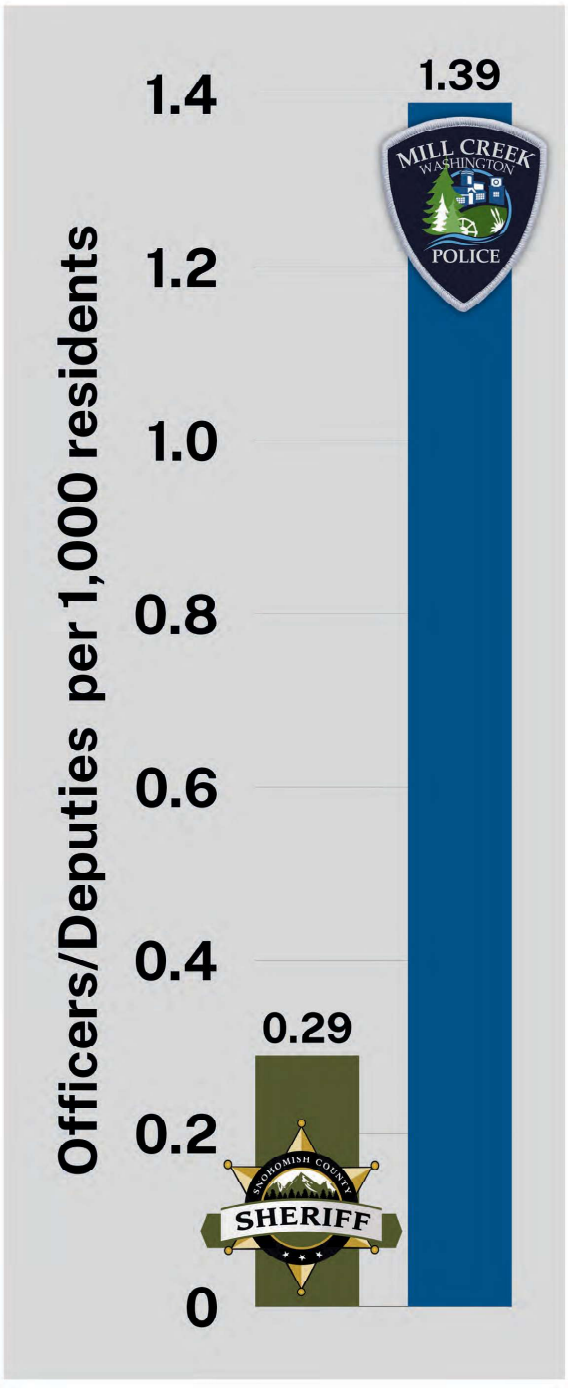
The Staffing Advantage

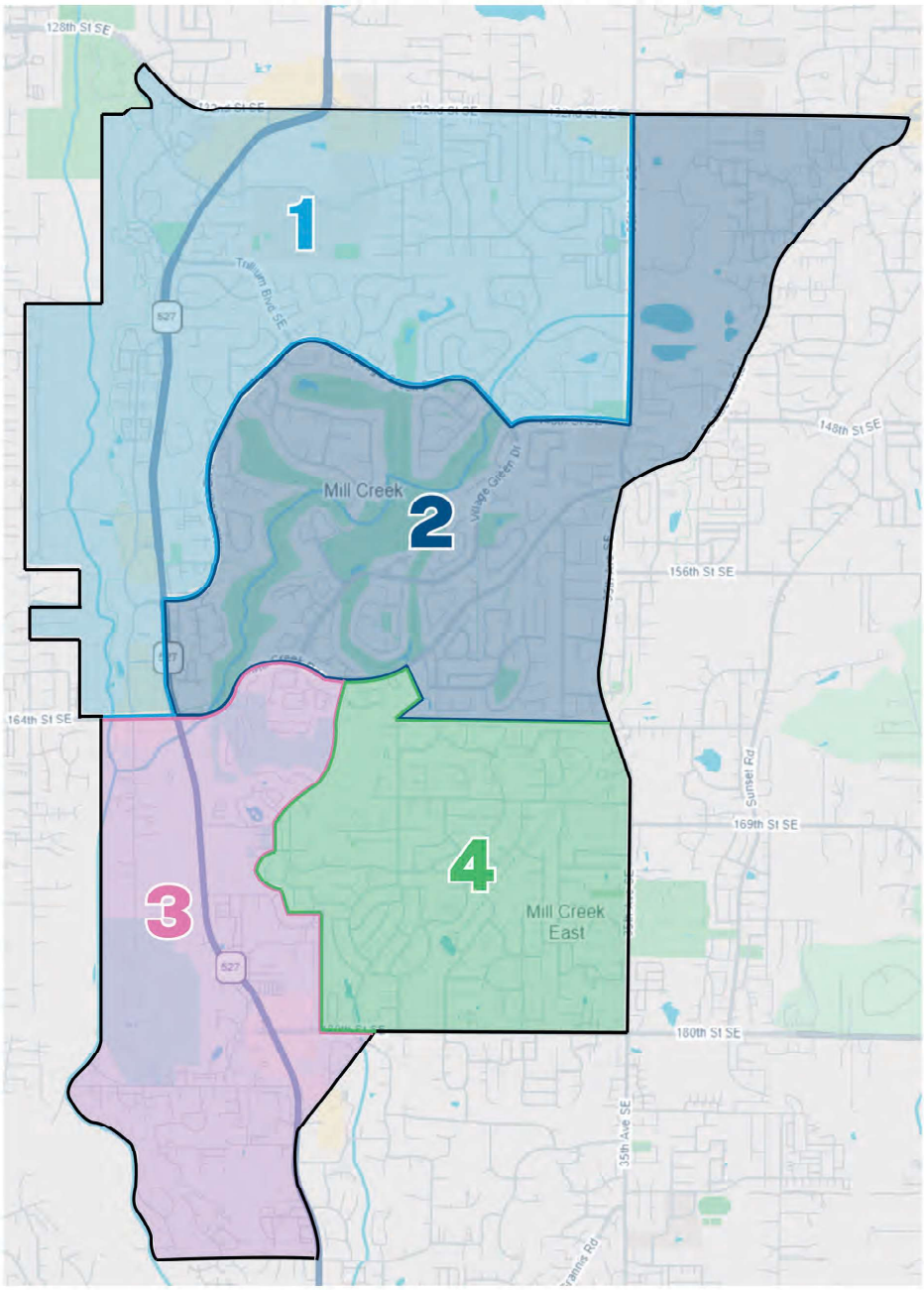
Police Density Comparison

The Mill Creek Police Department, with 29 personnel (23 sworn officers) serving 21,600 residents across 4.6 sq. miles, delivers an optimized density of 1.39 staff per 1,000 residents, maintaining a significant coverage advantage over the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office South County baseline of 0.29.



