

Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council Presentation: East Renton Plateau and Annexation

King County Office of Management and Budget
August 2005

Governance Options for East Renton Plateau

- East Renton Plateau is “unincorporated” area
 - Portion inside the urban growth boundary established per the state Growth Management Act: urban
 - Portion outside the UGB: rural
 - Urban portion is currently not part of any city; it is part of Renton’s Potential Annexation Area
- Three governance options available:
 - May become part of a new city (“incorporate”)
 - May join an existing, adjacent city (“annex”)
 - May remain “unincorporated” and continue to receive most local services from King County

Who decides?

- Governance future is a decision for the residents of this area and the City of Renton.
- “Status quo” service delivery from King County is not an option: King County general fund imbalance means ongoing cuts in general government services.
 - Cost of service delivery growing faster than revenues each year.
 - No increase in service and gradual degradation.
 - County retains the service obligation and will continue to serve the area so long as it remains unincorporated.

Why is the County talking about annexation?

- Local policies adopted in response to state Growth Management Act call for all urban areas of King County to become part of a city by 2012.
- The County's budget problems mean that County service levels will continue to deteriorate over time: this community is more likely to see its local service levels maintained or improved if it chooses to annex to Renton.

County Services to E. Renton

	Regional	Local
Mandated	<p>Superior court District Court (small claims) Jail (felony pre-trial detention) Public Health Prosecutor Public Defender Public Records Elections Licensing Juvenile Justice</p>	<p>Local roads Sheriff District Court Misdemeanor prosecution/public defense Jail for misdemeanants Building permits and inspections Fire inspections Surface water management</p>
Discretionary	<p>Regional parks and open space Human services Children and family services Animal control Economic Development Regional Transportation Regional Wastewater Trtmt.</p>	<p>Human Services Parks Economic Development</p>

Current Local services: Provided by Other than King County

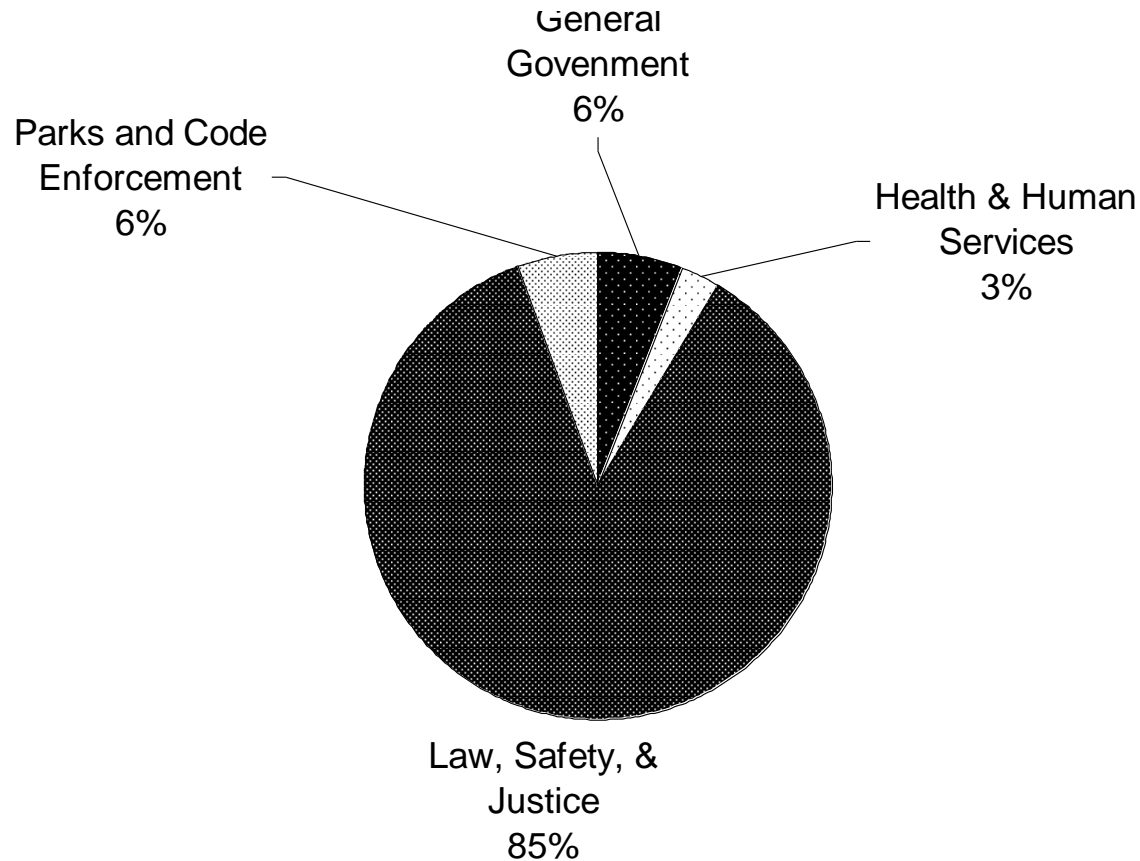
- Library*
- Schools
- Fire district**
- Sewer district
- Water district
- Garbage haulers***

*Service provider would change if annexed; however city library system has reciprocal use agreement with KCLD.

**Service provider would change if annexed, except for portion of Plateau in FD #25 which is already served by city.

***Service provider could change 7 years after annexation.

Current County Local Service Expenditures



General Fund Expenditures – 2005 Local Services

King County Annexation Initiative

- ***Provide financial incentives to cities to accelerate annexation/incorporation*** -- \$10 million Incentive Funds (countywide) targeted to 10 largest remaining urban unincorporated areas.
 - *Funds will not cover all ongoing costs to cities; are intended to help offset transition, start-up costs.*
 - *Funds only transfer where an annexation covers substantially all of an area, and other conditions are met (city assumes ownership of local county facilities)*
- ***Provide support and information to communities to examine governance options***
 - *Surveys, studies, community outreach and involvement*
- ***Current status:*** Discussions ongoing with cities regarding most large urban unincorporated areas. Agreement with Issaquah concluded for Klahanie; awaiting City and County Council, voter approvals.