

# **RESOLUTION 2026-111**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON:**

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY PLANNING; ADOPTION OF THE UPDATED BENTON COUNTY COUNTY-WIDE PLANNING POLICIES AND REPLACING ORDINANCE 581 AND RESOLUTION 2017-217**

**WHEREAS**, RCW 36.70A.210 requires the County adopt Countywide planning policies in cooperation with the cities located in whole or in part within the County; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 28, 1992, the Benton County Commissioners adopted Countywide Planning Policies pursuant to Benton County Resolution 92-296; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 7, 2017, the Benton County Commissioners amended the County Planning Policies pursuant to Benton County Resolution 2017-127 and County Ordinance 581; and

**WHEREAS**, the Countywide Planning Policies for Benton County have not been reviewed or updated since 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, the planning departments of the County and the cities therein reviewed the existing Countywide Planning Policies for Benton County and have suggested changes to such policies; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the cities within Benton County reviewed and adopted resolutions granting approval of the County Wide Planning Policies on the following dates: City of West Richland Resolution No. 44-25 on November 16, 2025; City of Richland Resolution No. 2025-131 on October 21, 2025; City of Kennewick Resolution No. 25-16 on November 18, 2025; City of Benton City Resolution No. 2025-62 on November 18, 2025; and City of Prosser Resolution No.25-1847 on December 9, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the updated Benton County Countywide Planning Policies have been reviewed under the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C) and a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) was issued on January 9, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Benton County Planning Commission reviewed the proposed changes to the Countywide Planning Policies for Benton County and conducted a public hearing on February 3, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Benton County Planning Commission, after considering the public testimony presented, did recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that the proposed amended Countywide Planning Policies be adopted by the Board of County Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing was published in the Prosser Record Bulletin on February 11, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held by the Benton County Board of Commissioners on February 24, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Third Floor, Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA 99350, to consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 664 and the Countywide Planning Policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners finds that it would be in the best interest of the County to adopt Ordinance No. 664 attached hereto and the updated Countywide Planning Policies; NOW THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Ordinance No. 664 attached hereto, an ordinance adopting updated Countywide Planning Policies, be adopted and shall take effect upon the date of approval and signature; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of County Commissioners hereby replaces County Ordinance 581 and Resolution 2017-127 and the Countywide Planning Policies adopted thereby.

**Dated this 24 day of February 2026**

DocuSigned by:

*Michael Alvarez*

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**Chair of the Board**

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*Will McKay*

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**Chair Pro Tem**

DocuSigned by:

*Jerome Delvin*

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**Commissioner**

DocuSigned by:

*Amanda Pearson*

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**Attest: .....**

**Clerk of the Board**

**Constituting the Board of County  
Commissioners of Benton County,  
Washington**