

**Board of Commissioners**

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**AGENDA****BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING****Goal-Setting Work Session****Tuesday, August 8, 2023 9:00 AM**

<b>How to Participate in the Board of Commissioners Meeting</b>		
<b>In-Person</b>	<b>Video</b>	<b>Phone Audio</b>
Kalapuya Building	<a href="#">Click for Zoom link</a>	Dial: +1 253 215 8782
4500 SW Research Way	Zoom Meeting ID: 925 5397 8493	
Corvallis, OR	Zoom Passcode: 770968	

**1. Opening**

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Introductions
- 1.3 Announcements

**2. Review and Approve Agenda****3. Approve Meeting Minutes**

- 3.1 June 13, 2023 Goal-setting Meeting
- 3.2 June 27, 2023 Joint Meeting with Albany Council

**4. Discussion Topics**

- 4.1 30 minutes – Strategic Communications Update – *Cory Grogan, Public Information Officer*
- 4.2 15 minutes – Pledge of Allegiance at Board of Commissioners Meetings – *Pat Malone, Chair*
- 4.3 15 minutes – Grant Applications and Funding Requests, Discussion and Action – *Rick Crager, Financial Services*

- 4.4 30 minutes – Coordinated Homeless Response Office: Update and Discussion of the House Bill 4123 Strategic Plan – *April Holland, Rebecca Taylor; Health Services*
- 4.5 15 minutes – County Administrator Updates – *Suzanne Hoffman, Interim County Administrator*
- 4.6 30 minutes – Commissioner Updates – *Board of Commissioners*

## **5. Other**

ORS 192.640(1)“ . . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.”



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## MEETING MINUTES

### BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

#### Goal-setting Work Session

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 – 9:00 AM

**Present:** **Pat Malone**, Chair; **Xanthippe Augerot**, Vice Chair; **Nancy Wyse**, Commissioner; Judge **Matthew Donohue**; **John Haroldson**, District Attorney; **Jef Van Arsdall**, Benton County Sheriff; **Vance M. Croney**, County Counsel; **Suzanne Hoffman**, Interim County Administrator

**Staff:** **Darren Nichols**, **Daniel Redick**, **Inga Williams**, Community Development; **Cory Grogan**, **Jonna Ve Stokes**; Public Information/Communications; **Tracy Martineau**, Human Resources; **Carla Jones**, Community Health Centers; **Debbie Sessions**, **Jenn Ambuehl**, Financial Services; **Damien Sands**, Behavioral Health; **Maura Kwiatkowski**, Board of Commissioners; **Sean McGuire**, Sustainability

**Guests:** Sam Imperati, Amelia Webb; ICMResolutions; Kate Johnson, Adult Drug Treatment Court; Nick Pileggi; **Benton County Talks Trash Workgroup Members** Catherine Biscoe, John Deuel, Liz Irish, Ed Pitera, Louisa Shelby, Ginger Rough Richardson, and Jeff Condit; Bret Davis, Marge Popp; Mark Henkels; Clark Willes

### 1. Opening

#### 1.1 Call to Order

Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

#### 1.2 Introductions

Introductions were made.

#### 1.3 Announcements

There were no announcements.

## 2. Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was revised to reflect that County Counsel Vance Croney would present Item 5.2, and it was noted that additional presenters would participate in Item 4.1. The agenda was then approved.

## 3. Meeting Minutes Approval

3.1 In the Matter of Approval of the May 9, 2023 Goal-setting Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the May 9, 2023 Goal-setting Meeting Minutes. Augerot seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

## 4. Discussion Topics

**4.1 180 minutes – Presentation and Discussion of the Benton County Talks  
Trash (BCTT) Workgroup Final Report\*** – *Sam Imperati, ICMResolutions;  
BCTT Workgroup Members*

BCTT Workgroup Facilitator **Sam Imperati** explained the order of the presentation and thanked the members present for the hundreds of hours invested in the process. Imperati asked the BCTT subcommittee members to introduce themselves and identify the subcommittee(s) on which they served: **Catherine Biscoe**, Past Land Use Application Conditions Subcommittee; **John Deuel**, Sustainable Materials Management Plan Subcommittee; **Liz Irish**, Planning Committee Appointee and Legal Issues and Land Use Review Subcommittee; **Ed Pitera**, Past Land Use Application Conditions Subcommittee; **Louisa Shelby**, Community Education Subcommittee; **Ginger Rough Richardson**, Republic Services, Landfill Size, Capacity, and Longevity Subcommittee and Community Education Subcommittee; **Jeff Condit**, Republic Services' Local Counsel, Legal Issues and Land Use Review Subcommittee, and Past Land Use Application Conditions Subcommittee.

Imperati reminded the Board the process was designed to be a bridge between past events and next steps. The county initially contracted with Imperati to complete a situational assessment and to prepare an assessment report. The workgroup process was designed to focus on common understandings; to move from where we have been to the present.

Imperati believed that following the presentation, the Commissioners, and the county as whole, would have a much richer understanding of the dynamics of the issues and a point from which to make decisions going forward on a Sustainable Materials Management Plan (SMMP) and the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application process. The BCTT Workgroup was not formed to be a decision-making body or to opine on any future expansion application or to create an SMMP. The scope of its work, as defined in its Charter, was to a) develop common understandings to form the basis of the work; b) clarify existing review criteria and information requirements for the land use review process for any proposed landfill expansion; c) scope the necessary tasks to begin a long-term SMMP process; d) provide recommendations on additional topics raised in the July



12, 2022 Assessment Report prepared by ICMResolutions; and e) consider creating a public-facing document and community education campaign on these topics.

The clear message heard during the assessment and process was the county was in desperate need of having a traditional, long-term SMMP. Tradition is meant to distinguish between the informal approach the county has had in various pieces but never traditional in terms of an integrated plan. The focus was on the long-term SMMP approach.

Imperati indicated a great deal of work was done toward beginning a Request for Proposals (RFP) process; the first draft of an RFP was included in the meeting packet. The recommendations included a proposal to have BCTT Workgroup members continue to participate in refinement of the SMMP scope of work and the RFP. A subcommittee also proposed several recommendations on how best to involve the community. Additional topics included 1) reopening the existing hauling agreement in summer 2024; 2) clarification of the roles, responsibilities, and protocols of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC); 3) developing specific recommended review criteria for evaluation of the applications (the majority of which discusses the laws and what can/cannot be done; there is a great deal of discretion available to the Planning Commission and the Board of Commissioners); 4) discussion over whether these bodies should use the same evaluation criteria or variations; and 5) a timeline for any review of and potential changes to the Benton County Code.

Regarding the overall results, the focus was on producing relevant, verifiable facts rather than speculations or opinions framed as facts. The report includes 124 findings and 94 recommendations ranging from broad to detailed.

Imperati indicated the five sections to be discussed in the current meeting were: a) the SMMP; b) landfill size, capacity and longevity; c) legal issues and land use review; d) past land use application conditions; and e) community education and public outreach.

Sustainable Materials Management Plan (SMMP). An SMMP should help transition and refocus from linear, end-of-life waste management to more holistic, systemic, circular approaches for all materials. Positive impacts of an SMMP include: 1) efficiencies of full lifecycle/cradle-to-cradle sustainable material management; cost savings and other benefits from waste reduction; 3) creation of opportunities for efficient circular economies both locally and regionally; 4) better inclusion of equity and shared prosperity in waste considerations; and 5) recognizing and encouraging innovation in the materials stream. Imperati reviewed the voting results for the various key findings and key recommendations regarding the SMMP.

Deuel provided comments on behalf of the SMMP Subcommittee. The process provided a unique perspective. Deuel's hope during the process was to help provide the county with a long-term perspective into the dynamics of how materials have been managed and a dissection of critical points of conflict among a good number of county citizens. Deuel believed the seven-month process accomplished this but noted there is much more work to be done. The SMMP should nest or be linked to Oregon's 2020 Framework for Action,

which led to the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2021 launching in 2025. Inter-county collaboration is critical to address regional sources of materials entering Benton County. There is a need to engage broad representation in the next phase of the process; voices of traditionally under-represented groups, including rural stakeholders, must be involved; this is perhaps most important. Most Oregon residents want to preserve the state's natural resources. Although there has been a rise in automated processes, there has also been a stagnation of waste diversion confusion and frustration among the consuming public. The SMMP recommendation is an opportunity for the county to seize on changes and improve dramatically the diversion and prevention of materials waste in Benton County and beyond. Pitera stressed the need for county residents to be aligned, as well as the need to step back to see the overall impact of hosting the landfill.

Landfill Size/Capacity/Longevity. Imperati provided an overview of this section. These topics were discussed in depth when the most recent CUP was filed. He recalled asking various stakeholders about when the landfill would close based on a capacity issue and the wide range of numbers received in response. It was quite broad, and the level and magnitude of disagreement was palpable. A major goal of the Landfill Size/Capacity/Longevity Subcommittee was to obtain verifiable data and to explore it thoroughly and objectively to arrive at the best answers the subcommittee could regarding these topics. The county now has in one place a set of common understandings surrounding these issues. There were 42 findings and 12 recommendations. The current landfill activities are north of Coffin Butte Road and consist of a total of 194 acres, including the quarry. There are multiple variables regarding the future. The current end of life estimate is projected at between 2037 and 2039. Republic has indicated it will be unable to place waste in Cell 5 by mid-2025 and would need to place waste in the quarry, which is Cell 6. Excavation of the quarry is scheduled to begin this year, with completion in 2025.

Richardson indicated the work of this subcommittee was a difficult effort. Some subcommittee members would likely have a different perspective on the finite end date of the landfill. Through perseverance and members' willingness to be open to Republic's data, they were able to achieve consensus on many issues. That consensus speaks to the efforts of the subcommittee members to work through the issues. Site life estimates are variable and have decreased over the years. Republic's current projections are based on data recognized by the EPA and industry data, but it does not account for the unforeseen, such as the 2020 wildfires. Some factors cannot be fully estimated, including population growth and waste generation. When the initial CUP was filed, the site life estimate was 4.5 to 5 years. Republic anticipates there is up to 2 years of site life remaining in Cell 5. The quarry still contains rock, which would need to be excavated, and the waste could not just be left on the ground. An environmentally safe and regulatory-approved landfill would need to be constructed in the quarry, and the timeframe for this is relatively tight.

