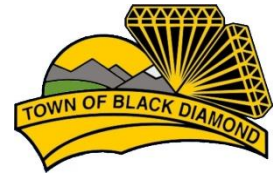




Joint Press Release



September 20, 2018

Councilors from the MD of Foothills and the Town of Black Diamond have been engaged in annexation discussions for the past 6 months. Black Diamond has been growing steadily in recent years and is running short of land for future growth. Annexation is necessary to provide opportunities for residential, commercial and industrial development, and to accommodate a mix of land uses that will provide a diverse and sustainable municipal tax base for the Town into the future.

In order to grow in an efficient, orderly, and sustainable manner, it is necessary for the Town to plan for future growth. Plans for residential, commercial, and industrial areas, transportation routes, and infrastructure for water, sewer, and storm water are necessary to accommodate the long term growth of the Town. Annexation will allow the Town to invest in planning, engineering, and financing strategies with confidence by ensuring the lands required for future growth are within its jurisdiction.

Annexation is the process for a municipality to expand its boundaries in order to accommodate future growth. Properties within an annexation area would change from being in one municipality to being in another. Annexation does not change ownership rights, and owners are not required to develop or sell their property. Whereas expropriation is a process for a municipality to take ownership of land against an owner's wishes, annexation is simply a change of jurisdiction from one municipality to another. Black Diamond is proposing annexation, NOT expropriation. The Black Diamond and Foothills have been consulting with affected landowners to with the goal of minimizing any impact on owners of annexed lands.

The MD of Foothills and the Town of Black Diamond have identified an annexation area of approximately 4 quarter sections that will provide enough land for 30 – 40 years of growth of residential, commercial and industrial uses. The annexation area also includes lands located between the Towns of Black Diamond and Turner Valley. Annexation of this land will result in a contiguous border between the towns, which will facilitate their future amalgamation, should they choose to do so.

A Public Open House will be held from 4 – 8 p.m. Monday, October 15 at the Town of Black Diamond Council Chambers where information concerning annexation will be presented. Elected officials and administration from the Town of Black Diamond and the Municipal District of Foothills will be in attendance to answer questions and receive comments.

For more information please contact:

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