

ANNEXATION AGREEMENT INFORMATION

The Blendon Township Board of Trustees would like to provide annexation information, and the Annexation Agreement entered into with the City of Columbus on June 21, 2021, by a former Board of Trustees.

First and foremost, under Ohio law and the current Annexation Agreement with the City of Columbus, annexation is a property owner-driven process. That means that unless a property owner files an annexation petition with the County Commissioners and seeks annexation to the City of Columbus, no annexations will or can occur. All property owners must petition and consent to any annexation. The City of Columbus may not annex any property in the Township unless it already owns it. An example of this is Columbus annexing Hoover Reservoir. The Annexation Agreement ensures that residents will not be annexed into the City without their consent. Several other townships in Franklin County, like Washington and Norwich, have similar annexation agreements with the City of Columbus.

The Annexation Agreement also requires that if property is annexed to the City of Columbus, the boundaries of the annexed property will be conformed and no longer part of the Township. This alleviates problems such as overlapping of services like police and fire, unnecessary taxation, voter confusion, and other issues typically associated with the multi-jurisdictional areas. The Board of Trustees wants to make it clear that they do not support any annexation of Township property. However, they also respect property owner rights and the terms of the current Annexation Agreement. The Board of Trustees commits to preserving the Township's territory and to working with property owners to address any issues that could lead to annexation.

To date, the City of Columbus has made no annexation proposals involving the Township beyond the annexation of the Hoover Reservoir property, which the City already owns. That annexation, which the former Board publicly announced in March 2025, had no financial impact on Blendon Township. The current Board will continue to engage the City of Columbus in meaningful dialogue regarding the Township and how to prevent future annexations.

We also encourage all residents to contact the Township directly with any questions or concerns. We are committed to transparency and will continue to provide timely and factual updates.