

## DESCRIPTION OF UNINCORPORATED ISLANDS

The list of islands was compiled by the Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development at the request of LAFCO staff. The map was prepared using the County's GIS mapping program.

The list includes 16 islands that are 150 acres or less, and meet the criteria for an expedited annexation as contained in Government Code §56375.3 listed below. Also, we have included an additional five islands that are over 150 acres but under 300 acres for discussion purposes.

The criteria used for identifying small islands (i.e., 150 acres or less) as contained in the Government Code, are as follows:

- Island or pocket of area 150 acres or less
- Island is surrounded or substantially surrounded by a city or by a city and adjacent cities
- Island is not a gated community where services are currently provided by a community services district
- Island is substantially developed or developing based on the availability of public utility services, presence of public improvements, or the presence of physical improvements upon the parcel or parcels within the area
- Island is not prime agricultural land, as defined by Government Code §56064
- Island will benefit from the change of organization or reorganization or is receiving benefits from the annexing city
- Island was not created after January 1, 2000

The following is a brief description of each island. The letters correspond to those on the countywide map included with the staff report.

- A. San Pablo area: An unincorporated area including a neighborhood commonly referred to as Rollingwood, and a portion of the unincorporated community of El Sobrante (bounded by I-80 and San Pablo Dam Road). The area comprises 132± acres surrounded by the cities of Richmond and San Pablo, and within San Pablo's Sphere of Influence (SOI) and is located near I-80 off the EI Portal Drive exit. Land uses are primarily built out urban residential and a small section of public land (I-80).
- B. San Pablo area: An unincorporated neighborhood of 96± acres bounded by Hillcrest Road and Wildcat Canyon Regional Park that is surrounded by the cities of Richmond and San Pablo and mostly within San Pablo's SOI. Land uses in the area include residential and public uses including an EBMUD water reservoir and a small area of Wildcat Regional Park. The area is partially built out, and a portion of the area is within the Alquist Priolo Fault Zone which poses geologic issues.
- C. Pleasant Hill area: A 5± acre area of unincorporated land off Alhambra Avenue (eastside of the road) surrounded by the cities of Martinez and Pleasant Hill and within Pleasant Hill's SOI. Land use designations in the area include low density

residential and agricultural. The area is not built out and there is currently a subdivision application being processed through the County.

- D. Pleasant Hill area: a 51± acre area of unincorporated land substantially north of Chilpancingo Parkway surrounded (89%) by the cities of Martinez and Pleasant Hill and within Pleasant Hill's SOI. Land use in the area is residential and the area is mostly built out.
- E. Pleasant Hill area: A 37± acre area of unincorporated land adjacent to and east of the Contra Costa Country Club (near intersection of Paso Nogal and Golf Club Rd.) that is surrounded by the City of Pleasant Hill and within Pleasant Hill's SOI. Land uses in the area includes a corridor of the Contra Costa Canal and residential, and the area is built out.
- F. Walnut Creek area: a 55± acre area of unincorporated land bounded by Pleasant Hill Road to the west and adjacent to Acalanes Open Space (to the south) that is substantially surrounded (96%) by the cities of Lafayette and Walnut Creek and within Walnut Creek's SOI. Land use in the area is primarily residential. The area includes a fair amount of vacant and underutilized land, and is characterized by steep terrain.
- G. Walnut Creek area: a 190± acre area of unincorporated land west of I-680 that is surrounded by the cities of Lafayette and Walnut Creek and within Walnut Creek's SOI. Land uses in the area include residential, public (EBMUD land adjacent to a water tower) and a small portion of HOA open space. The area is mostly built out.
- H. Walnut Creek area: A 104± acre area of an unincorporated neighborhood commonly referred to as Springbrook Road, generally bounded by Highway 24 and Acalanes Open Space. The area is surrounded by the cities of Lafayette and Walnut Creek and within Walnut Creek's SOI. Land uses in the area include residential and commercial with a small section of public (Highway 24). The area has a moderate amount of vacant and underutilized land, and is characterized by steep terrain.
- I. Walnut Creek/Pleasant Hill/Concord area: A 10± acre area of an unincorporated land bounded by Bancroft Road and Mayhew Way. The area is surrounded by the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill and Concord. The area is primarily with Concord's SOI with two parcels in Pleasant Hill's SOI. Land uses in the area include multi and single family residential and light industrial. The area is built out. Residents of this area have previously contacted LAFCO regarding annexation.
- J. Walnut Creek area: A 54± acre area of an unincorporated neighborhood entirely surrounded by the City of Walnut Creek where Walnut Boulevard and Shady Glen Road intersect. The area is within Walnut Creek's SOI. Land use in the area includes residential and the area is built out.

