

H.B. 457 — Municipal Annexation Amendments

Bill Sponsor: Representative James Dunnigan

Senate Sponsor: Senator Ron Winterton

Purpose: H.B. 457 creates a clear, structured process to address small unincorporated “island” areas in second-class counties that are fully surrounded by a single municipality.

KEY PROVISIONS

Defines Eligible Unincorporated Islands

- 55 acres or smaller
- Islands surrounded by a single municipality
- Located in second-class counties with a population of less than 400,000

Establishes Automatic Annexation Timeline

- Automatic annexation occurs **July 1, 2027**.

Allows Local Flexibility

- County legislative bodies may exempt specific islands (or portions) by resolution before May 1, 2027.
- This allows local discretion where annexation may be impractical or inappropriate.

Streamlines Boundary Platting

- Allows non-contiguous annexation areas to be recorded on a single final plat.
- Improves administrative efficiency for surveyors, recorders, and local entities.

Public Notice & Property Owner Notification:

- By May 1, 2027, the county must mail written notice to each affected property owner.
- Notice must also be published on the Utah Public Notice Website.
- The county must coordinate with the municipality when preparing the notice.

These requirements supplement existing boundary certification and recording laws, ensuring transparent communication prior to the July 1, 2027 annexation date.

Fiscal Impact:

- No state appropriation.
- Aligns municipal tax base with municipal service obligations.

Effective Date:

May 6, 2026

ISSUES ADDRESSED

Service Alignment

- Islands that contain municipal infrastructure without municipal governance.

Planning & Infrastructure Coordination

Fragmented boundaries complicate:

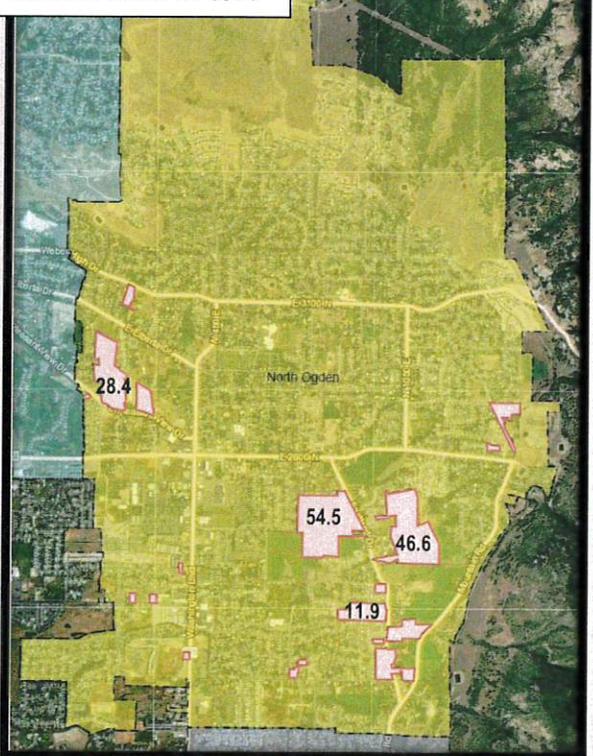
- Transportation planning
- Utility extensions
- Public safety response
- Capital facilities planning

Economic Development Barriers

Unclear jurisdiction complicates:

- Business recruitment
- Redevelopment
- Land assemblage
- Zoning and entitlement processes

NORTH OGDEN CITY*



*Properties outlined in RED are unincorporated islands within a municipal boundary. Measurements are in acres.

DAVIS COUNTY ISLAND MAP