Redick acknowledged the collaborative effort of this subcommittee and recognized Paul Nietfeld, who invested significant effort to help analyze information available and developed the overview of this subsection of the report. The subcommittee collected

significant information and spent a great deal of time considering the future of the landfill, site life estimates, and how that affects overall quality of life. The landfill business operations were also discussed. Pitera noted the section was extremely well done; it broke the problem down into small pieces to make connections and achieve consensus. The section is sound, supportable, and understandable.

Legal Issues and Land Use Review. Imperati presented the overview of this section. The charge was to create a summary of the county's current rights and obligations with Republic Services, and Republic Services' rights and obligations to the county. This came under the topics of the Hauling franchise, landfill, CUP, and conditions of land use approvals. The previous CUP process had disagreement on the review criteria and facts. The subcommittee's goal was to provide as much clarity as possible on these issues with the hope that in any future CUP, the focus would be on policy and factual matters, so the scope and breadth of discretion in interpretation of terms could be agreed upon so as not to distract on the merits. There is also a section on the rights and obligations of other entities surrounding the landfill initiatives. Which governmental entity regulates what, such as noise and light? Where might there be multijurisdictional issues? Should any CUP have ODEQ approval first? The sequence and timing were explored. Clarifying the land use review process for any proposed landfill expansion received a great deal of focus. The various interest groups' concerns over whether the criteria helped or hurt their position and to what extent did the degree of flexibility given to the Board or Planning Commission help or hurt them going forward? There was concern the Board and Planning Commission had very little discretion. The subcommittee findings underscored quite clearly the breadth of the discretion of the Board and Planning Commission; there is much more clarity now as to what the rules of the process are going forward. There were 35 findings and 13 recommendations, and the majority of the subcommittee voted in favor of the findings and recommendations. The county does have latitude to interpret the provisions of its own code, but decisions and conditions must be rooted in applicable criteria in the development code. Also, it can only address the current application and not look back to alter previous land use decisions or conditions. The high level of specific recommendations involved topics such as the role of SWAC in future land use CUP review processes; what additional information could the deciding official request from Republic Services or others before it deems an application complete. Major themes in the assessment were insufficient information, lack of timely notice to the public, gaps in the record, lack of resources, and time and resources to meaningfully participate. The BCTT report discusses a preapplication conference, community meetings, and opportunities for people to communicate more transparently and candidly ahead of the ex parte window. There are recommendations that when criteria are placed on a CUP, 1) there is a process for public input in the reopening of the collection franchise; 2) the system of compliance monitoring and enforcement is evaluated; 3) the necessity for review and compliance for the proposed site plan and reclamation plan; and 4) to ensure land use findings are clear; that conditions of approval include all elements intended to be binding and are clear about what is necessary to comply with the conditions.

Subcommittee Member Irish read the following statement:

*I'm incredibly grateful for the time spent on this massive task because it was a massive task. This was an honorable and very good first step and understanding. There's been a lot of misinformation about our group and our efforts, so I wanted to take the time to applaud everyone that took personal time to see it through to the end. Where we the county sits on the topic of past and present regarding conditional use permits. It was excellent to see so many people coming together to collaborate on a tough issue. I made friends and gained even more respect for the county staff that stood beside us without complaint the entire time. Staff was amazing, kind, and considerate, even in the face of negative public comments. They came to work every day and did their job properly, and I think it's super important for that to be publicly said. As for me, I'm a better and more knowledgeable Planning Commissioner because of BCTT. Working with the main group gave me insight on how confusing it can be for everyone to navigate policy and procedure from past and present. It also made me acutely aware of the folklore and fiction many of us have been working with especially in regard to something as complicated as a CUP, zoning, planning, and code. Thanks to the Legal Subcommittee, I was able to sit with County Counsel, Republic Services' Counsel, and an independent land use attorney who are patient and easy to work with. They answered every question as we worked together to simplify language, and we did our best to simplify that language. It was not easy at times. And I hope that if there is any part of the Legal Subcommittee's work that isn't more clear, oftentimes the system and the rules are set the way they are. The answers can be incredibly clear at times, but sometimes we just don't like the answers that we get. That does not make that not the fact standing. So that was the thing. I pulled away with that sometimes as a group; we just didn't like what we heard. But it didn't mean that that wasn't the answer, and we worked together to get to a better place where we can work through this. So, I enjoyed it. And I had a great time, guys, although it was very long.*

Subcommittee Member Condit echoed Irish's comments and noted how thoughtfully and productively the subcommittee worked through the issues. Condit indicated there is a statutory framework, it was developed very clearly, and it should be judged in the context of the facts of any CUP application that may be filed. Although the Board does have a great deal of discretion in interpreting the county regulations, that discretion does have some guardrails, which are explained in the report. Condit noted it was a very interesting process and that he enjoyed the people he worked with during the process.

County Counsel Croney characterized the subcommittee as an outstanding group that worked together well on difficult issues. Croney also noted a number of elements within the recommendations have been criticized for too much technicality or legalese. Croney pointed out the subcommittee worked hard to ground its findings and recommendations in either code language, statutory language, or case law. The members did not want to interject their own words or interpretations into the recommendations or findings to avoid creating bias.

Workgroup member Pitera offered comments from his perspective as a resident. The first is odors from the landfill, which Pitera indicated everyone utilizing Highway 99 has experienced. The charts showing the various responsibilities for landfill oversight indicate a rigid and siloed structure. It is not always clear where jurisdiction lies; it could almost be said that no one has jurisdiction.

However, the history and records of Coffin Butte Landfill indicate there was an odor problem in the early 1980's. A SWAC meeting was held with the landfill operator's representative in attendance. Solutions discussed included covering more of the landfill at night (ODEQ jurisdiction), and the hours of landfill operation could be restricted (Benton County jurisdiction). Pitera's point was that there is jurisdictional overlap regarding landfill operations, and those jurisdictions need to work together (break down the silos).

Pitera also expressed a belief that there is a perception that ODEQ is restricted within a narrow band of authority. ODEQ establishes a regulatory minimum of what is required. However, that regulatory minimum does not preclude exceeding the minimum with the goodwill of the county and the goodwill of the hauler and operator of the landfill. What will the landfill look like 15 years from now? A bald cap might be the minimum. Regulations may require 1.5 feet of dirt and some grass. Would the ODEQ minimum allow slopes up to a certain angle, or could the agency approve something flatter? There are options; but if the jurisdictions are operating in silos, opportunities will be missed. Could the site look like a park and be used as a park? In summary, there are two areas for opportunities – odors and end use – where the parties can work together for better outcomes.

Past Land Use Application Conditions. Imperati noted that the theme of the assessment ICM conducted was allegations of noncompliance with previous CUPs; things that should have been done were not done. The volume of documents associated with past CUP processes was astonishing. Staff compiled all historical documents in one place for the first time ever, and subcommittee member Pitera traveled to Eugene to review and have transferred documents from a warehouse there. Historical documents from 1974 through 2015 were reviewed. The 2021 CUP application was not reviewed given where it left off. The work needed the historical context to understand how we got to today. A summary language evaluation of each historical file was prepared. New laws and a Supreme Court case have also affected these issues.

Subcommittee member Briscoe thanked the Commissioners for the time and financial investment, as well as staff resources, for this extensive and comprehensive process. A great deal was learned.

The subcommittee conducted a review of nearly 50 years of landfill records and land use history, including past land use applications and other records. The primary focus of the subcommittee was the land use history; in particular the compliance with decades of land use actions. The work included an extensive review of past land use applications, conditions of approval, and other agreements, including the ODEQ permitting that was available in the record.

The subcommittee report attempted to balance historical documents of land use applications, conditions of approval, decades of land use, landfill operations, legal interpretations, and, of importance, the record of public expectations with a compliance

focus regarding land use decisions and subsequent activities. The subcommittee made efforts to present findings and recommendations that were based in fact within the historical land use record. There are certain issues that remain inconclusive but that would benefit from further exploration, to determine compliance.

The final report of this subcommittee was not met with consensus in every case; there were differing viewpoints regarding compliance in the absence of records or the need for further review.

Important issues for moving ahead include exploring accounting gaps; managing the conditions of approval; potential adverse environmental impacts from landfill activities; public expectations, which were not always upheld; the importance of balancing the landfill as a necessary resource for county residents; as an economic consideration; and as an environmentally relevant operation that affects the public's health, wellbeing, and safety.

Pitera discussed the 1983 document, including that everyone's opinions were documented, and those are in the county record to provide various perspectives. The difficulty with the 1983 decision is that it was used to say there is a Cell 6, and that cell can be filled. The landfill has a life of perhaps another 15 years, but it does not feel right to rely on the 1983 document. However, it is a foundational document. It has implications on whether a CUP is needed going forward. Pitera expressed concern that if a CUP is determined to not be needed, the regular citizen is cut out of the process of decision making regarding the future land use.

Williams expressed appreciation to fellow subcommittee members for their many hours of hard work. The review of historical documents emphasizes the need for documents to "say what you intended to say." The language should be clear to professionals, attorneys, and the public. There are many opportunities for improvement in the composition of staff reports and the presentation of information.

Condit agreed with Williams regarding the lack of clarity in historical documents; it is a lesson in the importance of crafting conditions to achieve desired outcomes. The older decisions are frustrating because they are not clear, documents are missing, and it is not known why certain decisions were changed because changes were not explained.

Community Education and Public Outreach. Imperati explained the goal of this subcommittee was to examine the interface between the county and the community. Are the standard communication processes sufficient for transparency, and is there appropriate time for public review? The subcommittee concluded that 1) community education and extended outreach are critical, 2) the county must specifically target underserved groups, and 3) communications must be succinct and understandable.

Subcommittee member Shelby indicated the subcommittee became a bridge between some of the other subcommittees and noted that human health and ecosystems are most important to her as a nurse. Shelby was pleased with the subcommittee's arrival at a

common understanding, hopes to see that occur in the community, and expressed appreciation that the county is listening.

