



# City of Phoenix

## Benefits of Annexation

There are many benefits of annexation and services that are provided to city of Phoenix residents.

### **Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Service**

Residents of unincorporated areas generally must make their own arrangements for fire protection. In many areas this can be done through payment to a private fire protection company, such as Rural Metro, and in a few areas fire districts have been organized with the power to assess property taxes to pay the cost of fire protection. In some cases professional fire protection is not available at all. Even in areas where fire protection can be secured the level of service does not match that of the city of Phoenix Fire Department. Upon annexation all residents of the annexed area receive full Phoenix Fire Department service. The city of Phoenix Fire Department provides fire protection, assistance during medical emergencies and ambulance and rescue services. The Fire Department also offers many other services such as Urban Survival, Fire Safety and Prevention, Senior Programs, as well as investigations.

### **Police Protection**

Non-city residents are receiving protection from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department. As a resident of the city of Phoenix, you will receive police protection from a well-trained force that includes patrol cars, traffic control, detective service and accident investigation service.

### **Water and Wastewater Services**

For information on water or sewer availability to your property, please contact the Water Services Department, Technical Services Division 602-495-5601. If you already have city water service, you should know that city of Phoenix water customers, whose property is outside the city Limits of Phoenix, pay 50 percent more for water than properties within the city. Upon annexation, outside water customers will automatically have their water rates reduced to the inside the city rate.

### **Residential Solid Waste, Trash Collection and Related Services**

Solid waste and recyclable materials are collected weekly, and bulk trash is picked up quarterly at a low in-city cost. Residents also can use the city landfill and transfer station. Many private sanitation companies charge more for their services as compared to the city of Phoenix.

### **Zoning and Building Protection**

The city of Phoenix provides protection to its residents through specific planning, zoning and building ordinances. These ordinances help protect property owner investments and encourage beautification and maintenance of Phoenix neighborhoods.

### **Street Cleaning and Maintenance**

All dedicated streets are maintained by the City of Phoenix and are swept four times per year in conjunction with bulk trash pickup. Major and collector streets are swept two times per month.

### **Participation in City Government**

As a resident of the city of Phoenix, you have a voice in the affairs of your government. This includes eligibility for a city office, the right to vote in city elections, the ability to serve on voluntary boards and commissions, and the right to have a say in the way the city is run.

### **Additional Benefits**

There are other benefits available to residents of the city: cultural events, recreational programs, parks, and library facilities.