

Why I Support Annexation into the City of Atlanta

**By Monica Davis
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I support annexation into Atlanta because a new city of South Fulton is risky and I do not think there are enough businesses paying taxes to make it successful. Living in unincorporated Fulton is nice but my father says taxes are going up and services are not as good as they used to be. I also think it would take a while to start a new police and fire department and I do not think that safety is something to play games or experiment with. Atlanta is over 160 years old and has a lot of experience with over two thousand police officers and more than thirty fire stations.

The city of Atlanta has provided services to citizens very well for many years. There are a lot of business paying taxes and people that live there don't have to pay as much in taxes as in other areas. Atlanta is very experienced in running parks and they already provide us water which will be cheaper if we become a part of the city. The city keeps adding new attractions like the aquarium, the civil rights museum, the ferris wheel, the new streetcar and many other exciting things.

Atlanta has festivals many events and lots of new restaurants that bring more and more people to live in the city. As the city continues to grow and bring more people and businesses and jobs the city can afford to do more for its citizens for less in taxes and pay Atlanta employees even better.

Many business are interesting in coming to Atlanta because of its national reputation and they work very hard to bring jobs and new businesses to Atlanta. Atlanta has managed its finances very well and they have the funds to handle emergencies and fix the roads and bridges. Atlanta is very well known after the Olympics and people here say they live in Atlanta even when they just live in the suburbs. The city is very well run and the departments have a lot more experience than a new city would have.

Atlanta is home to sports teams including basketball football and now soccer teams. Atlanta school scores compared to south Fulton school scores are about the same and lots of business and corporations give money to Atlanta schools and students to improve education. This

giving does not happen in other county school systems around the city of Atlanta.

Nine years ago neighbors in the cascade area annexed into the city of Atlanta. The neighborhoods were Guilford Forrest, Regency Park and Reunion Place. People who I know that live there are still happy that they joined Atlanta. We see many more Atlanta police cars in the neighborhood even though we still live in unincorporated Fulton County down the street.

Atlanta built sidewalks on Danforth Road and has nice streetlights that gives people a safe way to walk, but the sidewalks stop when you cross the city line because I hear that the county does not have the money to build the rest of the sidewalks. I like the idea of really living in the city even though my post office address says Atlanta already. It is a very established city that has a great history and it is not going anywhere.