Richardson acknowledged Marge Popp and Mark Henkels. The subcommittee's work involved creating a comprehensive history of Coffin Butte Landfill, and Popp and Henkels were two of the primary authors. At the open house, Richardson indicated hearing more positive feedback on that report section than almost anything else contained in the report.

Imperati noted that a high school representative served on this subcommittee and was a very valuable member.

Deuel indicated it was a unique opportunity for him as staff faculty at OSU. Deuel has mentored graduate level students, and they want to work on sustainable materials management issues. OSU is and can be a resource for this process going forward. Deuel informed he would be retiring from OSU on June 18 but wants to continue mentorship activities, including his desire to service as the liaison for OSU's Sustainability Double Degree program to Benton County.

Richardson thanked Imperati for facilitating the process, the Board for the investment of resources; and fellow workgroup members. Richardson felt lucky to have engaged and passionate citizens. The workgroup took on very complicated issues; and while it would be unrealistic to expect unanimous agreement, the group achieved consensus on the majority of items. This process will allow Valley Landfills/Republic Services to submit a stronger CUP. Republic's position is that a CUP and use of the quarry are essential to responsible and safe waste disposal. Republic values its partnership with Benton County beyond the life of the Coffin Butte Landfill. Republic has both open and closed landfill projects throughout the United States; the organization is in the process of doing many projects at closed sites – solar facilities, public parks, etc. When the Coffin Butte Landfill closes, the company will be here in the future.

Augerot looked forward to completing a thorough review of the report and its recommendations and expressed appreciation for the immense effort invested in the process. Augerot also expressed concern about the amount of information that had been lost amongst different Commissioner and staff transitions, which makes for a challenging decision-making environment. Augerot is looking forward to next steps, especially development of the SMMP and more transparency and community engagement in the process.

Wyse indicated the report exceeded her expectations, and it reflects the commitment and engagement of the community. The common foundation that is the report was sorely needed. Wyse also expressed appreciation for Croney's comments and the approach regarding the use of legal language.

Malone thanked the workgroup for its incredible efforts in this process. In reference to longevity, he asked what incentives there were to reduce the level of materials entering the landfill. Specifically, from the other partners using the landfill. Malone acknowledged the positive, real difference made with all partners around the table. Malone also wanted

it to be very clear this is a Benton County-sponsored project. The county wanted to own it, and the county wanted to be able to appoint a third party to guide the effort.

Augerot indicated agreement with the need for opportunities to minimize the waste stream and incentivize all contributors of waste to the Coffin Butte Landfill to contribute less, to generate less. We need to do that everywhere, not just here, but Augerot believes the community has fantastic leverage now in Western Oregon make a big difference, not just for Benton County, but throughout Western Oregon.

Regarding the SMMP, Augerot asked whether there would be any third-party analyses of water quality and methane levels. Redick responded that the plan to include a cost/benefit analysis across the materials' lifespan would be part of the next phase and depends on what field analysis authority the county has at the landfill. Augerot expressed a desire for a better understanding of material recovery facilities. Benton County needs to be a good steward of the landfill, as well as land and water quality. Considerable thought needs to be given to the long-term vision of the landfill, and conditions and code should be written to achieve that vision.

Wyse expressed a desire for intentionality in identifying where the county has missed the mark in the past so mistakes are not repeated. Many ongoing conversations need to be had in the future, and she welcomes community input in prioritizing the workgroup's recommendations. Important questions include, what is feasible, who are the partners, and what code changes are needed? One theme Wyse expressed seeing in many areas of the report was broken trust. There is a perception the county does not enforce conditions and is reactionary.

Malone noted there were discussions several years ago with Republic Services regarding a construction debris facility or transfer station near Coffin Butte, since 15 to 20 percent of the materials going into the landfill are construction-related waste. Malone would like to keep construction waste out of the landfill and asked about reuse/recycle and methane capture options.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to accept the Final Report of the Benton County Talks Trash Workgroup as presented. Wyse seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to direct staff to develop a draft Request for Proposals for a Sustainable Materials Management Plan , an advisory group membership proposal to accompany it, and that the draft Request for Proposals be brought back to the Board for further consideration before it is issued. Wyse seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

Wyse indicated her list of things to include in the RFP would include: 1) the 2040 Initiative importance of being a lens for viewing the SMMP and how we will strategize with other



counties. The Board cannot regulate whether other counties implement SMMPs. 2) Regarding stakeholders, the county needs to acknowledge those listed on Pages 591 and 592 of the report. 3) The findings of the workgroup should be specifically called out in the RFP. 4) An educational webinar for proposed consultants with a preproposal question/answer period. Also, the county needs to partner with a consultant that has similar core values and vision, specifically regarding the importance of community engagement in the process. It will be critical for the Board to take leadership on this issue.

Augerot expressed hesitation to contract out the community engagement process. If the county does retain a firm for that process, it will be important to hire locally, retaining a firm with a solid understanding of the community.

Augerot also cited ODEQ as a vital partner in this process, as are OSU, Republic Services, other jurisdictions, and community members, as well as others. The cities must be involved because cities are the major waste generators.

Imperati expressed belief there is a BCTT Workgroup expectation that the community and workgroup members would be invited to help create the next draft of the RFP.

Wyse asked about how cities fit into the county's SMMP. Augerot pointed out that the cities' waste goes into the landfill; these jurisdictions need to participate in the process to recognize the severity of the issue and contemplate how jurisdictions might reduce their waste streams. Wyse indicated participation by the City of Corvallis is crucial.

Augerot noted there is a recommendation to direct staff to schedule a meeting with the Planning Commission consistent with the request from the Planning Commission Chair. The tentative date for that meeting is June 27.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to hold a joint meeting with the Planning Commission. Wyse seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

Augerot asked about the roles of SWAC and DSAC (statutory committee; hosting county committee). The same people serve on both committees; perhaps the Board needs to decouple that. Augerot indicated not being ready to make a motion or provide direction on this issue at the current meeting.

Wyse believed it might be helpful to have a joint Board/Planning Commission/SWAC/DSAC meeting. There are some questions in the report about the criteria for SWAC or DSAC relative to review of a CUP before the Planning Commission. The report also mentioned that at some point in more recent history, the committees were left out of a role they were supposed to have on a previous CUP.

Malone recapped that the direction to staff is to review the existing committee structure and return to the Board with recommendations about whether the current SWAC/DSAC structure is the appropriate one to move forward. Augerot stressed that advisory committees need a clear mission and mandate; otherwise, it is wasted time, and members

do not feel valued. It may be more appropriate that any proposed version of SWAC be timebound and focused on next steps in this process rather than something broader.

Wyse inquired about discussion, perhaps at a future meeting, regarding public input and the survey and indicated a need to have the ability for people to provide public comment or testimony to the Board regarding the process. The Board did receive several comments on the survey, and a common theme was that the county could improve the process for future surveys. Augerot had not yet had an opportunity to engage with that area but believes we should focus energy on moving forward. If the Board has agreed it will hold a public comment session, it should be more targeted toward the SMMP and moving forward. Wyse agreed; however, she believed there is an opportunity for good feedback on the process. Malone agreed it was a good idea to have this on a future agenda.

Malone asked whether it is possible to reopen the existing franchise agreement. Augerot believed it is worth a discussion. The currently agreement incentivizes expansion and might have looked different if all of the information was available at that time. She agreed it is worthy of discussion, but not in the current meeting. Wyse agreed there is an opportunity for more discussion and education; that does not mean, however, we would get everything we want. Croney indicated it is possible if both parties agree. Wyse asked about a limited opening. Croney indicated the parties could agree to anything or nothing. Nichols noted much has changed since the 2020 agreement, and he believes Republic Services has been a good partner. An agreement to partner could look different; it could be more; it could be better.

Wyse expressed a desire to hear from the public. Malone suggested clarifying what the Board wants regarding the existing franchise agreement: Augerot indicated it would be worth discussing a reopening of the franchise agreement; the agreement may have looked different if not for COVID. Wyse expressed an openness to discussing the agreement and pointed out that Republic Services can also make requests regarding the agreement.

Augerot would like to conduct a public comment process on the SMMP. Wyse agreed; she believes such would be an opportunity for good listening and valuable feedback. Augerot would like to see a public comment process that is positioned as moving forward rather than dwelling on the past. Wyse noted that SWAC and DSAC have been asked not to meet, and some community members are unhappy about that. Malone asked Croney to bring forward, at a near future meeting, the topics the county would want to address if the 2020 franchise agreement were reopened. Croney noted reopening of the agreement is entirely up to the Board; however, he is reluctant for such to occur. Malone indicated that when the Board has the discussion at a future meeting, Croney can provide input regarding feasibility. Malone agreed with Wyse that public comments on this topic would be added to a near future Board meeting.

Malone thanked the BCTT Workgroup for its extraordinary efforts.

Nichols asked the Board to respond to the OSU offer letter. The Board indicated a desire to accept the offer and requested that Nichols prepare an acceptance letter.

**4.2 Adult Drug Treatment Court Presentation and Next Steps – Drug Treatment Court Judge Matthew Donohue, District Attorney John Haroldson, Interim County Administrator Suzanne Hoffman, Behavioral Health Services Director Damien Sands**

Judge Donohue opened the discussion regarding the Adult Drug Treatment Court (ADTC). District Attorney (DA) Haroldson noted he had worked with drug courts for over 20 years in Benton County, and the ADTC is in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year. The ADTC's long-term success is a result of aligning with best practices to serve as a National Association of Drug Court Professionals model for the rest of the country.

There was a period when the approach went from independent treatment agency to Benton County providing the treatment services, which was not a success. A successful return was made to an independent agency providing the services. The second time with Benton County providing services has again not been a success, and this is well detailed in the May 30, 2023 memorandum from Sands and Hoffman. The bandwidth is not available to provide services at a level that aligns with the research and evidence-based best practices.

