

# Patterson Irrigation District Policy Regarding Annexation and Water Availability

Passed and adopted January 24, 2018, Amended April 19, 2018

Historically lands that have annexed into the City of Patterson (“**City**”) for future urban development have been immediately detached from the Patterson Irrigation District (“**District**”). If the property remained in agricultural production, this resulted in surface water being available to the property under the same terms and conditions as its “Priority Area I”. The purpose of this policy is to allow agricultural property that is annexed into the City to, under certain circumstances, continue to receive surface water from the District.

## **Applicability:**

1. This Policy specifically applies to real property being detached from the District, as a result of either annexation to the City, or municipal development within the County.
2. For purposes of this policy, parcels owned in whole or in part by immediate family members shall be considered to be under the same ownership.
3. The Policy will apply to property owned by a landowner who opposes the detachment and wishes to continue to receive irrigation water from the District for existing agricultural operations on the property. To demonstrate the landowner’s opposition to the detachment, the landowner must provide evidence to the District that the landowner has either:
  - a. submitted written comments to LAFCO in opposition to the detachment; or
  - b. testified at a public hearing before LAFCO stating opposition to the being included in the detachment.

## **Policy:**

If the above conditions are met, after detachment, the District will continue to serve the detached lands under the same terms and conditions as a property that is within the District’s boundaries for so long as the land remains in agricultural production.

In addition, if a property had been detached prior to the adoption of this policy, and the landowner produces evidence that they met the above conditions; after the landowner produces evidence acceptable to the District, the District will serve the detached lands under the same terms and conditions as a property that is within the District’s boundaries for so long as the land remains in agricultural production. The District will not retroactively refund the past differences between Priority Area I and in-District rates.

After annexation, these lands are no longer within PID; therefore these lands will be subject to an administrative fee in lieu of the assessment and will be considered “Class II Lands.”