

## Annexation Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Annexation?

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 is not the same thing as expropriate. It would not change ownership rights, and owners are not required to develop or sell their property.

### Why is this Annexation Being Proposed?

The purpose for this proposed annexation is to facilitate future commercial and residential growth and development that benefits the Village's long term sustainability as a municipality. The Village currently does not have any jurisdictional control over lands adjacent to the Highway 28 corridor near the entrance to the Village, which is a major economic corridor in the Smoky Lake County Region.

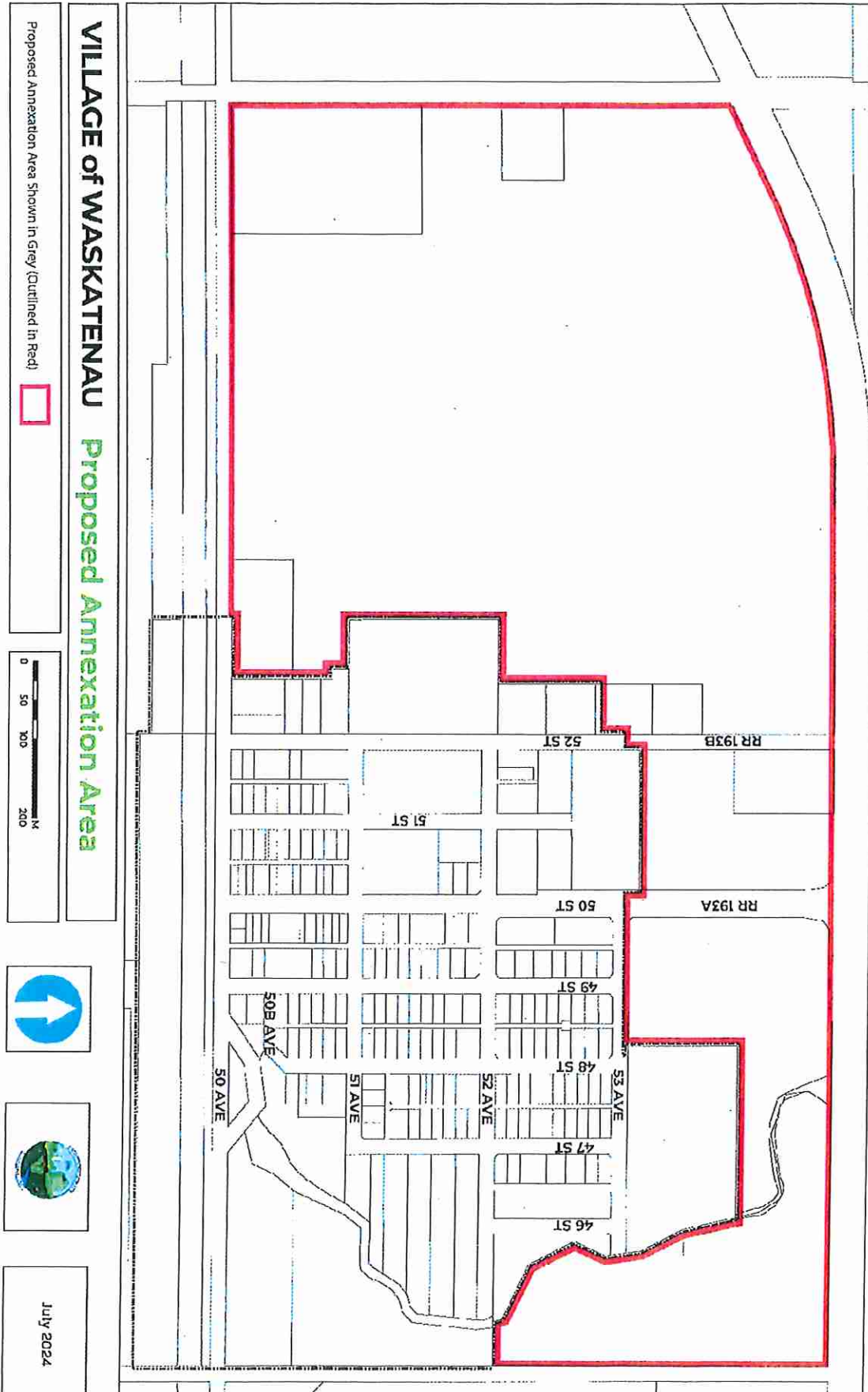
The Village is of the opinion that extending the Village's boundaries north and west to the Highway 28 corridor is a logical extension of the Village boundaries and would enable the Village to capitalize on future growth and development along this important economic corridor, and to control future development patterns, servicing, and transportation connections adjacent to the Village's built footprint.

### What lands are proposed to be Annexed into the Village of Waskatenau?

The following is a list of properties that are included in the proposed annexation (and as shown on the map attached):

Privately Owned Land	Road Rights-of-Way
OT 5225CL	Part of Range Road 193B/52 Street
Lot 21, Block 16, Plan 8122847	Part of Range Road 193A/50 Street)
Lot 20, Block 16, Plan 8122847	
Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0923870	<b>Crown Land</b>
Lot 2, Block 1, 1923509	Waskatenau Creek
Lot 1, Block 17, Plan 8022152	
Parts and Remainder of SW-16-59-19-W4 (four parcels in total)	
Lot 17, Plan 6353ET	

Schedule A – Proposed Annexation Area



Has Smoky Lake County been notified?