Haroldson addressed one of the fundamental components of the ADTC that differs from the Health Department's substance use disorder (SUD) response. The ADTC recognizes there are four groups comprised of a risk element and a need element, which are 1) high risk/high need, 2) low risk/high need, 3) high risk/low need, and 4) low risk/low need. High risk/high need is more than simply responding to the treatment need from a therapeutic standpoint; it also includes an accountability component, which is essential to producing the best outcomes. This is where fidelity to the treatment court model aligns with evidence-based best practices that have been researched and shown to have the best outcomes. It is a therapeutic response to the need that exists. If that need happens to be for inpatient treatment, that is not a sanction; it is not a punishment. Haroldson did concur with the memorandum that the bandwidth is not available.

ADTC utilizes a multidisciplinary team (DA, court, public defender, case management, law enforcement, and others). It is a collaborative program and includes intensive monitoring, which is different than treatment programs. Haroldson noted the Best Practice Standards list, which is grossly simplified, is tied to research and best practices, reducing recidivism, and reducing costs. Donohue informed there are two decades of research on ADTC practices efficacy.

Haroldson noted the program's target population is high risk/high need. Risk means someone who is likely to be unsuccessful in the traditional model of supervision and treatment, which is the realm of therapeutic treatment that brings in accountability, with a goal of meaningful, sustainable behavior modification. It is not a retribution model.

Donohue indicated ADTC is designed to address high risk/high need individuals with persistent criminal behavior who will not voluntarily participate in other programs. Drug treatment court is a criminal justice program designed to reduce recidivism. Individuals who have had persistent contact with the criminal justice system are married with treatment resources and the court system to provide treatment, WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) resources, peer support, general life skills, and housing and education, which are necessary to break the cycle of recidivism. This is how the drug treatment court model is substantially different from a SUD treatment model.

Donohue discussed the cost-effective outcomes of the ADTC: an average of \$2.21 in direct benefits to the criminal justice system for every \$1 invested; and when high risk offenders are targeted, this increases to \$3.36 for every \$1 invested. For every \$1 spent on addiction treatment programs, there is a \$4 to \$7 reduction in the cost of drug-related crimes. Overall, treatment courts produce benefits of \$6,208 per participant, returning up to \$27 for every \$1 invested.

Donohue reviewed the key components of the drug treatment court model: 1) Multidisciplinary team (Justice System and Treatment), 2) Collaboration and information sharing, 3) Swift entry into treatment and other services, 4) Intensive monitoring, 5) Use of behavior modification (Incentives and Sanctions), 6) Staff Training, 7) Self-evaluation and feedback for performance improvement, and 8) Sustainability.

The majority of those in the drug treatment court are there for property crimes with substance abuse as a factor. Once people are in the program, there is an almost 100% graduation rate with housing, employment, and GED achievement. The pandemic however, stopped up the docket; finding people is a challenge, and attorney/client control is difficult. Since May, there have been no attorneys available to appoint as public defenders; this will hopefully ease up under the new contract that begins July 1. In addition, the lack of jail space has resulted in increased failures to appear.

Donohue discussed the ADTC best practice compliance issues, including the county being unable to uphold Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) commitments due to funding limitations; treatment provider nonattendance at ADTC staffing; non-forensic drug testing; removal of core criminal thinking treatment curriculum; co-gendered, mixed risk level treatment groups; a reduction in evidence-based programming, and a lack of effective utilization of the CHANCE peer support contract. The peer support program has had some amazing results.

Donohue indicated that outcomes improve when participants receive behavioral or cognitive-behavioral interventions; interventions are carefully documented in treatment manuals; providers are trained to deliver the intervention consistent with the manual; fidelity to the treatment model is maintained through continual clinical oversight; treatment lasts at least 9 to 12 months; on average participants receive 6 to 10 hours of counseling weekly in the initial phase and 200 hours counseling over the course of treatment.

The Benton County ADTC, along with the Corvallis Municipal Court, are the post-conviction sequential intercept model for diverting people out of the criminal justice system. The average cost to house someone in the Oregon prison system is \$50,000 annually. Two thirds of those who end up in prison have SUD treatment needs, and two thirds of them do not receive treatment. Ninety percent of those will return to the community.

Donohue presented the estimated costs of the program; a biannual budget estimate of \$1.781 million. Grants and insurance reimbursements are available, but the county is being asked to fill the funding gap to maintain the program in fidelity with best practices. The ADTC program was very successful for a number of years utilizing grants; but that funding is no longer available, and moving the program to Benton County Health was not successful. A third-party service provider is needed.

The recommendation includes three parts: 1) move the ADTC out of the Health Department budget because it is a criminal justice program, 2) secure a commitment to work with the treatment court program to find a third-party treatment provider, and 3) work aggressively to identify and secure drug treatment court program grants for housing, peer support, and other support services. The county would be the grant applicant, and ADTC staff would perform the grant application work. The Criminal Justice Council (CJC) grant is the one sustainability grant the ADTC has. Donohue stressed the need to move quickly. He is very concerned about the population of the program; it may be doing more long-term harm than good relative to criminal risk. At this point, it does not appear the ADTC will receive a CJC grant this year. In order to receive a CJC grant to keep the program moving forward, a third-party provider needs to be onboard by July 19 and begin accepting referrals. ADTC is not currently accepting referrals, and a third-party provider has not yet been identified. The CJC does have a second level implementation grant for ongoing programs, but everything would need to be in order by September 19. Donohue indicated a response from the Board is needed by July 21 to determine whether the program can move forward. If there is no provider or funding, the program would need to transition to closure.

Wyse asked Donohue to confirm the court was requesting funding from the county and assistance with grants. Donohue confirmed that any grant and/or contract for a third-party provider would need to be with the county. The court cannot contract directly for therapeutic services due to the language of applicable Oregon law. Other counties have similar circumstances. Donohue noted the county has not historically paid for the program. There was a six- to seven-year period of various grants, including federal; these grants assisted with the start-up of the program but not its sustainability.

Augerot cited the low census and the significant expense for few people in the program. She did not believe the county could sustain this now, especially with a waiting list of people for mental health counseling and substance abuse treatment, especially with the rapid timeframe.

Regarding the low census, Donohue noted that one of the problems has been the referral rate. Referrals come from defense attorneys and the DA's Office, and there have been some concerns about the program. Another issue is attorney availability, although he does see more attorneys becoming available at the Office of the Public Defender. If the program comes into compliance with best practices, Donohue believes referrals will increase. The program deals with the most high-risk individuals and is the only program that provides an opportunity to help these individuals, increases public safety, and decrease the overall cost to criminal justice. There is no other similar program in the county; and if it shuts down, there is no guarantee it can be restarted.

Malone expressed appreciation for a great deal of information in a limited amount of time. Donohue will be out for the next three weeks but would be available to come back to Board in the near future; he is also available to speak individually with any of the Commissioners.

Haroldson stressed the importance of recognizing efforts to preserve the ADTC and acknowledged the efforts to date by the Health Department and the great intentions of all stakeholders. However, despite the best intentions, sometimes the resources simply are not there. The census issue is interesting; the snapshot seems to support the argument that the investment is too expensive. This argument resonates, but the challenge is that while there may be a reduction in the number of possession-of-controlled-substance crimes, there is an increase in drug-fueled crimes. Haroldson believed the census would return; but sometimes the resources simply are not available. Haroldson has long advocated for the state to fund drug treatment courts across Oregon as part of the criminal justice system. Drug treatment courts are not an island unto themselves; they are an evolution of the criminal justice system, which provides an opportunity for the judge to make the most highly informed decision at each critical decision point.

Augerot said it was clear that the court not being able to apply for grants or pay for contracts is an obstacle. This structure does not fit well into the county's structure and is not an ideal fit with the county's behavioral health mandate from the state. Augerot expressed frustration with the structural restraints affecting the ADTC.

Sands indicated the county's SUD program is now capable of providing uninterrupted services for as long as needed, guaranteeing continuity for the clients being served. While the SUD model does not fully align with the current standards of ADTC, it is a model that offers the supports individuals need for recovery.

Given the current circumstances and funding constraints, the best course of action for Benton County appears to be to maintain the services within the SUD program with the model defined by Benton County Behavioral Health (BCBH). Staff can be effectively allocated within the current model, and funds could be better utilized to address the current struggles of the broader community rather than solely focusing on criminal justice-involved individuals; especially considering the changes brought about by

Measure 110 and the measure's intent to shift resources from the criminal justice system to treatment services.

Hoffman noted that while it might appear this request came late, it actually did not. Hoffman indicated Donohue had made the offer ever since she has been engaged with the program. Hoffman expressed appreciation for the Herculean efforts of Donohue, the Trial Court Administrator, and the ADTC Program Coordinator to keep the program in a successful place. There may be differing views on some of the issues discussed, but Hoffman suggested everyone could agree on the need for more treatment resources of all kinds, both criminal justice-involved and non-criminal justice-involved, in our community and across the state.

Hoffman pointed to the second issue: the county's Health Department is not well suited to continue to participate in the ADTC program given all its other community responsibilities, as well as some of the other challenges to which Donohue alluded. Hence, the May 30, 2023 memorandum included in the meeting packet. The county is not in compliance with the current MOU out of necessity. Sands reorganized the SUD program; and although it is offering services to the participants of the ADTC, it is not following that model or meeting the standards set by the judge. Therefore, the request contained in the memorandum is that the Board formally end the county's participation in the ADTC program. Should the Board decide to grant all or part of the judge's support request, the county would be ready to fulfill its role.

Augerot reiterated that there were two elements to the Board's decision making. One is to formally end the county's behavioral health participation in the ADTC and the other is whether to contribute to keep the existing ADTC program operating through the next biennium.

**MOTION:** Augerot motioned to accept the staff recommendation to formally end Benton County Behavioral Health participation in the Adult Drug Treatment Court program and to focus on meeting the growing demand for services in the community. Wyse seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

Haroldson asked when the motion would be effective. Sands advised there would be no hard stop, and there is a commitment to continue treatment for those currently in the program. Augerot asked whether an addendum to the existing MOU would be necessary to reflect the Board's action. Westfall thanked the Board for consideration of the court's request and for consideration given to the motion of withdrawing from the MOU, it is an administrative decision. The program has been functioning without conformance to the MOU for a considerable time, and the MOU includes a caveat that parties need only participate with service to the level they can do so in business practices. It does not appear an addendum is necessary at the present time.

