Kirkland Municipal Court
425-587-3160

www.kirklandwa.gov/court

Annexation Information
425-587-3001

annexation@kirklandwa.gov
www.kirklandwa.gov/annexation

Will annexation affect the crime rate?

When annexation occurs, the Kirkland Police Department anticipates an increase in citizen reports of crimes as residents and businesses in the annexation area begin to connect with their local police department. This has occurred with Kirkland's past annexations and with other communities' annexations. The increase in reported crimes will result in higher crime statistics in the initial phase of transition but is not an indication of higher levels of crime. With a higher number of patrol officers working in a geographical area, greater emphasis can be placed in areas prone to certain crimes such as motor vehicle thefts, motor vehicle prowls and residential burglaries.

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FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

How will annexation affect fire and emergency medical services?

The City of Kirkland Fire Department intends to provide services in the annexation area as it currently provides service within existing city limits. Presently, through a contract with King County Fire District #41, the City provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the annexation areas of Finn Hill, Juanita and all but a small portion of the Kingsgate communities. This small portion is the northeast area of the Kingsgate community which is served by two separate fire districts: King County Fire District #36 (Woodinville Fire and Rescue, Fire Station #34) and King County Fire District #41 (Kirkland Fire Department, Fire Station #27).

Woodinville Fire and Rescue (WFR) will close Fire Station #34 on June 1, 2011. Beginning June 1, 2011, the Kingsgate community will receive fire and emergency medical response from the Kirkland Fire Department with the addition of nine career firefighters (seven firefighters transferring laterally from WFR and two newly hired firefighters), a fire truck and a cross staffed aid unit for medical transport. These resources will respond from Fire Station #27 located at 11210 NE 132 St. The Kingsgate community will receive the same average response times to fire and emergency medical calls as all communities in Kirkland. The average response time to a fire incident is five minutes 41 seconds. The average response time to an emergency medical incident is five minutes 17 seconds.

Does the City of Kirkland ban fireworks?

Yes. The sale, possession and discharge of fireworks are prohibited within Kirkland city limits. The ban became effective in the existing City in 1999. When annexation becomes effective on June 1, 2011, the prohibition will apply within the expanded City limits.

MUNICIPAL COURT & JAIL SERVICES

If I receive a citation from the Kirkland Police Department, where do I go to respond?

Kirkland Municipal Court hears all criminal misdemeanor cases and processes all non-criminal traffic citations and parking citations for violations occurring within the city limits of Kirkland. If you receive a copy of a criminal citation from a Kirkland police officer or in the mail, your appearance in court is mandatory. If you receive a copy of an infraction, or if you receive a parking ticket from the City, you must respond to it within 15 days of the date of issue by either requesting a hearing or by paying the fine in full.

Kirkland Municipal Court is located at 11515 NE 118th Street, Kirkland, WA 98033. You can respond to your citation or ticket by visiting the Court during its regular business hours of Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Payments can be mailed to Kirkland Municipal Court, P.O. Box 678, Kirkland, WA 98083-0678. Credit or debit card payments can be made by contacting Official Payments at 1-800-272-9829 or online at www.officialpayments.com (Jurisdiction code is #5618).

I'm an annexation area resident and currently have a case filed with King County District Court. Will my case be transferred to the City of Kirkland?

No. Your matter will remain at King County District Court. To contact King County District Court, visit www.kingcounty.gov/courts/districtcourt or call 206-205-9200.

As an annexation resident, if I am summoned for jury duty by King County District or Superior Court, do I still have to appear when annexation takes effect?

Yes. To be eligible for jury service, you must be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of the county in which you are to serve as a juror, and you must be able to communicate in English. If you have ever been convicted of a felony,

you must have had your civil rights restored in order to be eligible to serve on a jury.

As an annexation resident, if I want to file a protection order, anti-harassment order, small claims, civil lawsuit, or name change, where do I go?

Please contact the King County District Court for more information at 206-296-9200 or visit www.kingcounty.gov/courts/districtcourt.

Is a regional jail going to be located in Kirkland?

No. The City of Kirkland had been working with other north and east King County cities and the City of Seattle to plan for a new jail capacity. At one point, six locations were being studied for a regional misdemeanor jail, one of which was located near the Kingsgate area. The study has since been discontinued because a new jail is under construction in South King County and a contract extension granted by King County. The Kirkland site is no longer in consideration for a regional jail.

The City of Kirkland currently operates a municipal jail which houses some of the City's inmate population. The remaining inmates are housed in other facilities in King County and other locations through contracts. The City will need to plan for additional jail space after annexation to supplement its own jail capacity. The City will need to expand its police and court facilities for annexation and has purchased a property in Totem Lake for a new public safety building.

OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

Will animal control services be available when annexation occurs?

Yes. Animal control is provided by King County Regional Animal Services for the City and for King County. To contact King County Regional Animal Services call (206) 296-PETS (7387) or e-mail pets@kingcounty.gov.