

RESOLUTION NO. 15209

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE THURSTON COUNTY, COUNTY WIDE PLANNING POLICIES TO INCORPORATE CHANGES RESULTING FROM THE CREATING PLACES – PRESERVING SPACES: A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE THURSTON REGION, AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, Thurston County is required to plan under Chapter 36.70A RCW, the Growth Management Act (GMA), which contains thirteen goals that are intended to guide the development and adoption of county wide planning policies, development regulations and comprehensive plans, which relate to urban growth, rural development, reduced sprawl, transportation, housing, economic development, property rights, permits, natural resource industries, open space and recreation, environment, citizen participation and coordination, public facilities and services, and historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County conducts planning activities in accordance with Chapter 35.63 RCW, Planning Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the GMA requires that counties subject to the GMA adopt countywide planning policies (CWPPs) and further requires that these policies be developed with the cooperation of the municipalities within the county (RCW 36.70A.210(2)); and

WHEREAS, CWPPs are written policy statements that provide the framework and foundational policies for developing and adopting county and city comprehensive plans and development regulations, and for ensuring that city and county comprehensive plans are consistent as required in RCW 36.70A.100; and

WHEREAS, in order to address the requirements of GMA, Thurston County first adopted CWPPs in 1992, and revised them in 2002; and

WHEREAS, in December 2013 the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) adopted *Creating Places – Preserving Spaces: A Sustainable Development Plan for the Thurston Region* (Sustainable Thurston) and pledged to integrate sustainability into decision making processes to enhance quality of life, foster economic vitality, and protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, in April 2014 the Board of Thurston County Commissioners approved Resolution 15009, accepting the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Thurston plan identified a need to update the CWPPs as a priority action to meet sustainability priority goals and targets; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Growth Management (UGM) Subcommittee of TRPC is identified as the vehicle for jurisdictional consultation on changes to the CWPPs and includes representatives from the cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, Yelm, Rainier, Tenino, and Bucoda as well as a representative from the Board of Thurston County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the UGM subcommittee met five times throughout 2014 and 2015 to discuss incorporating the foundational principles and policies of the Sustainable Thurston plan into the CWPPs; and

WHEREAS, the UGM Subcommittee also identified recommended amendments to the CWPPs that strengthen language to limit suburban development in rural lands, enforce development standard agreements among jurisdictions, develop a streamlined process for annexations, eliminate out-of-date references, clarify language, and improve formatting; and

WHEREAS, in January 2015 the UGM Subcommittee voted to forward their recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the draft CWPPs were submitted to the Washington State Department of Commerce on August 28, 2015 for review and comment and a receipt of such is on file with the Thurston County Department of Resource Stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County issued a determination of non-significance on September 17, 2015 for the proposed amendments to the Thurston County, County Wide Planning policies in accordance with SEPA (Chapter 43.21C RCW); and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2015 the Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing to hear testimony on the proposed amendments to the CWPPs, having given 20 days' notice; and

WHEREAS, after considering the proposed revisions and considering public testimony received at the October 20, 2015 public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners determined the proposed changes to the CWPP to be necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare of Thurston County residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF CHANGES. In accordance with the provisions of this resolution, the Board of County Commissioners hereby amends and adopts the amended County Wide Planning Policies as recommended by the UGM Subcommittee, and as set forth herein, in Attachment A.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this resolution or its application to any person is, for any reason, declared invalid, illegal or unconstitutional in whole or in part by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction, said decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED: 11-10-15

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Thurston County, Washington


Chair
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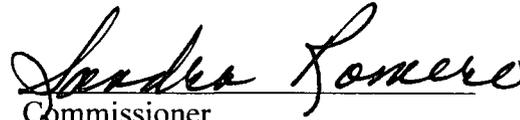
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JON TUNHEIM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



Rick Peters
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Voted No
Vice-Chair



Sandra Romero
Commissioner