- K. Walnut Creek area: A 276± acre area of unincorporated land located south of the Diablo Hills Golf Course. The area is surrounded by the City of Walnut Creek and within Walnut Creek's SOI. Land use in the area is primarily residential with pockets of open space on the ridge. The area is mostly built out.
- L. San Ramon area: A 0.13± acre area of unincorporated land located west of I-680 that is surrounded by the City of San Ramon and within San Ramon's SOI. Land uses in the area include residential and HOA common area/open space (adjacent to an EBMUD water tower). This island was created after 2000 and is a remnant from LAFCO 08-27 (*Faria Preserve Reorganization: Annexations to the City of San Ramon, CCCSD and EBMUD*).
- M. Concord area: A 189± acre area (Ayers Ranch) bounded by Bailey Road and Concord Blvd that is surrounded by the City of Concord and within Concord's SOI. The area is primarily residential and is nearly built out. For several years discussions have ensued between the City of Concord, the County, LAFCO, and local residents/landowners regarding annexation of this area to the City. There is interest on the part of many residents/landowners to annex to the City. Property tax exchange discussions between the City and County are underway.
- N. Concord area: A 58± acre area of unincorporated land that is substantially surrounded (71%) by the City of Concord and within Concord's SOI. This undeveloped/underutilized area is located at the end of Kaiser Quarry Road where it becomes a private road. Land use designations include single family residential (high) and open space/agricultural.
- O. Clayton area: A 48± acre area of unincorporated land that is substantially surrounded (61%) by the City of Clayton and within Clayton's SOI. The area is located east of Mitchell Canyon Road and is primarily built out residential with equestrian use.
- P. Antioch/Pittsburg area: A 195± acre area surrounded by the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch and currently within Antioch's SOI. The area is located just east of Pittsburg city limits, and within Antioch's Somersville Road Corridor Planning Area. Land use designations include industrial and residential and is primarily vacant with one remaining industrial use. The land is a former petroleum tank farm and is owned by West Coast Homebuilders, an affiliate of A.D. Seeno Construction. In 2009, LAFCO received an application to remove this area from the Antioch SOI and place it in the Pittsburg SOI. This application is currently incomplete and remains pending.

In November 2011, the Pittsburg voters approved Measure I which amends the Pittsburg General Plan to include this 195-acre area in Pittsburg's Urban Limit Line. The measure also prezones the land and allows for a combination of single family residential, high density residential and general industrial development.

- Q. Antioch area: A 78± acre area of unincorporated land entirely surrounded by the City

of Antioch and within Antioch's SOI. Land use designation include open space and agricultural. This island is undeveloped and is a former landfill site owned by GBF Holdings, sometimes referred to as the City Dump site, and is located north of James Donlon Boulevard and east of Somersville Road.