Hoffman pointed out BCBH is not withdrawing from the program because of strictly financial reasons. It is because we have, as Sands described in the memorandum, a broader responsibility in the community; and the county cannot do both at this time. Donohue has always made it very clear he would be happy at any point to come before the Board to either inform or educate about the ADTC program, but certainly in the interest of ensuring financial resources are considered if they are available.

Wyse noted it would have been desirable to have had a funding request during the recent budget development process. Wyse expressed belief the ADTC is a good resource for the community, but the Board must balance that service with making the most of county resources. Wyse expressed feeling conflicted that people will not be engaged in another manner.

Malone pointed out that the previous week, the Board was discussing the temporary closure of the Alsea Health Center due to a low number of users, and cost did not justify continuing the program in its current form (similar dollar amounts as what is being discussed for the ADTC) and tasking staff with carrying the grant responsibility of the program. Therefore, he was inclined to not fund the ADTC.

Haroldson indicated that in the event the Commissioners elect to defer a decision on ADTC funding, he would invite the Commissioners to consider revisiting the topic in six months.

Criminal defense attorney Nick Pileggi expressed support for ADTC and the statements made by Haroldson and Donohue. Even if ADTC is only able to help a dozen people in a year, the program trains them to turn their lives around; and the benefit they can provide to our community versus the detriment they can do is worth the investment. If these individuals do not turn their lives around, the detriment is extreme.

Augerot asked whether a third-party service provider is available to provide services. She also had questions related to cost and available staff resources to identify, apply for, and manage grants. While these questions cannot be answered in the current meeting, they do need to be answered in order to provide continuity or see the program lapse for a period of time. Lapsing the program means a loss of momentum. Wyse shared Augerot's concern about lapsing the program and losing the small amount of current momentum.

Malone expressed concern over the lack of a clear funding commitment and indicated six months is close to the beginning of 2024. He suggested it might be appropriate to revisit the topic shortly after the beginning of the year.

Westfall expressed concern over waiting six months for a decision. If the Board does not make a funding decision in the next several months, we would likely be looking at having to discontinue the current ADTC program. Because, as Donahue explained, we are not operating to the fidelity, which was one of the motivating factors to come before the Board. We know we are not providing the treatment anticipated and contemplated by following the fidelity to the model. Delaying a decision for six months would have the effect of discontinuing the program.



Sands noted that if he were a nonprofit leader considering responding to a third-party RFP for services for the population base, it would need to be clear there was substantial and sustainable financial support to offset the costs. The current model places the financial burden on the external entity (the county or service provider). Attempting to secure grants every year is a risky proposition; the county would need to guarantee funding for a longer period of time. Sands also spoke to use of the term harm in the context of the ADTC discussion. He wanted to reframe that to indicate that not meeting the fidelity requirements of one model does not necessarily infer that harm or success is not being met in another one. Individuals participating in one of the SUDs will be therapeutically healthier at the end of it. Harm is more from the juridical standpoint than the therapeutic standpoint.

Haroldson pointed out that “harm” in the context of therapeutic response in the ADTC is real and is not a trite term that should be easily dismissed. However, the real issue is whether there is available bandwidth. Both ADTC and BCBH have the same objective; a response that is beneficial to the participants and will not harm them.

Westfall cited Milestones as an organization that had been providing treatment services in general conformance with ADTC standards before BCBH became involved. Westfall was unsure whether Milestones or any others could provide services because the court cannot issue an RFP.

Clark Willes, a defense attorney who works in ADTC, addressed the Board and indicated he had been involved in the ADTC for the last 10 or more years. Willes indicated a great deal more information is soon to become available. Over three court dates in July – the 17, 21, and one other – all of the individuals who had been postponed will be before the court, at which time it will be known how many individuals will be available for ADTC. In addition, the Office of Public Defense Services budget will be determined before July 1. There is an opportunity to put the ADTC decision on hold since more information is only one month away.

Given that more and better information will likely be available in mid-July, Augerot suggested a Board agenda item for that timeframe. It would also be helpful to know if a treatment provider would be available. Hoffman agreed and indicated that would also provide an opportunity to determine whether staff capacity is available and to define required resources.

**4.3 Strategic Communications Update** – *Cory Grogan, Public Information Officer;*  
*JonnaVe Stokes, Communications Coordinator*

Stokes presented analytics associated with the county’s social media engagement with the community. Augerot was not surprised to see high numbers on Nextdoor for Philomath and North Albany and noted both these geographical areas voted against the Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) bond measure.

Stokes asked the Board for guidance on the type of information they would like to receive and what they believe the community would like to receive. Malone believes the refreshed county website will be more engaging for the public and expressed appreciation for the Communications/Public Information team exploring new strategies to engage the public.

Stokes noted that individuals will sometimes engage in only one platform. For example, some interact only through mailers while others interact only through social media.

Grogan pointed out that the analytics data helps define the team's strategy and tactics and ensures the county is spending wisely on advertising and other communications.

Grogan presented the strategic communications update, which included Podcast 3 on wildfire preparation, the June 14 Crisis Center Groundbreaking, awareness and outreach activities, county publications, and other ongoing activities.

Malone expressed appreciation for the strategic communications updates; Wyse and Augerot concurred.

**4.4 Board of Commissioners/Community Health Centers Draft Co-Applicant Agreement** – *Carla Jones, Community Health Centers; Tracy Martineau, Human Resources; Rick Crager, Financial Services*

Agenda Item 4.4 was deferred to the July 11, 2023 Goal-setting Work Session.

**4.5 County Administrator Recruitment Update** – *Tracy Martineau, Human Resources*

Martineau indicated internal interviews with four candidates were scheduled for June 14.

**4.6 County Administrator Updates** – *Suzanne Hoffman, Interim County Administrator*

Hoffman reported continued progress on the three main priorities for her interim service: 1) Health & Human Services Director position description, 2) completion of performance evaluations due; and 3) preparation for transition to the new county administrator.

**4.7 Commissioner Updates** – *Benton County Commissioners*

Wyse

Wyse read community member Jim Fairchild's email comments into the record:

*"I certainly understand wanting to look at full cycle materials management. When doing so, one loses any distinction between "producers" and "consumers," which is an admirable goal. For in each stage of a cyclical approach, manufacturers, shippers, and even final stage/end-of-life managers become both consumers of product, and producers of whatever might become of those materials, in whichever form they take.*

*Is Benton County ready to take on the obligation of "producing" materials from the solid waste it now collects? So far, the county has no idea of what it can produce from its current solid waste collection system that would provide any sustainable or useable product, at either the individual county or the regional scale. Without that, no sustainable materials management plan would be complete.*

*I have great doubt that you'll find a consultant capable of sorting that out any time soon. But that must be within the scope of this--or any--sustainable material management plan.*

*In the meantime, and in the absence of a Benton County solid waste management plan for the "consumer" side of receiving solid waste from the region, the county is ill-suited to permit any additional collection of solid waste, or the expansion of the already permitted solid waste footprint on its landscape."*

### Augerot

Busy with Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) activities and JSIP elements follow-up. She has been asked by a series of community members to meet with them; she has had some meetings and will be doing more. Augerot indicated she was looking forward to more systematic work in this area and is considering doing some focus groups. It will be important to be very strategic about assembling focus groups.

Regarding AOC, discussions are occurring regarding membership dues. The large counties pay as much as 20 times more than smaller counties. The formula used for rate increases is disproportionately high for larger counties. Midsize counties are not as affected as the larger and smaller counties. No decision has been made on this issue; there will be another conversation in July. One solution could be a flat, across-the-board increase; while over the next few years, AOC would work on the formula for more equity. Augerot also discussed the status of bargaining for AOC staff, the largest source of cost increases for the organization. The total compensation increase last year was 11%, which resulted in a need to cut staff positions. There is turnover in AOC's legislative staff, but other areas of the organization have more staff longevity.

Augerot reported being recently appointed to the Criminal Just Commission's Justice Grant Review Committee. There are a great many proposals to review; it will be an interesting and time-consuming process. Augerot will also serve as co-host of the Red Cross June 13 spring social and will attend the upcoming National Association of Counties national conference in Austin.

### Malone

Malone was at the Capitol in Salem on June 12 but had heard nothing more about negotiations with Senate Republicans involved in a walkout. House of Representatives work is in good shape. One of the walkout workarounds would be a "Christmas Tree" bill, where many funding measures are included in one package. Such bills usually receive good support because there is something for everyone, such as funding related to water and wildfire issues.

## **5. Department Reports and Requests**

### **5.1 Order No. D2023-053, Affixing Board of Commissioners' Digital Signature Images to Board-approved Documents – Vance Croney, County Counsel**

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve Order No. D2023-053.  
Augerot seconded the motion, which carried 3-0.

**5.2 Amending Resolution R2023-003 Authorizing a Financing of Real and Personal Property in a Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$36,000,000 and Related Matters**  
– *Vance M. Croney, County Counsel*

Croney informed on the change to the resolution the Board approved in March 2023, which authorized issuance of bonds for payment for the courthouse and the DA's Offices. The resolution put forward at that time stated that both uses would be new structures – a very limiting restriction on options as the county moves through the planning and preconstruction phases. Staff believes it is prudent for the county to have the flexibility to expand the uses for which the \$36 million can be spent. Croney called the Board's attention to Page 373 of the meeting packet, which showed an edit that would authorize the use of the \$36 million for the construction or rehabilitation of one or more facilities for a county courthouse and/or DA's office. This provides the flexibility to build two structures, build one structure, rehabilitate the existing building, or to make a purchase.

Malone appreciated the flexibility the revised resolution would provide to respond to rapidly changing conditions and believed the change made sense. Wyse noted the Board previously gave a direction and requested that if flexibility became necessary, staff would return to the Board with a specific request. Croney agreed that if there were a definitive circumstance, staff would return to the Board for approval of any change.

Augerot asked if the proposed change would work for Stockhoff; Stockhoff indicated it would be very helpful. Augerot noted construction costs are escalating at a rate of 1.1% per month. At a meeting last week between Augerot, Presiding Judge Williams, the Court Administrator, and Stockhoff, there was discussion of various options for relieving cost pressure, including reconfiguring the footprint of the new courthouse to serve only the court at this time while preserving the option to construct a connected and adjacent DA's office in the future. This would leave the DA in the historic courthouse for the time being and allow funds to be used to rehabilitate the historic courthouse.