Mill Creek Police Department

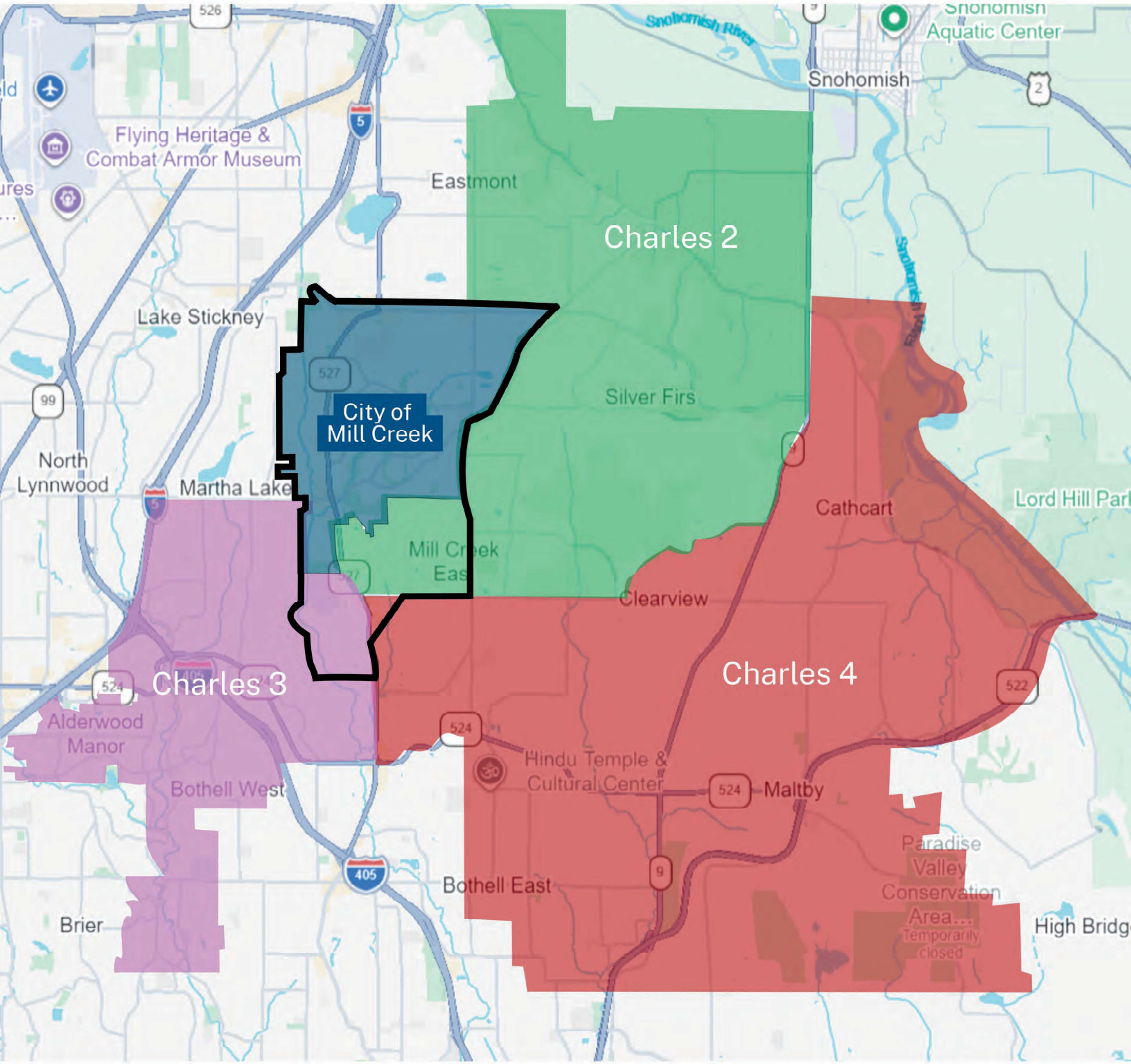
Proposed Beat Map



Snohomish County Sheriff's Office
Patrol Officer Beat Map

*SCSO service beats have **1 Deputy each.***

These SCSO deputies cover large areas of the county. Per the 2025 SCSO Annual Report, the Sheriff's Office staffs 75 personnel covering 260,000 residents across 92 sq. miles.



Dedicated Resources

Police Service Comparison

Mill Creek Police

Primary Focus & Geographic Scope

Hyper-Local Safety:
Dedicates 100% of available resources directly inside the specific city boundaries.

Neighborhood Priorities:
Maximizes uniform patrol visibility across residential blocks, local business corridors, city parks, and trails.

Resource Depth & Infrastructure

High Local Density:
Maintains a concentrated uniform patrol presence per square mile to secure high-visibility deterrents within city limits.

Snohomish County Sheriff

Primary Focus & Geographic Scope

Regional Public Safety:
Balances dedicated local contract city law enforcement with sweeping, county-wide mandates.

Broad Mandate:
Manages large-scale safety across vast unincorporated zones

Resource Depth & Infrastructure

Massive Infrastructure:
Commands vast independent regional resources.

Specialized Law Enforcement

Investigative Focus & Follow-Up

Mill Creek Police

Localized Detectives:

Features a dedicated investigations unit, focused strictly on resolving incidents occurring inside city limits (all crimes).

Snohomish County Sheriff

Regional Specialists:

Deploys specialized bureaus including dedicated Major Crimes, Property Crimes, and Cold Case.

Tactical SWAT & K9 Capabilities

Mill Creek Police

Integrated SWAT:

Fields highly trained local operators who fully integrate into the multi-agency North Sound Metro SWAT alliance.

Targeted K9 Teams:

Deploys internally managed, dual-purpose K9 unit optimized for rapid neighborhood tracking, suspect apprehension, and narcotics detection.

Snohomish County Sheriff

Standalone SWAT:

Manages a dedicated, fully independent county-level SWAT team.

