

**ORDINANCE NO. 16326**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THURSTON COUNTY CODE TITLE 2 RELATED TO ALIGNING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND BUDGET PROCESS.**

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

**WHEREAS**, Thurston County has performed professional review, provided public notice, and received public comment with respect to these development code amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, the GMA requires development regulations to demonstrate and uphold the concepts of internal consistency, conformity, and concurrency; and

**WHEREAS**, the development regulations, including the official zoning maps, in Thurston County adopted under GMA must be consistent with the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan and associated Joint Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, Thurston County-wide Planning Policy 7.3 states that the County will provide in comprehensive plans for an adequate amount of appropriately located land, utilities, and transportation systems to support desirable economic development. Create and maintain regulatory certainty, consistency, and efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, this proposal is a board directed amendment to ensure the County can rapidly respond to monetary opportunities for capital facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106, a notice of intent to adopt was sent to the Washington State Department of Commerce on September 19, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board held a public hearing with notice requirements consistent with the Thurston County Code and state law on November 21, 2023 to take public testimony on the proposed Code Change to Align CIP with the Budget Process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that the proposed amendments will improve consistency across the code and transparency for citizens of Thurston County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes adopting the amendments is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare of Thurston County residents.

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

**SECTION 1. TITLE 2.** The Thurston County Code, Chapter 2.05 is hereby amended as shown in Attachment A.

**SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this Ordinance 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. CORRECTIONS.** Upon approval of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Clerk of the Board is authorized to make any necessary corrections to any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this Ordinance for scriveners or clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any reference thereto.

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall take effect *immediately upon adoption*.

ADOPTED: November 28, 2023

ATTEST:

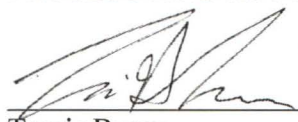
  
Clerk of the Board

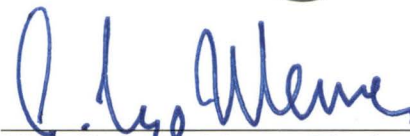
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Thurston County, Washington

  
Chair Carolina Mejia, District 1 Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JON TUNHEIM  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

  
Travis Burns  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

  
Vice-Chair Ty Mense, District 3 Commissioner

  
Gary Edwards, District 2 Commissioner

  
Emily Clouse, District 5 Commissioner

## ATTACHMENT A

### **Code Change to Align CIP with Budget Process**

Deleted Text: ~~Strikethrough~~ / Changes: Underlined / Unaffected Omitted Text: (...)

**I. Thurston County Code Chapter TCC 2.05 (GROWTH MANAGEMENT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION) shall be amended to read as follows:**

...

2.05.030 – Minimum public participation measures.

In addition to the public review required by Section 2.05.020C above, Thurston County will use a variety of methods for early and continuous citizen participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive plans and development regulations implementing such plans. The methods may vary from proposal to proposal. The following measures are the minimum requirements for public participation opportunities in the development or amendment of the plans and regulations identified in Section 2.05.020A above:

...

**E. Public Hearings.**

1. A public hearing shall be held before the Thurston County planning commission for amendments to comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, or other proposals as required by law. Other proposals may be referred to the planning commission at the discretion of the board of county commissioners. The board of county commissioners also holds a public hearing prior to amending comprehensive plans and development regulations. Citizens may participate in public hearings by attending and offering verbal testimony or by submitting written comments to the county in advance of the public hearing.

- a. Minor amendments to the Capital Improvement Program shall be exempt from review by the Thurston County Planning Commission if adopted by October 1. A minor amendment will include changes to up to two (2) capital projects. All other public participation process steps shall remain unchanged.

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