Wyse indicated such was not her understanding of the current state. Previously, the Board approved a motion including the DA's Office in the new courthouse. Was the Board being asked to change that decision?

Augerot asked Stockhoff to address the question. Stockhoff reiterated Augerot's comments about meeting with Presiding Judge Williams, the Court Administrator, and the Oregon Justice Department (OJD) representative. With the present design for the court and the Presiding Judge not supporting that design, the OJD representative indicated it would be difficult to recommend the current court design for approval by the Oregon Chief Justice. Chief Justice approval is required for the OJD money to be spent.

Stockhoff noted in the meeting that the County still has the historic courthouse, which could be used for some business functions for either the court or DA.

Augerot asked what would happen if the DA stayed at the historic courthouse. Stockhoff said that scenario would provide latitude in the budget, ensure the court remains within their allotted amount, and relief would be provided relative to the cost escalations. The concern is if certain activities get too far into winter, costs will increase even further. This approach would allow for completion of the courts design, give the DA the space being sought (via a repurposed courthouse), would help maintain the budget, continue to deal with a challenging site, and ensure the courthouse project is delivered in a timely fashion.

Augerot indicated an understanding that this course of action goes against what the Board previously decided and reported speaking with DA Haroldson last week about this topic.

Hoffman reminded that Augerot is the Board liaison for this project.

Wyse asked if staff was requesting the Board at the current meeting to decide not to collocate the DA's Office with the courthouse, or was the Board being asked to only provide spending flexibility to make prudent financial decisions? The memorandum provided to the Board did not address this issue directly.

Croney advised the resolution only increases the flexibility of how the funding could be used. Wyse indicated the staff memorandum circled around the issue; however, she was not aware a decision on a collocation was to be made at the current meeting.

Augerot indicated Stockhoff reached out to ask whether he could change the project scope. Augerot advised Stockhoff such was a Board decision, and the Board would need to decide at the current meeting if Stockhoff was to attempt to keep the work on schedule.

Hoffman pointed out the issue came up very quickly; all actions taken to this point were in good faith. The bond sale is scheduled to occur within days; thus, the sense of urgency around the resolution. In addition, the sooner design change decisions can be made, the better, to incur fewer change costs.

Haroldson noted that whether or not the DA's Office is included in the new footprint has an impact on his office. Haroldson reported speaking with the Trial Court Administrator, Williams, and Augerot; and his takeaway was it is a mathematical equation. As a practical matter, in order to complete the design to the standard required to receive the OJD matching funds, the cost was too great space-wise for the DA's Office to be included in the project. This was a profound disappointment for Haroldson, but he understood the situation.

In a new scenario, the DA's Office would be the sole occupant of the historic courthouse, which is seismically unsafe. Haroldson expressed great concern for staff personal safety and felt obligated, in light of the current meeting, to hold a staff meeting to share this possibility. One employee asked what their life was worth. The sense that DA employees are expendable in the safety dynamic is concerning; it does not feel good for the morale of the office. Safety of the building has been an ongoing issue for DA Office employees. If the DA is not part of the conversation when options are being discussed, this information is not included in the decision-making process.

In addition, the significant time to commute from the historic courthouse to the new courthouse is a consideration; staff time to perform work would be lost to commuting. Other considerations include potential liability for staff travel and grand juries' travel, as well as additional costs for security at both the new and historic courthouses and additional fleet vehicle costs.

Haroldson noted this may be an easier fiscal decision, but it does not address the safety of those left to occupy the existing building. It is one thing to say the DA's Office is out of the footprint, it is another to leave the office at the historic courthouse. These are two different decisions. Perhaps the first decision can be made independently knowing the second decision may suit a need that is a wise fiscal decision, but it does not address in any way the safety of those who are left to occupy the building.

Stockhoff reported a complete seismic retrofit of the historic courthouse would cost \$15-plus million but was unsure of the cost of a partial stabilization. The flexibility of the new approach would provide time to determine the final budget for the new courthouse; and once the final budget is determined, there may be funds remaining for minor improvements at the historic courthouse. Cost is still a problem as is the delay resulting from having to rework the courthouse design to state acceptability, which pushes the project further out and into spring 2024.

Augerot pointed out the other option is pulling out of the project altogether if the Oregon Chief Justice does not sign off on the project design.

Wyse reminded that the Board is leveraging the county to the maximum amount it can safely borrow. She has been asking herself, "What are the priorities?" Wyse's priority has been a new jail over a new courthouse. If the county borrows at this level, should we borrow for the courthouse or borrow in another attempt to go back to the voters for \$30 million to build a jail? Is it too late to exit the eminent domain process? While these are not necessarily the right decisions, they are questions she has considered. Wyse asked when the Board would be requested to decide on not collocating the DA's Office with the new courthouse.

Stockhoff noted the county could continue as originally proposed and incur extra costs to perform redesign work, which impacts the budget. If the county pursues the option without a new DA's Office, the new courthouse could move forward, hopefully still on schedule. The county could also stop the consultant work and pursue only the land use process to attempt to complete it. Stockhoff asked, "Are we staying with the original proposal or advancing the new one?" Stockhoff does not want to spend valuable funds on design and then have to redesign the project.

Wyse indicated she had been prepared to vote yes on the amended resolution but did not have the knowledge to – which meant the public did not have knowledge of – the full explanation for the amended resolution. Wyse stressed that if the Board was being asked to change the resolution, that information should be included in the meeting packet for the Commissioners and the public. Wyse further indicated she was not ready to decide to not collocate the DA's Office with the new courthouse.

Malone expressed similar thoughts. Malone asked Stockhoff how a two-week delay in decision making would affect the project schedule. Stockhoff indicated the need for the court's decision on configuration and adjacency by June 16. Design development needs to be complete within the next five to six weeks so construction drawings can begin in early August; stopping now will create delays. There is a parallel track for the land use process to continue, with a hope to get to a Planning Commission meeting in August. As winter draws closer, costs will continue to increase, and direction sooner rather than later is best. Stockhoff noted the DA had already agreed to reduce some of the office's square footage, which is now within the limits of the site.

Malone asked Stockhoff how certain he was the county does not have the funds to have the DA's Office connected to the new courthouse. Stockhoff indicated with the DA's Office as part of courthouse, it is right at the limit. The last estimate received increased \$200,000, and costs are rising \$150,000 to \$200,000 approximately every two months. By January 2024, costs are expected to be beyond the funds available. Costs are tight for the state as well. Augerot noted the state indicated that if they are not now satisfied with design as the project faces continue cost pressures, they believe the county will continue to chip away at the space, and it will then be less satisfactory than the historic courthouse.

Sessions reported speaking with Chief Financial Officer Crager about this issue; to Wyse's point, we just do not know. Crager believes the county may be able to just make it, but regarding making that decision today, we do not have all the information to confirm that is true. The resolution was to simply provide the flexibility in the bond sale. The bond sale is stipulated as being used for the courthouse. Sessions asked for two weeks to obtain better information to see if the facilities could still be collocated. The seismic issue is a significant part of this; is a partial seismic retrofit an option? The county cannot afford

\$15 million to retrofit the historic courthouse. There is still a great deal of ambiguity to be resolved before a decision is made.

Croney indicated the hard deadline for amending the resolution is June 15. Sessions indicated that if the Board does not amend the resolution, the county will collocate.

Wyse asked Stockhoff if he needed more than just the amended resolution to move forward. Wyse also expressed the need for another conversation, so the public is informed about what the county is considering.

Stockhoff expressed a desire to ensure the Board is comfortable with any decisions made in the current meeting and indicated some activities can continue regardless of whether the Board adopts the amended resolution. Stockhoff would have the team stand down as much as possible regarding design changes or working with the courts to develop a new space plan. Stockhoff asked if the item would then be on the June 27 agenda for a decision.

Hoffman noted there is not currently a meeting scheduled for June 27, other than a potential joint work session with the Planning Commission. Malone asked whether this item could be added to that agenda, and Hoffman indicated yes. Croney concurred, indicating the Board could hold a two-part meeting; one with the Planning Commission and a meeting to consider this issue.

Malone expressed a desire to maintain the original plan and asked if the potential existed for any further cooperation from the state. Augerot indicated no; the state's concerns are strictly with the size of courtrooms and the functionality of the layout from an operational standpoint. If the state does not approve the design, the county would not receive those funds. The county would have the bond money but not be able to do anything with it. It would ultimately be refunded to pay off the bonds.

Wyse asked that if the Board amended the resolution at the current meeting, with the knowledge there would be no collocation of the DA's Office, what would be Stockhoff's next steps? Stockhoff indicated the county would need to go back to the Trial Court Administrator regarding necessary design changes. This would delay the project and push progress well into winter. The state wants one of the courtrooms to be much larger, with the capacity to hold 40 to 60 people in the gallery. Adjacency is another issue, including operations for transactions windows and how staff flows throughout the building. The court also wants the jury room on the first floor; it is currently designed for the second floor.

If the direction is the DA's Office will remain in the historic courthouse, Stockhoff would immediately meet with the courts with prescribed square footage to develop a configuration acceptable to the Presiding Judge and then advance through the process.



Wyse noted it seemed Finance and the project team may have differing opinions; the inability is to reconcile the small chance of having the DA's Office collocated with Stockhoff's need to know the DA's Office is not included.

In response to Malone's question regarding a two-week delay in a decision, Stockhoff indicated the two weeks are very critical. The team is attempting to keep the project on schedule. In the last few months, the process has taken longer, and we are at the point where the court cannot accept the layout provided to them. There will be a large cost escalation in November if that continues, and the square footage was reduced to fit the budget. The \$36 million cost means there is no additional funding. Also, the final land value has not yet been determined, and infrastructure costs are another consideration. The project budget is very tight, and costs are likely to continue to increase. Stockhoff wants to be sure what is being planned does not exceed the budget. Any delays lead to the probability that costs will increase even more.

