

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ANNEXATION OF APPROXIMATELY TWENTY ACRES OF UNINCORPORATED CITY-OWNED PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE CORDATA PARK ANNEXATION AREA TO THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM. THE SITE IS LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY'S NORTHERN URBAN GROWTH AREA ADJACENT TO THE CITY'S GUIDE MERIDIAN / CORDATA NEIGHBORHOOD.

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham acquired the property in 2007 for a neighborhood park; and

WHEREAS, in February 2008 Whatcom County, at the request of the City, added the Cordata Park Annexation area to Bellingham's Northern Urban Growth Area and rezoned the area from Rural (R5A) to Recreation and Open Space; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2008 the required neighborhood meeting was held to discuss the proposed annexation; and

WHEREAS, the Cordata Park Annexation area is approximately 20 acres in size and owned by the City of Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham filed a petition and sufficient Notice of Intent to commence annexation proceedings pursuant to RCW 35.13.125; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public meeting on July 21, 2008 and approved Resolution 2008-22 initiating the annexation review process, subject to adopting comprehensive land use designation, development regulations, and assumption of existing City indebtedness; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2008, the Bellingham City Council authorized the Mayor of Bellingham to sign the 75% annexation petition for the Cordata Park Annexation, per Article III of the City's Charter; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 2008, the City of Bellingham submitted the 75% annexation petition accompanied by a map specifying the boundaries of the proposed annexation and legal description as provided by RCW 35.13.130; and

WHEREAS, the City forwarded the petition to the Whatcom County Assessor, whereby the Assessor found the petition to comply with state law and issued a Certificate of Sufficiency on September 15, 2008 to the City in accordance with RCW 35.21.005; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2009, the City forwarded the Cordata Park Notice of Intention to the Whatcom County Boundary Review Board for its 45 day review of the annexation proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Bellingham City Council and Whatcom County Council approved Amendment #17 to the Interlocal Agreement between the City and the County to include the Cordata Park Annexation; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2009, the Whatcom County Boundary Review Board deemed the Notice of Intention to Annex as described in the BRB file # 2009 – 01 approved; and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2009 the Bellingham City Council held a public hearing and determined the annexation is consistent with the State Growth Management Act, the policy direction in Whatcom County's Comprehensive Plan, the Countywide Planning Policies, the Bellingham Subarea Plan as revised, and Bellingham's Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the hearing, the Bellingham City Council approved the Cordata Park Annexation ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1. The Cordata Park Annexation area as described in the legal description in Exhibit A, is hereby annexed to the City of Bellingham.

Section 2. The area annexed herein shall assume its proportional share of the existing indebtedness of the City of Bellingham.

Section 3. A new Area 32 is added to the Guide Meridian / Cordata Neighborhood Plan and map with a land use designation of Public, Park as shown in Exhibit B.

Section 4. A new Area 32 is added to Bellingham Municipal Code 20.00.080 - Guide Meridian / Cordata Neighborhood Table of Zoning Regulations and zoning map as shown in Exhibit C.

Section 5. This ordinance shall be effective 15 days after final approval.

PASSED by the Council this ____ day of _____, 2009.

Council President

APPROVED by me this ____ day of _____, 2009.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Office of the City Attorney

Published:
