

Frequently Asked Questions for Southwest Township Annexation (updated)

Why is the Town annexing this area?

Annexation enables Avon residents to manage future growth in the area that will directly impact the Avon community in issues such as schools, housing quality, roads and economic development.

Will I pay more taxes?

Residential properties that have a Gross Assessed Value of \$102,700 or more will not pay more taxes for one acre of the property which includes the home because they are at the 1% property tax cap. Portions of a residential property in the area greater than the one acre will be at the 3% property tax cap and may pay an additional amount. The first year of taxes would be in 2014, so it is difficult to project tax rates for that year.

Properties assessed by the County Assessor in the agricultural category are already at the 2% property tax cap and will not pay more taxes.

What are the steps for annexation:

The Town Council introduces an annexation ordinance, adopts a fiscal plan for the annexation, notifies property owners of the public hearing, holds the public hearing, considers changes to the ordinance based on public comment and votes on the final adoption of the annexation ordinance.

What services will the Town provide?

Some of the services include:

<i>Police protection:</i>	<i>Avon Police Department</i>
<i>Snow removal and road maintenance:</i>	<i>Avon Public Works</i>
<i>Plan review and approval:</i>	<i>Avon Planning and Building</i>
<i>Building permit review and approval:</i>	<i>Avon Planning and Building</i>

Fire protection will continue to be provided by the Washington Township/Avon Fire Department.

Both Police and Fire have mutual aid agreements with surrounding agencies to provide assistance when necessary.

Residents receive an annual \$50 programming discount at the Hendricks Regional Health YMCA. Membership is not required to receive the discount.

Residents are eligible for Avon scholarships at Trine University Avon and Ivy Tech Community College Avon.

Does the Town provide trash collection?

No. Trash collection is a private service.

If properties are at the property tax cap and won't pay more taxes, then how will the Town pay for services to the area?

The Town will receive a portion of the current payment of property taxes. The following analysis estimates the impact in 2011 for an annexed property with a gross Assessed Value of \$200,000, based on 2011 tax rates:

	<u>Current Tax Distribution</u>	<u>Tax Distribution After Annexation</u>
Hendricks Co	235	207
Wash. Twp.	246	217
Wash.Twp. Lib	42	37
Avon Schools	1,477	1,303
<u>Town of Avon</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>236</u>
TOTAL	2,000	2,000

The distribution will change in 2012 based on 2012 tax rates which have not been determined and the first year of tax revenue for the Town as a result of annexation will be in 2014. The impact on governmental units will be dependent upon all tax rates for 2014 which will not be determined until 2014.

Does the Town charge any fees?

Yes, for permits and police reports. Some of the permits are: gun permits, alarm permits and planning/ building permits. Chapter 4, Article 12 of the Town Code lists the fees of the Town. It is online at www.avongov.org.

Can I serve on a Board or Commission?

Yes. Residents will be able to serve on Town Boards and Commissions, run for elected office and vote for the Town Council, Town Judge and Clerk-Treasurer.

Who governs the Town?

The Town Council is responsible for governing the Town. The Council Members are Beverley Austin, Dave Cox, Dave Jackson, Mike Rogers and Marcus Turner.

What will the zoning be for the annexation area?

The neighborhoods of Timber Bend and Cedar Bend are proposed to be zoned R1A (residential) and the remaining area is proposed to be zoned AG (agricultural).

Can I have chickens, cows, horses or other farm animals?

Yes, if your property is in the area zoned AG. The Town Code is being amended to clarify this allowance.

Can I burn debris?

Yes, if your property is in the area zoned AG. The Town Code is being amended to clarify this allowance.

Can I fire guns?

Yes, if your property is in the area zoned AG. The Town Code is being amended to clarify this allowance.

Will the zip code change from a Danville or Plainfield zip code to the Avon zip code?

No. The zip code is determined by the United States Postal Service and is not related to Town boundaries. In the past, the Town has had discussions with the United States Postal Service about having an Avon zip code for additional areas but this is unrelated to annexation.

Will the Town require my home to connect to water or sewer lines?

No. Water and sewer services are provided by other entities that are not part of the Town government.