Augerot reported hearing clearly in the meeting last week that the design is not now satisfactory to the state; and with cost escalations that may result in the footprint shrinking further, she does not believe the state would release the funds. Perhaps the county needs to pull out of the project altogether and reconsider the bond offering and consider the need for the jail. This is a total plan, and there is already a great deal in motion, including with the City of Corvallis on land use. Much is already in motion, so costs are being incurred every day; however, Augerot is not sure the Board is ready to decide. Does the bond sale need to continue?

Sessions indicated the county can withdraw the bond sale, with the next sale opportunity being several months away.

Stockhoff noted the county may only have \$4 or \$5 million available for the historic courthouse. Bond sale proceeds were also to pay for some of what has already been done. When the bond measure failed, many things changed, including some things staff did not anticipate. Last week's meeting with the state had the same result. Stockhoff suggested returning to the Board at the July 5 meeting for a decision.

Haroldson pointed out that 1) by approving the amendment to the resolution, some options are preliminarily created and provide more flexibility; 2) the issue of collocating can be informed by additional information received in the interim; and 3) the issue of collocating is different from where the DA's Office needs to be located. Are there some decisions that will help move efforts forward while still preserving the process of determining where the DA's Office is located?

Croney presented several options to the Board: 1) do not amend the March 2023 resolution; 2) amend the resolution to create flexibility and continue conversations regarding the DA's Office, and 3) request bond counsel and the bank put a hold on the bond sale and take a step back to rethink the direction of JSIP.

Augerot indicated the state had already sold its share of bonds. We stay in the funding line behind Lane and Clackamas Counties. Lane is not currently doing anything, but if they secured financing, Lane could displace Benton County on the funding list.

Augerot reported the state's concerns regarding the current courthouse design: the size of courtrooms; functional configurations; and the belief that with continued rising costs, the square footage would decrease further. Augerot noted that state standards for court facilities are no longer realistic, especially for smaller counties.

Malone believes the county is committed to the north site. That is the future, and he is willing to proceed with the amended resolution. The bond measure defeat does complicate circumstances. The county is likely to have state support for half the cost of the new courthouse. Malone believes the Board should deal with the amended resolution in the current meeting and have Stockhoff return on July 5 to discuss funding issues.

Croney indicated that if the Board approved the amended resolution, the Board should give specific direction to staff about what information the Board would like to have for the July 5 meeting.

Wyse noted if the county continues with eminent domain, there will be unhappy voters.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to approve amending Resolution R2023-003 as presented. Wyse seconded the motion, **which carried 3-0.**

Croney asked what specific information the Board wanted for the July 5 meeting. Wyse would like to see an agenda that indicates the Board will be making this decision. Wyse also requested the DA have the opportunity to provide input.

Augerot would like to see the cost implications for any changes to the design.

Sessions will consult with Haroldson regarding time and commuting costs associated with the DA's Office. Sessions noted the county has three years to spend 80 percent of the \$36 million.

Haroldson believed the state has taken a position, and there is no room for more flexibility. He expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be heard on this issue.

Wyse asked that proposed motions be articulated in the agenda checklist for the July 5 meeting agenda.

**6. Other**

ORS 192.640(1)" . . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects."

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Malone adjourned the meeting at 4:11 PM.

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Pat Malone, Chair

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Maura Kwiatkowski, Recorder

## MINUTES

Tuesday, June 27, 2023  
Special Session  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Approved: July 12, 2023

### Call to Order

**3:30 p.m.**

Mayor Alex Johnson II called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

### Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Alex Johnson II and Councilors Steph Newton, Matilda Novak, Ray Kopczynski, Ramycia McGhee, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: Councilor Jackie Montague was excused

Commissioners present: Commissioners Pat Malone (3:49 p.m.), Xan Augerot, and Nancy Wyse

Commissioners absent: None

### Road Transfer Agreements

**3:30 p.m.**

Public Works Director Chris Bailey presented slides\* about county owned roads that are within city limits. Bailey and Benton County Public Works Director Gary Stockhoff responded to a question from Councilor Steph Newton about sidewalks on the southern portion of Crocker Lane.

### Corvallis – Albany Path

**3:46 p.m.**

Stockhoff spoke about the status of the Corvallis – Albany path and challenges with permits from the railroad and the Oregon Department of Transportation. Stockhoff said that staff is looking to finalize plans for the path soon to increase the project's appeal for grants.

Responding to a question from Councilor Ray Kopczynski, Stockhoff spoke about the positive working relationship between Benton County and the City of Albany.

Responding to a comment from Commissioner Pat Malone, Stockhoff confirmed there is currently funding for the Albany side and the Corvallis side of the path. The county is currently in the running for a grant to cover the middle part of the path.

### Potential funding for alternate fuel infrastructure (along Highway 20)

**3:53 p.m.**

Bailey spoke about a grant program for Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers and a potential partnership with the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments to manage EV charger installation.

Johnson II, Malone, Bailey, and City Manager Peter Troedsson discussed the challenges that EVs pose to gas taxes and state pilot programs to change to a mileage-based tax. Kopczynski and Bailey spoke about the creation of a charging network.

Commissioner Nancy Wyse, Commissioner Xan Augerot, Councilor Ramycia McGhee, and Bailey spoke about what activities related to EVs federal grants would cover and the reliability of the proposed charger network.

Public Safety Concerns in North Albany

**4:17 p.m.**

Police Chief Marcia Harnden spoke about her department's partnership with the Benton County Sheriff's Office. Harnden and Benton County Sheriff Jef Van Arsdall spoke about local fentanyl and xylazine overdoses. They both answered questions from Kopczynski and Newton about overdoses.

Harnden spoke about the City of Albany's approach to complying with 2021 HB 3115, regarding camping for the unhoused. Harnden also spoke about police department staffing, noting a full-time mental health professional and a park ranger, and about the City's CALEA recertification.

Harnden confirmed for Wyse that the park ranger is not a sworn officer. Responding to a question from Kopczynski, Harnden said she is not aware of any complaints about portable toilets since the City passed an ordinance removing certain restrictions on them.

Closing Remarks

**4:47 p.m.**

Malone made closing remarks and both he and Johnson II encouraged the two jurisdictions to have another joint meeting soon. Troedsson complimented city and county staff on their joint work in resolving the dissolution of the Dumbeck Lane Domestic Water Service District.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Gabe Shepherd  
Deputy City Clerk

Peter Troedsson  
City Manager

*\*Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. Documents from staff are posted to the website after the meeting. Documents submitted by the public are available by emailing [cityclerk@cityofalbany.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityofalbany.net).*

# Strategic Communications Update

July 2023 to Present and Future

Cory Grogan

August, 2023





# Awareness & Outreach



- **Benton Public Podcast Episode 4**
  - Environmental health and water quality with Scott Kruger
- **JSIP Feedback Collection Update**
  - Working with Downum Consulting to distribute the JSIP post-election community survey starting this week.
  - Short online survey to learn more about voters thoughts and concerns about measure 2-140.
  - Sharing the survey through all of our regular county communication channels
  - Survey will be open until September 1 and offered in both English and Spanish.
- **Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee**

# Advertising

- Benton County Fair
- Wildfire Awareness





# Community Outreach

## Benton County Fair

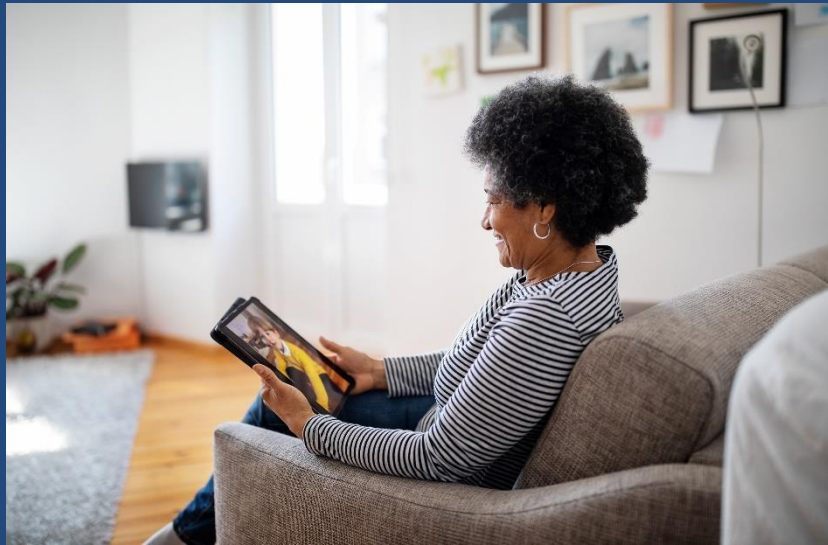




## Upcoming Events

- Sponsorship
  - Mainstage banner
  - Logo on all materials
  - Vendor space
  - Website
  - Thank you in Gazette-Times

# External Communications & Social Media



- Road Closures
- Podcast
- Benton County Fair
- County Administrator Hiring
- Hazardous Waste Disposal
- Wildfire
- AWPP Grant
- Cooling Centers
- Water Resources

# Product Tracker

## Benton County Products

### Benton County selects Rachel McEneny as next County Administrator

*Tuesday, July 25, 2023*

Benton County is pleased to announce Rachel McEneny has been offered and accepted the position of County Administrator. After an extensive selection process, the County formally extended an offer that McEneny has accepted. The anticipated start date for the position is Oct. 2.

McEneny brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record of effective leadership in various administrative roles. Notably, she has served the City of Albany, New York, with distinction since 2016. McEneny's career in public service includes serving as the Budget Director and later as the Commissioner of Administrative Services for the City of Albany. Her contributions have been instrumental in enhancing efficiency and governance within the city.