Fleet-Scale K9:

Deploys a fleet of tracking and detection dogs optimized for wide-area rural searches and regional deployments.

Property Tax

Proposed Annexation Area vs. **City of Mill Creek**



2026 Property Tax Bill

Based on a Property Owner with $850,000 in assessed value.

($248.59 decrease)



2026 Assessments

A: Includes Surface Water Service charges & SnoCo Conservation District.

B: Includes Surface Water Service charges, SnoCo Conservation District, & South County Fire assessments.

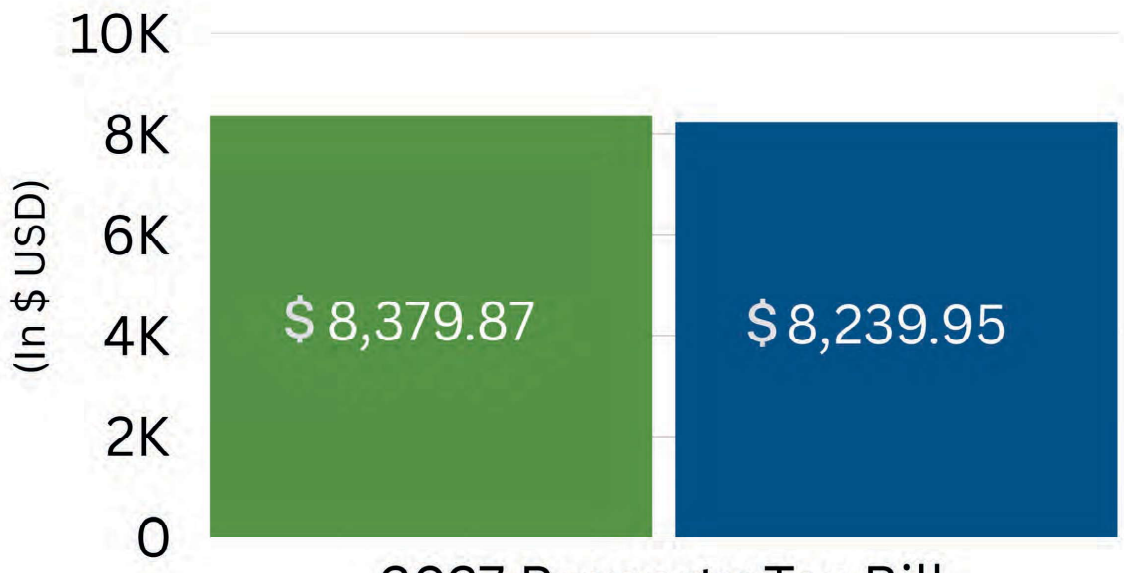


2026 Levy Rate per $1,000 AV

All taxes shown are based off of 2026 tax figures.

2027 Property Tax

Proposed Annexation Area vs. **City of Mill Creek**



2027 Property Tax Bill

Based on a Property Owner with $850,000 in assessed value.

($139.93 decrease)



2027 Assessments

A: Includes Surface Water Service charges & SnoCo Conservation District.

B: Includes Surface Water Service charges, SnoCo Conservation District, & South County Fire assessments.



