



BENEFITS OF BEING IN THE CITY OF FOLEY

April 20, 2007

If annexed into the corporate limits of the City of Foley:

1. The City of Foley will provide the following sanitation and street services:
 - a. Garbage pick up twice a week (garbage cart furnished)
 - b. Yard refuse and trash pickup as needed
 - c. Roadside litter collection as needed
 - d. Provide mosquito control. This is an intensive program of spraying and use of larvicide (in standing water such as retention ponds)
 - e. Street cleaning as needed
 - f. Paper, plastic and aluminum curb-side recycling collection once each week (all in one container which is provided)
 - g. Maintenance and repair of streets as needed
 - h. Maintenance and repair of drainage improvements in right-of-ways as needed
 - i. Maintenance, repair and replacement of street signs as needed
 - j. Maintenance, repair and replacement of street lights as needed
 - k. Assume the maintenance and electricity bill for subdivision street lights
 - l. Install lighting where needed to comply with our street lighting regulations

2. The City of Foley will provide the following services through its Police Department:
 - a. Patrol subdivision and business areas with the largest City police force in Baldwin County
 - b. Provide animal control services
 - c. Post and enforce traffic control signs (e.g., speed limits, through-trucks, etc.)
 - d. Answer calls for police service/assistance
 - e. Investigate reports of criminal activity in the area and investigate criminal offenses
 - f. Answer burglar and fire alarms
 - g. Take Incidental/Offense Reports
 - h. Handle domestic calls
 - i. Assist stranded/stalled motorists on/off the roadway
 - j. Give residents security surveys/tips if requested
 - k. Check the welfare of any citizen if requested
 - l. Investigate traffic accidents
 - m. Direct traffic during any emergency such as hurricanes
 - n. Assist the fire department in any emergency

- o. Assist medical personnel in any emergency or call for service
 - p. Deliver subpoenas issued by the Court
 - q. Serve warrants issued by the Court
 - r. Protect the lives and property of citizens
 - s. Provide Neighborhood Watch Briefings
 - t. Give business employees tips on crime prevention and consumer fraud
3. The City of Foley will provide the following services through its Fire Department:
- a. Respond to fire calls
 - b. Public relations and education as it applies to life safety and fire prevention
 - c. Issue burn permits
 - d. Your ISO fire insurance rating would drop from a 6 to a 3 which may lower your homeowner's insurance rates.
 - e. We offer free CPR, AED and First-aid classes.
 - f. Free home safety inspections
4. The City of Foley will provide zoning protection through its Community Development Department and will carry out inspection of building construction and issue land disturbance permits (helps control runoff and promotes good drainage).
5. The advantage of being a Citizen of Foley versus looking to the County for local government services is that your voice counts for more when it comes to the direction of your community by being a Citizen of Foley. The Mayor and City Council in a close community like Foley are much more accessible than your County representatives. Your leaders here in Foley are people who understand your concerns because they are residents themselves. Many of the individuals providing citizens of Foley with services such as trash pickup and police protection are residents also and know how the quality of life is valued in this area. Furthermore, by being a Citizen of Foley you will be able to vote in municipal elections and be eligible to be appointed to serve on certain municipal boards.
6. Brick mailboxes are likely to be located in the right-of-way as platted on the subdivision plat. The City of Foley has an ordinance prohibiting brick mailboxes and other mailboxes not capable of breaking away on impact from being in the City right-of-ways. Upon annexation into the City of Foley, these streets and right-of-ways will automatically become City streets and right-of-ways, and the existing brick mailboxes and stucco mailboxes will be subject to the mailbox ordinance without being grand-fathered. If any homeowners wish to keep their brick mailboxes or wish to build a brick mailbox in the future, then they will need to individually petition the City Council for a partial vacation of the right-of-way in front of their house. A copy of a draft petition is attached for your reference.
7. There is no existing City ordinance prohibiting the use of golf carts on City streets.
8. If annexed into the City of Foley, residents should expect to pay the following increases in taxes and fees:

- a. \$5 increase per license tag which helps defray the costs related to streets
- b. 5 mills increase in property tax. Example: 1) County appraises residence at \$150,000, 2) Multiply \$150,000 by 10% = \$15,000. This is the assessed value. 3) Subtract approximately \$45 from \$15,000 = \$14,955.00, 4) Multiply \$14,955 by .005 = \$75.00. This is approximately the added property tax from the City's 5 mil tax. Citizens who are 65 years of age and/or totally and permanently disabled qualify for additional tax relief based upon taxable income. This is computed by the Baldwin County Revenue Commissioners Office if a request is made.
- c. Pay \$12 per month for sanitation services as previously described. We will coordinate transfer of service to us from the County so there is no overlap in billing.

NOTE: Residents of the subdivision should gain a savings (intermediate to long term) offsetting the costs listed above. This will come from reduced homeowners' association fees and charges to pay for liability insurance associated with right of ways, maintenance and electricity of street lighting, and maintenance of drainage within the right of way. Currently, planning costs for street resurfacing runs \$30,000 per mile. In approximately ten years from date of resurfacing, this cost will start occurring - sooner if the sub-base is weak. We mention this even if your streets are currently maintained by the County. Due to the enormity of demand for paving within Baldwin County, it would not be unusual for residents to become dissatisfied with pavement conditions for a considerable time before resurfacing takes place by County forces.

- 9. The subdivision homeowners' association will continue to operate under its own rules and regulations as it does now, even if the land is annexed into the City of Foley. If the homeowners' association is yet to be formed, the City will honor its formation when formed.
- 10. The City of Foley does not govern subdivision covenants.

Conclusion

It is important to note that although the City currently provides Police and Fire services to its police jurisdiction, these services are not necessarily the same as Police and Fire service provided within our City limits.

Earlier in this document, the Police and Fire services described are those we provide to citizens within the city limits. However, levels of these services provided to the jurisdiction are based upon our abilities at the time.

Examples best explain the practice. If the Police are pressed to deliver those services that are listed in this document to our present citizens then levels of service to the jurisdiction are likely to fall for a period of time. Our first mission has to be the provision of the highest level of all services to the citizens of Foley that we can reasonably deliver. This does not imply a total absence of service to the jurisdiction but rather that the level of service can vary. If we are called into the jurisdiction at anytime, we will respond to the best of our abilities.

Fire Department: within our corporate limits, we actively plan to deliver fire service that is comparable to what is expected in a ISO 3 rated area. This planning principally determines what equipment is purchased, the training and size of the personnel organization and placement of

equipment and substations to attain maximum coverage. While the police jurisdiction is considered in these decisions, we must again be principally guided by the fact that our first mission is to provide the highest level of service we can reasonably deliver to Foley's citizens. The result is fire calls made close to our corporate limits may receive as good or nearly as good response as the city limits. The further the call is made into the jurisdiction, the less likely the response can equal a call within the city limits. The deeper the call in the jurisdiction, the more we operate by supporting a volunteer fire department that serves the area.

There is no guarantee (in the future) that any services will be delivered to the police jurisdiction. Several years ago, we estimated that services delivered (within the jurisdiction) cost approximately \$3 for every dollar of revenue collected. This in no way is a threat. The dynamics of living in a fast-growing area often produce necessary change quickly.

Perhaps one of the biggest advantages to being a citizen of Foley is that you can participate in the process that delivers these critical services to your area. Citizens of the City vote to elect the Mayor and City Council - their decisions directly impact the delivery of these essential services (police and fire protection). As a citizen, you have every right to discuss your feelings about how these services or any other services should be delivered.