

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON**

**In the Matter of Creation and Development of the))
Benton County 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative) **RESOLUTION #R2016-002**
and the 2040 Thriving Communities Council))**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is committed to ensuring the long-term livability, health, resiliency, and sustainability of Benton County communities and their people; and

WHEREAS, Benton County strives to be responsive to community needs through collaborative leadership across all sectors and between levels of government; and

WHEREAS, Benton County values accountability, transparency, equity, compassion, and the full engagement of all people and communities in public decision-making; and

WHEREAS, Benton County recognizes that many of our greatest challenges to the long-term vitality of our communities are highly complex and interconnected; and

WHEREAS, Benton County understands that collaboration with our partners and communities – using systems-thinking approaches and long-term planning strategies – is critical to efficiently and effectively address our complex challenges; and

WHEREAS, Benton County acknowledges local vulnerability to projected significant environmental, economic, and social changes and pressures, which include: an increased population, climate-related migration, and shifting demographics; resource depletion; economic volatility; constraints to housing affordability; increased chance of wildfires, flooding, and drought; water and air pollution; risk related to communicable disease; and other transformations that will become more pronounced in the coming years; and

WHEREAS, certain populations within and around Benton County will be disproportionately affected by our changing environment, climate, resources, demography, and economy; and

WHEREAS, the conditions of and accessibility to the environments and infrastructure in which people live, work, learn, and play have a tremendous impact on peoples’ health, well-being, and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, strategies undertaken will require appropriate benchmarks, innovative measures, and reliable data to track and report the progress and effectiveness of integrated policies and results-based actions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Benton County initiates the Benton County 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative and the Benton County 2040 Thriving Communities Council (“Council”). The Council will be convened by the Benton County Board of Commissioners, staffed by Benton County, and composed of a diverse and representative body of community

members, including community constituencies, populations, governments, and general public. The Council is charged to:


- Develop and articulate, with active community engagement that assures diverse participation and input, a countywide Vision Statement in which everyone who lives, works, learns, and plays in Benton County has equal opportunities to thrive in a livable, healthy, resilient, and sustainable community.
- Identify strategies and implementation actions to be implemented by community partners and governments that recognize systems-thinking and policy integration to achieve long-term, systemic solutions to dynamic community challenges and opportunities.
- Explore, capture, and annually publicize appropriate innovative and integrated benchmarks, measurements, and data to comprehensively assess community progress, including a Benton County Thriving Communities Index.
- Work and collaborate with our communities and partners to integrate the Vision Statement, strategies, and actions into their activities and operations.
- Evaluate and, if appropriate, adapt the Vision Statement, strategies, and/or actions every five years, with active community engagement, to ensure full implementation of the intent of the 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Benton County is committed to adopt and institutionalize the 2040 Vision Statement, strategies, and actions into county culture, budgets, policies, initiatives, and operations.


Adopted this 1st day of March, 2016.

Signed this 1st day of March, 2016.

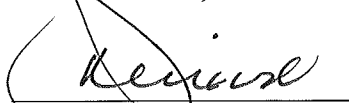
BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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