



## ANNEXATION—POSSIBILITIES AND IMPLICATIONS

The Green Lake Association Board of Directors is very concerned about the issues raised by annexation:

- Annexation is possible only if the properties to be annexed are contiguous to the City. Does acquiring properties along State Highway 23 accomplish contingency? Who has standing to object to the annexation, which must commence with 90 days of filing? What will the costs be to the Town of Brooklyn if it has standing? What will the financial impact to the Town be if it can and does pursue an objection. What will be the financial impact to its tax base? What does the City of Green Lake stand to gain if annexation is approved?
- If Lindenwood acquires the lots along Highway 23 that would connect the City to the GLCC, a significant "island" of property is created. This island would be bordered by the City on the east, the GLCC on the west, newly-acquired properties along Highway 23 on the north, and the lake on the south—essentially Robin Hood Estates, Irving Park Road, Hickory Road, and the Hickories. Other properties have been gerrymandered out of the proposed annexation area, including some whose owners previously objected to the development. Would these residences be "swept into" the annexation and also become part of the City?
- The DNR ordered the City to construct a larger wastewater treatment plant. The plant should go online in 2009 and will have the capacity to handle effluent from homes within the proposed annexed area as well as any properties that may be "swept" into the City's boundaries.
- The City's Subdivision Ordinance allows lot sizes of 20,000 square feet, one-half acre, the size Lindenwood has proposed for its development. In addition, The City, as an incorporated body, is not subject to the DNR's State Shoreland Protection Ordinance, nor to that of the County's more restrictive shoreland ordinances. How close to the lake could homes be built under the City's Ordinance? What will this mean for the vegetation that protects the shorelines and offers refuge, food, and homes for many species of birds and other animals? What will this mean for the privacy and beauty that such vegetation creates?
- The owners of this proposed annexation area are within their rights to make changes to their properties as long as the changes are legal. Attorneys from all sides will argue the legal issues. Neighbors and community members ask if this development is the only way the GLCC can achieve its needs. If the need to raise money is the driving force, are there other ways to achieve the same end?
- Taxes from lakeshore properties and those close to the lake already support more than half of the County's services. What is the best way to ensure that this ecological, environmental, and economical treasure is not degraded or destroyed?