

CITY OF ST. GEORGE

BY COUNCIL MEMBER MURRELL:

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-008

TO AMEND CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE 1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO ANNEXATIONS AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of St. George recognizes that annexation petitions require substantial administrative review and processing, including but not limited to boundary and mapping analysis; geographic information systems (GIS) review; evaluation of police, fire, drainage, and public works service impacts; utility infrastructure capacity review; legal drafting and ordinance preparation; public notice publication costs; public hearing administration; and staff time associated with interdepartmental review and coordination;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the administrative burden and cost associated with reviewing and processing annexation petitions generally increases in proportion to the size of the property proposed to be annexed;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the annexation petition fee is to defray the administrative and processing costs and is not intended to serve as a revenue-raising measure; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend Title 1 Chapter 3 of the City Code to increase the fees for processing annexation petitions beginning on January 1, 2027,

BE IT ORDAINED by the St. George City Council, State of Louisiana, as follows:

Section 1: Title 1, Chapter 3, Section 301 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows

Sec. 301. Procedure to petition for annexation; charges.

(A) Any person, firm, corporation or association applying to the city to have any commercial, industrial or residential lot, parcel, tract, or any portions thereof annexed into the city limits shall submit a petition for annexation to the City of St. George Department of Public Works and for petitions submitted after December 31, 2026 shall pay an administrative processing fee in the amount set forth below ~~sum of \$500~~ before such petition can be considered:

1. Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the first acre; plus
2. One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each additional acre or portion thereof.

(B) For purposes of calculating the fee under this Section, any fractional portion of an acre shall be deemed a full acre.

(C) The total administrative processing fee for any single annexation petition shall not exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00).

(D) The annexation petition and required fee, if any, must be submitted prior to the consideration of the petition.

(E) The fee imposed by this Section is intended solely to defray the city's administrative, legal, publication, and service evaluation costs associated with annexation review. The fee shall be non-refundable, regardless of whether the annexation is approved, denied, withdrawn, or otherwise not completed.

Section 2: The specific terms and conditions of this Ordinance shall prevail against other existing ordinances of the City to the extent that there may be any conflict.

Section 3: Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4: Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective upon publication.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was:

For: Cook, Delucci, Edmonds, Himmel, Monachello and Talbot
Absent: Murrell

Adopted on March 24, 2026.

Signed this 30th day of March, 2026.

Delivered to the Mayor on the 30th day of March, 2026.

Lorraine Beaman
Lorraine Beaman, City Clerk

Approved:

Dustin Yates
Dustin Yates, Mayor

Received from the Mayor on the 30th day of March, 2026.

Lorraine Beaman
Lorraine Beaman, City Clerk

Adopted Ordinance published in The Advocate on the 15th day of April, 2026.