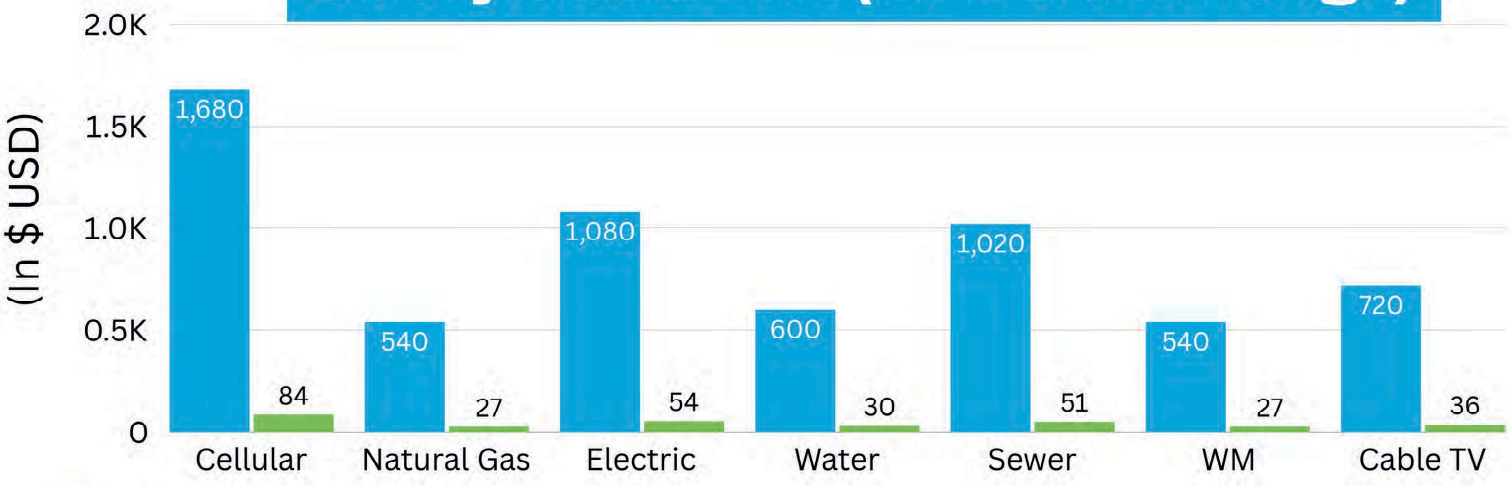
2027 Levy Rate per $1,000 AV

All taxes shown are based off of 2027 tax figures.

5% Utility Tax

Pass through to consumers from utility providers

Utility Bills & Tax (Low End of Range)



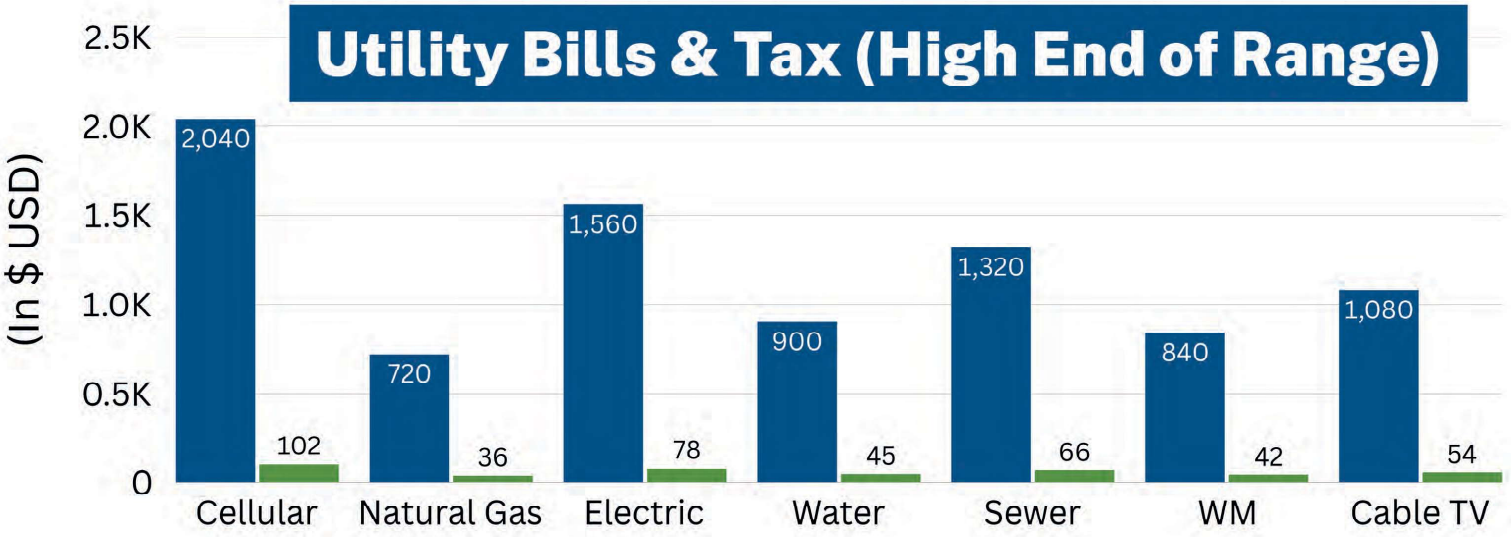
= Utility Bill

= Utility Tax

Low end of range, Yearly Utility Bill: **$6,180**

Estimated Yearly Utility Tax total: **$309**

Utility Bills & Tax (High End of Range)