Yes, Smoky Lake County was notified in July 2024 of the Village's intent to proceed with an annexation application. The Village also provided notice to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal, and utility and service providers in the proposed annexation area.

Has the Village or Smoky Lake County planned for the future development of this area?

The Smoky Lake County & Village of Waskatenau IDP was adopted by both municipalities in 2022. The proposed annexation area is entirely within the 'Future Annexation Area Overlay' on Map 5.1 – Future Land Use Areas, and is consistent with the plan's goals, which aim to achieve the following benefits for both municipalities:

- Increase overall community and economic development capacity building essential to both short term and longer term community viability, sustainability, and quality of life.
- Increased business/investment attraction "presence" throughout the Smoky Lake Region.
- Improved regional fiscal and financial sustainability.

### **Have landowners in the proposed annexation area been notified?**

Letters notifying County landowners in (and adjacent to) the proposed annexation area were mailed to the registered property owners in October 2024.

### **Will there be opportunities for Community and Landowner Engagement?**

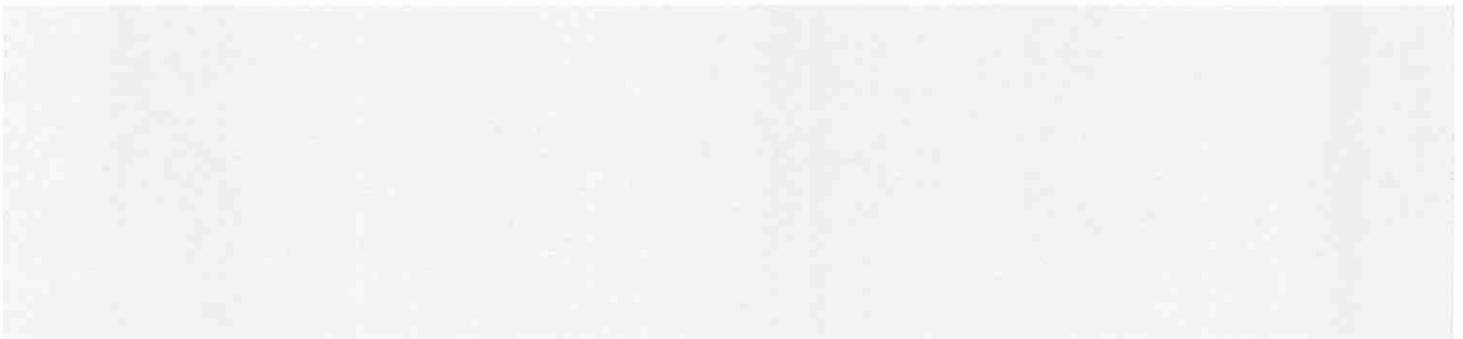
As outlined in the Act, the Village recognizes that engagement must include:

- Residents of the Village of Waskatenau;
- County landowners within (and adjacent to) the proposed annexation area;
- Smoky Lake County; and
- Local authorities, agencies, and service providers operating in the Village and the proposed annexation area.

As part of the proposed annexation's engagement plan, the Village is committed to:

- Creating a dedicated page on the Village's website to host annexation information;
- Hosting a meeting with current landowners to discuss the annexation process and gather their feedback
- Hosting a public meeting (that may be attended by Village residents, current landowners in the proposed annexation area, adjacent landowners in the County, and local authorities, agencies, and service providers).

The Village will document all public engagement materials and collect all feedback received for inclusion in the annexation report that will be submitted to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal.



## What is the Process for Annexation?

The proposed annexation application is in the very early stages. The following is a summary of the key steps in this process, and indication of where this process is at to date:

- ✓Step 1 – Notice of Intent submitted to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal and Smoky Lake County
- ✓Step 2 – Notice sent to County landowners within (and adjacent to) the proposed annexation area
- ✓Step 3 – Public information about the proposed annexation area shared by the Village
- Step 4 – Village and County engage in formal discussions and negotiations
- Step 5 – Village engagement with County landowners in the proposed annexation area
- Step 6 – Village engagement with community members (e.g. open house, website updates, newsletter information, etc.)
- Step 7 – Village shared engagement feedback with Smoky Lake County
- Step 8 – Village and County engage in further discussions and negotiations
- Step 9 – Village prepares anAnnexation Report for the Land and Property Rights Tribunal
- Step 10 – Village shares the Annexation Report with Smoky Lake County
- Step 11 – Village Submits the Annexation Report to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal
- Step 12 – Land and Property Rights Tribunal reviews the Annexation Report, and determines whether a hearing is required or not required
- Step 13 – Land and Property Rights Tribunal holds hearing (if required)
- Step 14 – Land and Property Rights Tribunal provides recommendation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who will proceed to Cabinet with an Order-in-Council for approval or refusal.
- Step 15 – The proposed annexation is approved or refused