

**Policy 19-19 (Revised): Annexation Petition Policy**

**Adopted: June 18, 2019, amended November 17, 2020, amended July 12, 2023**

**Background:**

In past years, the City of Happy Valley has annexed willing annexation petitioners that included isolated residential properties that are quite some distance from the city limits – typically via annexation of associated public right-of-way, commonly referred to as a “cherry-stem annexation”. Provision of City services to some of these properties has proven problematic and the City Council has expressed an interest in clarifying when annexation via petition should be supported by the City of Happy Valley.

**Statement of Policy:**

Future annexation petitions received by the City of Happy Valley shall have the following limitations regarding support of annexation approval:

- 1) Support property or properties that are adjacent to the existing city limits; or,
- 2) Support property or properties that are along an existing cherry stem annexation established prior to 2019. In addition, new cherry-stem annexations can occur if within a reasonable distance to existing city limits or an existing cherry-stem depending on the condition of the roadway; or,
- 3) Support property or properties that represent commercial, industrial or other high opportunity areas; and,
- 4) If a residential neighborhood should seek annexation, support if at least 75 percent of the property owners that are part of an HOA and for non-HOA developments, at least 75 percent of the property owners on the particular public ROW that makes up the cherry stem shall participate in the annexation request.

**Scope of Applicability:**

City-wide.

**Administration:**

The City Manager is granted the authority to review and amend this policy as necessary. The City Manager will direct the applicable city staff to communicate City Council Policy 19-19 to any applicable property owner(s) or potential petitioners.