

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

City of Morton: A Vote for or against de-annexation from Timberland Regional Library

November 8, 2022, Election Day

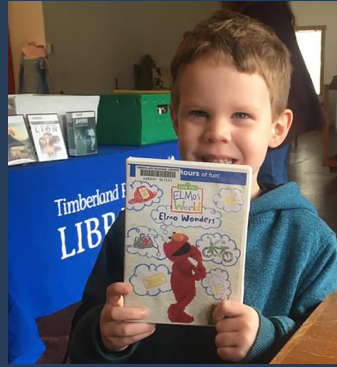


What is the current relationship between Timberland Regional Library (TRL) and the City of Morton (City)?

The City has been annexed to TRL since 2012 when citizens voted 72.75% to annex.

In 2022, projected property tax revenue to TRL from residents in the City is \$37,587.

Residents' use of library services from 2013 – June 2022 available at:
<https://tinyurl.com/Mortonreport>



What is annexation?

Annexation is a process in which voters in a city choose to become part of a library district.

Once annexed, residents could check out books, DVDs, CDs; download eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, and access other resources and services by getting a free library card. Residents could also reserve library meeting rooms.

Why is the City of Morton putting the de-annexation ballot measure at the November 2022 Election?

At the May 28, 2022, Morton City Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to approve moving ahead with the paperwork needed to put de-annexation on the ballot for the voters to decide in the next election.



What happens if the majority of voters (50% +1) vote "NO" on the Proposition? Meaning the City should remain in the TRL district?

- Residents would continue to pay property taxes for library services and would receive free library cards. The 2022 TRL library levy rate is 28.80 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The single owner of a home valued at \$300,000 pays \$86.40 per year for library services. If there are additional family members in the household, the rate remains at \$86.40.
- Current twice a month library pop-up services at the United Methodist Church may continue. Kiosk and book return bin services from the Centralia College East Campus would continue.

What happens if the majority of voters (50% + 1) vote "YES" on the Proposition? Meaning the City should withdraw from the TRL district?

- If approved, the measure will go into effect in 2023. Taxpayers would no longer pay property taxes to TRL beginning in 2023.
- Following de-annexation, City residents wishing to use TRL library services would need to obtain non-resident library cards beginning in 2023. The annual cost of a non-resident card is re-calculated each year based on the levy rate paid by residents in the library district. In 2022, the 12-month fee for a non-resident card is \$102 and allows the entire household at that address to obtain a library card.
- TRL would no longer provide twice a month pop-up library services at the United Methodist Church or anywhere else in the City. The Kiosk and book return at the Centralia College East Campus would be removed.