- R. Antioch area: A 76± acre area of unincorporated land entirely surrounded by the City of Antioch and within Antioch's SOI. The land use designation is public use. This area is more commonly referred to as the County Fair Grounds site, and is located where 10<sup>th</sup> Street and L Street intersect.
- S. Antioch area: A 108± acre area of unincorporated land substantially surrounded (93%) by the City of Antioch and within Antioch's SOI. This island is generally bounded by 18<sup>th</sup> Street and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks. The area is predominantly residential, with limited commercial and light industrial, some open space including PG&E utility corridors, and a cemetery. The area is mostly built out. The City, County and LAFCO are currently in discussions regarding the annexation of the entire Northeast Antioch area.
- T. Brentwood area: A 140± acre area of unincorporated land substantially surrounded (98%) by the cities of Oakley and Brentwood and within Brentwood's SOI. This island is located where Lone Tree Way intersects with Virginia Drive west of Brentwood Boulevard. Land uses include residential, commercial and agricultural.
- U. Brentwood area: A 151± acre area of unincorporated land substantially surrounded (85%) by the City of Brentwood and within Brentwood's SOI. This island is bounded by Delta Road to the north and Brentwood Blvd to the west. The area is largely undeveloped. Land uses include limited residential and active agricultural (prime farmland).

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – City Annexation

***What is annexation?*** Annexation is a process by which a City adds land to its jurisdiction in order to extend services (e.g., sewer, police, roads, etc.), laws, and voting privileges.

***Who decides whether annexation is approved or not?*** The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is responsible for approving or denying an annexation. The annexation process typically takes a minimum of six months to complete, and can sometimes take longer. An annexation must be considered at a public meeting. For more information regarding Contra Costa LAFCO, please visit the website at [www.contracostalafco.org](http://www.contracostalafco.org) or call (925) 335-1094.

***Will my property taxes increase if my property is annexed to the City?*** As part of the annexation process, the City and County negotiate a property tax split to determine how much property tax the City will receive and how much the County will retain. Except for City of Concord special assessments your property tax will not increase. Under the California Constitution, your property cannot be assessed at more than 1% of its value. However, special assessments may apply in both the City and County. For example, the City of Concord has a citywide lighting and landscape assessment. Properties in the City are assessed annually based on an Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) factor of \$25 for a single-family residential parcel. Assessments range from \$12.50 for a condominium or vacant land, to \$500 for a commercial parcel.

***Will there be a reassessment of my property upon annexation?*** No. A reassessment would not occur as part of an annexation.

***Will my service providers change if my property is annexed to a city?*** Once annexed to the City, the City will provide municipal services such as police, building inspection, maintenance of public roads and infrastructure, public works, parks and recreation, and sewer. Other services, such as water, fire service, gas & electric, and cable will continue to be provided by your current service providers.

***Will there be a change in my garbage collection services?*** Garbage service will be provided by Concord Disposal Service.

***Will annexation change where my children go to school?*** School districts boundaries are not affected by annexations.

***How will the zoning on my property change if the annexation is approved?*** Zoning will conform to the pre-zoning designation for the parcel when it is annexed. For example, if the property has been pre-zoned to R-20 (minimum 20,000 sq. ft. lot), that is the zoning that will be in effect when the property is annexed.

***How will annexation to the city affect my pets and/or livestock?*** The City regulates the keeping of livestock and fowl on residential properties; see [CityofConcord.org](http://CityofConcord.org) for the regulations.

***Will a Contra Costa County building permit be honored by the City?*** Yes, a building permit issued by the County for a property subsequently annexed to the City will remain valid for the life of the building permit, including renewals, if construction was started prior to annexation. If you have a building permit from the County but have not begun construction, or if your permit has been suspended, revoked, or expired, a new permit would be required from the City of Concord.

***How do the County and City enforce land use, health and fire codes to maintain the safety and value of the property?*** Both the County and cities operate “code compliance” programs to enforce local ordinances dealing with such issues as weeds, animals, noise, dilapidated structures, and similar property issues.

***I have a home-based business, what will be required of me after annexation?*** A home based business would be subject to a city business license and to the City’s zoning requirements for a home based business. If the home based business is legal and permitted under County codes but not legal under the City codes, it would become a legal non-conforming use, subject to the City’s non-conforming use regulations. If the home based business is illegal (does not have county approval or does not comply with county requirements) it is most likely to be illegal under the City’s regulations. See [CityofConcord.org](http://CityofConcord.org), for the City’s home based business ordinance.