= Utility Bill

= Utility Tax

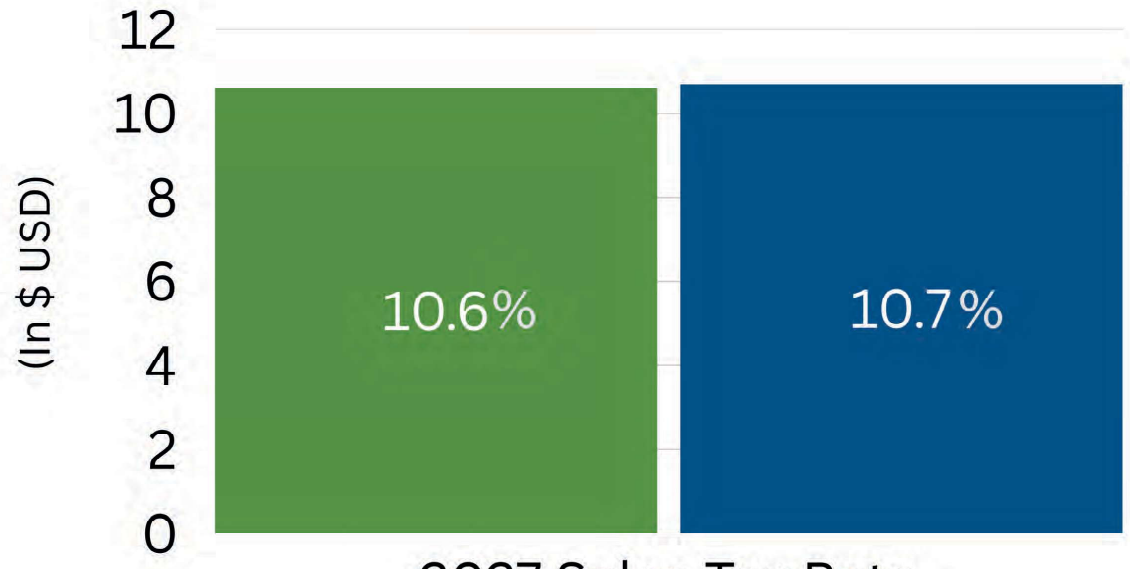
High end of range, Yearly Utility Bill: **$8,460**

Estimated Yearly Utility Tax total: **$423**

Yearly Range of Utility Bills from Zip 98012
(Unincorporated Snohomish County)

Additional 2027 Taxes

Proposed Annexation Area vs. **City of Mill Creek**



2027 Sales Tax Rate

(Effective 1/1/2027)

0.1 % Difference



2027 Vehicle Fee

(Effective 1/1/2027)