***What happens to my street address after annexation?*** The City will review the existing addresses and will attempt to preserve the existing addresses. If there are any proposed changes, this will be to ensure that emergency responders will locate the property address without unnecessary delay. Advanced notice will be provided prior to any address change.

***Will I be required to hook up to public sewer and/or water?*** You can continue to use a septic system and/or well after annexation. Continued use of an existing septic system is allowed unless a health problem is detected by the County Health Department. If your property is already connected to a City sewer line, there will be no change in cost or service. The City’s Sewer Ordinance requires a property owner to connect its property to the City’s sewer main if the nearest plumbing outlet is within 200 feet of the sewer main. The Ordinance holds this requirement in abeyance so long as the existing septic system continues to function and can adequately serve the property. The Contra Costa County Environmental Health Department makes the determination if the existing septic system is functioning. If the plumbing outlet of the property is beyond 200 feet of a sewer main, the decision on whether the septic system could be reconstructed rests solely with the County Health Department.

***What does it cost to connect to city sewer and does the city offer any financial assistance?*** The cost of connection to the City of Concord sewer is as follows:

- Residential-single family home or 3-bedroom multiple dwelling unit \$4,776 + \$500 Clayton Valley Surcharge
- 2-bedroom multiple dwelling unit (per unit) \$3,534 + \$370 Clayton Valley Surcharge;
- 1-bedroom or studio multiple dwelling unit \$2,627 + \$275 Clayton Valley Surcharge;
- In addition to the connection fee, there is an annual residential surcharge of \$306 to cover maintenance and treatment;
- Sewer connection fees change annually on September 1<sup>st</sup>; annual sewer service fees are adjusted as needed and area approved through a public hearing process before the City Council.

***Do I have to annex to the City in order to receive sewer service?*** Yes, however, the Government Code allows for what is called “out of agency service” if there is an existing or impending threat to the health and safety of the public (e.g., failed septic system) and in anticipation of annexation. Out of agency service is considered a temporary remedy in anticipation of a future annexation.

***Will I be required to install curbs, gutters and sidewalks?*** The requirement for construction of frontage improvements such as curbs, gutters, and sidewalk is triggered by new construction. If there is no new construction, then the property owner is not required to construct frontage improvements. See [CityofConcord.org](http://CityofConcord.org) for requirements.

***Will my voice in local government change?*** As a City resident, you will be eligible to vote in City elections. City residents may also be eligible to run for City Council and serve on various City commissions and committees.

***What benefit does the City get out of annexation?*** In order for the annexation to occur, the City and County need to agree on the portion of property taxes that will go to the City to pay for City services to the annexation area. In general, it costs the City more to provide services to a residential area than it receives from the property tax agreement. In the case of Ayers Ranch, which is an island completely surrounded by the City of Concord, the City boundaries will be more logical and orderly and residents will benefit from the provision of public services.

***What if I don't want to annex?*** Property owners (and registered voters) within the annexation area have the right to protest annexation during the LAFCO review process. If LAFCO approves the proposal after its first hearing, LAFCO will then conduct a protest hearing. LAFCO will provide public notice of both hearings and direction on how and when to submit a written protest. If the protest is sufficiently large, affected voters may be asked to vote to annex their area. For more information about annexation procedures visit the LAFCO website or contact the LAFCO office.

***How can I become involved in the annexation process?*** There are a number of opportunities throughout the annexation process where you can be involved and provide comment:

- Community meetings held prior to finalization of the annexation proposal;
- City Council meeting to consider adopting a resolution initiating the annexation proceedings;
- LAFCO public hearings;
- Voting in the annexation (if election is required).

***How will I be notified of future public hearings on the proposed annexation?*** All affected and surrounding landowners and registered voters will receive information via US Mail regarding the proposed annexation and hearing. For information about LAFCO meetings and agendas, visit the LAFCO website or contact the LAFCO office.