Transportation Benefit District

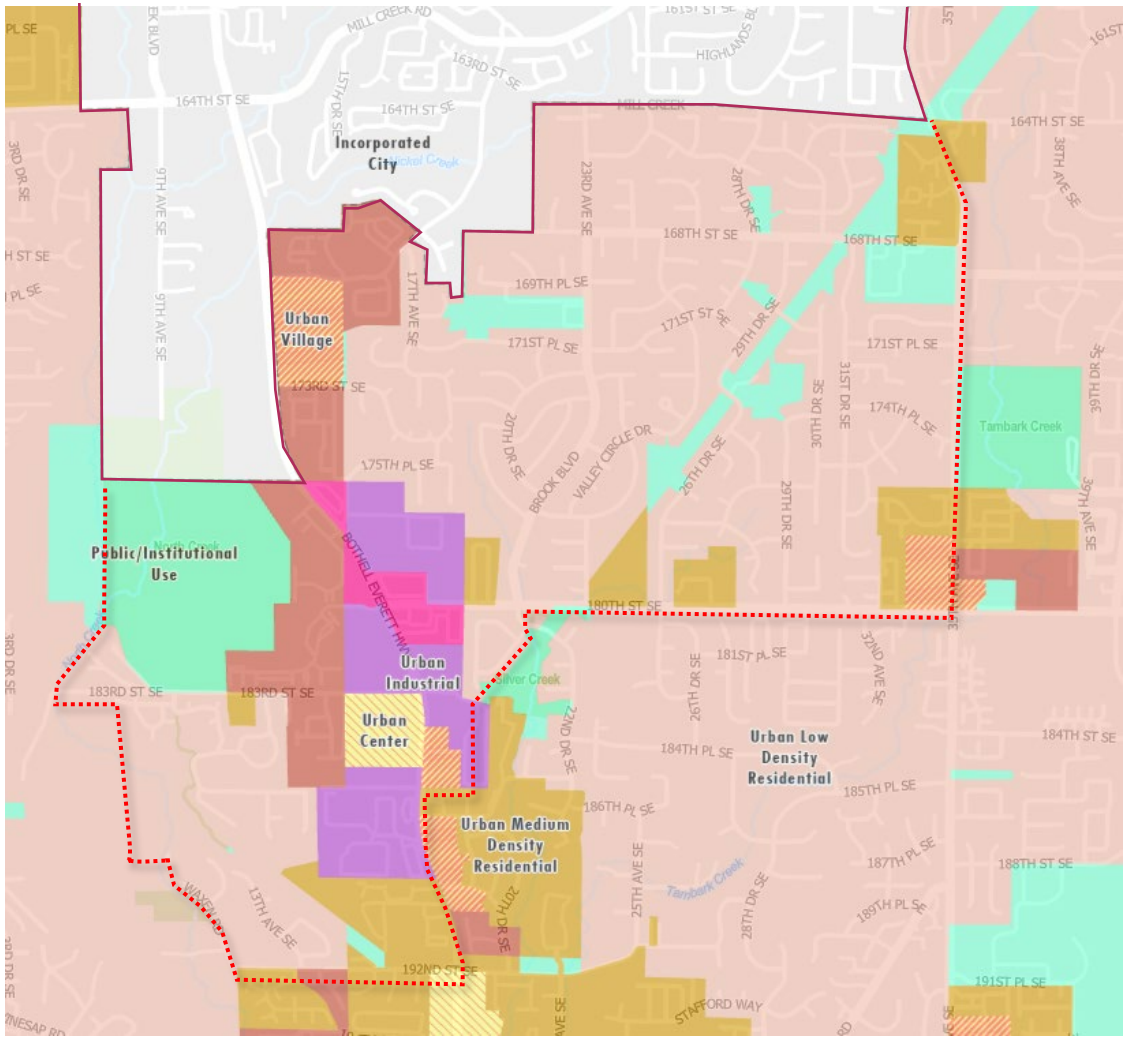
All taxes shown are based off of 2027 tax figures.

Code Differences

Category	Snohomish County	Mill Creek
Property Upkeep	No general yard or appearance code; safety and nuisance rules apply.	Building, fence, and yard upkeep required; graffiti must be removed.
Garbage and Junk	Illegal dumping and unlawful junkyards prohibited; abandoned vehicles regulated.	Garbage must be contained; accumulated litter, debris, and junk vehicles prohibited.
Parking and RVs	RV street parking generally limited to 72 hours; private-property rules vary.	No front-yard RV or boat storage, except loading/cleaning up to 72 hours. Street parking generally limited to 24 hours.
Animals	Noncommercial farm animals allowed; housing generally requires 30-foot setbacks.	Lot-size and animal-number limits apply; roosters prohibited.
Fences and Sidewalks	Fences up to eight feet generally permit-exempt; sidewalk obstructions prohibited.	Permanent fences require permits and meet height limits; owners must keep sidewalks clear.
Home Businesses	Generally up to 25% of home; one nonfamily employee; limited signs and sales allowed.	Up to 20% or 600 square feet, whichever is less; no signs, retail visits, or merchandise pickup.
Trees and Environment	Removal restricted for protected trees, required landscaping, and sensitive areas.	Free removal permits required for trees six inches or larger; additional buffer and environmental protections apply.

While there are some differences between Mill Creek and Snohomish County, we are happy to discuss your concerns. City Ordinances can be changed!

Land Use and Housing



Current Future Land Use in Proposed Annexation Area

Land Use & Density

- The City must review all zoning changes within proposed annexed area at multiple public meetings.
- The City will begin pre-zoning and adopt future land uses next year.
- The City will not substantially change underlying zoning.

Mill Creek has a successful track record on preserving Single Family Neighborhood character.