Prior to her time in Albany, McEneny served as the Director of Public Affairs for the New York State Department of Labor/Workers Compensation Board and as the Deputy Commissioner for the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. Experience at the state level has





# Publications



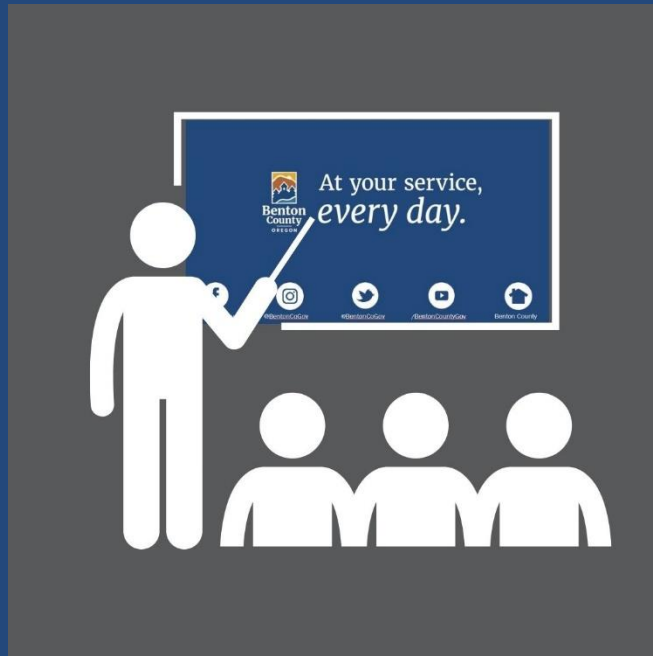
## **Biennium Report** 2021-2023

*Highlighting activities, achievements, and financial performance by Benton County*



- **Historical Driving Tour**
- **Flood Publication – Spanish**
- **Riparian Resources**
- **Biennium Report**

# Training



## Plain Language

- Web team
- Directors and web team

# Communications Planning



- Editorial calendar & project list
- Media relations & strategic communications policy updates
- Comprehensive Strategic Communications Plan

# Branding



- Kalapuya branding update



# Website Project

## Web Content Specialist (PS3)

Salary ⓘ	\$49,441.00 - \$64,873.00 Annually	Location ⓘ	Corvallis, OR
Job Type	Regular Full-time	Job Number	23-00085
Department	Board Of Commissioners	Division	AFSCME
Opening Date	07/18/2023	Closing Date	8/2/2023 11:59 PM Pacific
Bargaining Unit:	AFSCME	Classification:	Program Specialist 3
FLSA Exempt Status	Overtime Non-Exempt	Application Review/Interview Status	Accepting Applications

[DESCRIPTION](#)

[BENEFITS](#)

[QUESTIONS](#)

Job Summary



At your service,  
*every day.*

- Web Specialist Position Update
- Web Beta Training for Departments
  - WordPress overview
  - EDI
  - Plain Language and best practices for posting
  - Gathering photos
  - Drop-in session with IT Thursday afternoon



At your service,  
*every day.*



/BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



/BentonCountyGov



Benton County





**Benton  
County**  
OREGON

# Biennium Report 2021-2023

*Highlighting activities, achievements, and financial performance by Benton County*





# Letter from the Commissioners

Dear Residents of Benton County,

We are pleased to present the Benton County Biennial Report for 2021-2023, highlighting activities, achievements, and financial performance by Benton County. This report is a testament to the dedication of our staff, elected officials, community partners, and the residents of Benton County. Over the past two years, Benton County has shown resilience, adaptability, and a commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all our residents. We are delighted to share some noteworthy achievements that we have accomplished together:

**COVID-19 Response and Recovery:** In the face of the global pandemic, Benton County swiftly implemented measures to protect public health. We established vaccination sites, expanded testing capabilities, and provided vital resources to support businesses, individuals, and families affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic. Our successful response wouldn't have been possible without partners like the City of Corvallis, Samaritan Health Services, Oregon State University, Corvallis School District, and the amazing staff at Benton County. Our community rallied together, demonstrating compassion and solidarity during these challenging times.

**Sustainable Development & Environmental Stewardship:** We have made strides promoting sustainability to combat climate change, with a comprehensive Climate Action Plan, emphasizing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable transportation. These efforts have led to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality. We have implemented sustainable land management practices, supported watershed restoration efforts, and engaged in conservation initiatives. Our commitment to environmental stewardship ensures that future generations can enjoy the beauty and richness of our natural landscapes, and natural resources.

**Housing and Homelessness:** Recognizing the need to positively impact homelessness, Benton County and the City of Corvallis continue to support an advisory board called Home, Opportunity, Planning and Equity (HOPE) and regularly seek feedback from the dedicated members of this board. By collaborating with local organizations we expanded shelter capacity, provided rental assistance programs, and streamlined the development of affordable housing units. By fostering these partnerships, we are working towards insuring safe and stable housing options for all community members.

**Infrastructure Development:** Our commitment to infrastructure improvement remains unwavering. Over the past biennium, we have invested in road and bridge maintenance, enhancing connectivity. Additionally, we have focused on expanding broadband access to underserved areas, promoting digital equity, and supporting economic growth through increased connectivity.

**Justice System Improvement Program:** In a commitment to ensure fairness and justice, the Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) was launched. This initiative aims to enhance transparency, equity, and community engagement within our justice system. We are collaborating with stakeholders to implement reforms that address systemic issues and promote trust and accountability. Phase 1 of JSIP implementation includes the construction of the Benton County Mental Health Crisis Center, Courthouse, and District Attorney's Office.

**Mental Health Support:** Recognizing the importance of mental health in our community, we have prioritized the development and expansion of mental health services. We understand that mental well-being is crucial for the overall health and happiness of our community members. In collaboration with local healthcare providers and organizations, we have worked to increase access to mental health resources including increased staff capacity for counseling, therapy, and crisis intervention services. We are constructing the Mental Health Crisis Center to provide a dedicated facility for individuals in need of immediate mental health support. We remain committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where individuals can seek help without stigma.

Looking ahead to the next biennium, Benton County remains dedicated to building upon our achievements. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Benton County staff, community partners, and community members for their unwavering support and collaboration in achieving our collective goals. Together, we will continue to build a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable County.

Sincerely,

Benton County Commissioners



Xan Augerot



Pat Malone

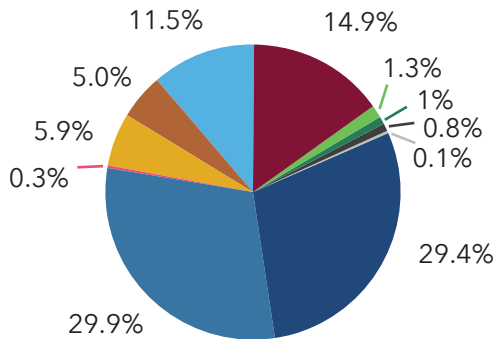


Nancy Wyse

# 2021 - 2023 Biennium Budget

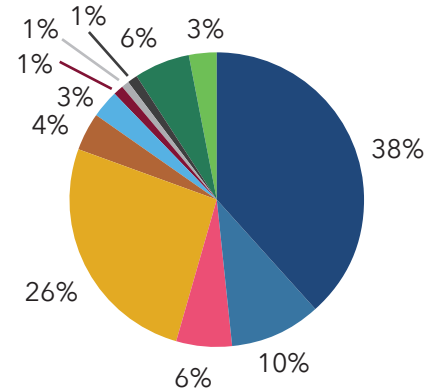
State law requires every local government to balance its budget, which means anticipated revenue cannot exceed expenses. The process of budgeting helps guide strategic planning and priorities for services. In Benton County, we budget biennially, in step with the state Legislature. This allows planning over a two-year period which provides flexibility for department leadership. We also project for the next two biennia, which helps longer-term fiscal planning.

## Revenue Budget



Grants	\$123,141,459
Charges for Services	\$121,032,128
Taxes	\$61,351,505
Restricted Beginning Balance	\$47,191,615
Transfers	\$24,257,965
Unrestricted Beginning Balance	\$20,700,000
Licences / Fees	\$5,284,103
Intergovernmental	\$4,064,534
Interest Earnings	\$3,164,780
Loans	\$1,300,000
Miscellaneous	\$558,676

## Expenditure Budget



General Government	\$156,656,014
Health	\$108,369,125
Public Safety	\$41,557,490
Capital Improvements	\$26,058,731
Public Works	\$25,550,102
Justice Services	\$15,014,949
Community Services	\$14,408,469
Unappropriated Balance	\$11,966,533
Parks & Natural Resources	\$5,766,184
Cultural & Educational	\$4,470,768
Expendable Trust	\$2,228,400

## Fiscal Responsibility



**In 2023, Moody's Investors Service, a well-known credit rating agency, announced that it had upgraded Benton County's credit rating to Aa1 from Aa2. The Aa1 rating is one of the top ratings within Moody's Investors Service credit rating scale. The Aa1 rating is one notch from Moody's highest rating within Moody's Investors Service Credit Rating scale.**

**"I believe the upgraded credit rating reflects the County's strong financial position and highlights its commitment to responsible fiscal management," said Benton County Chief Financial Officer Rick Crager. "This upgrade is a testament to Benton County's ability to meet its financial obligations and enhances credibility in the financial markets, enabling access to favorable borrowing terms and greater opportunities for economic growth and development that will help the County in the future."**

# Major Elements of the Budget

*Budgetary allocations and initiatives demonstrate Benton County's commitment to addressing critical needs, enhancing community services, and ensuring the overall well-being and prosperity of its residents.*

**Additional Mental Health Support:** The budget set aside \$7.7 million from state and federal resources to establish a new Crisis Center, which will provide essential mental health services.

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding:** A total of \$9.1 million in new federal resources, combined with \$9.1 million from the previous biennium, was allocated for ARPA projects. Out of the \$18.2 million total, \$14 million (78%) will be utilized to support various initiatives, such as addressing negative economic impacts, responding to public health issues, maintaining and improving infrastructure, and filling gaps lost in public sector revenue.

**County Courthouse and District Attorney's Office:** Through state funding amounting to \$31.2 million, supplemented by County resources generated from a General Obligation Bond, new facilities for a County Courthouse and District Attorney's Office will be constructed.

**Enhancing Public Safety and Justice System:** The budget included the establishment of a pre-trial program, as recommended in the Justice System Improvement Assessment report. To address increased needs in patrol and corrections, the Sheriff's Office has added four new positions, ensuring continued excellence in maintaining overall public safety in the County.

**Community Development Block Grant Program:** Three separate grants totaling \$985,000 were secured to support the Community Development Block Grant Program. These funds assisted the community to recover from the impacts of the pandemic, providing support in areas such as food, childcare, and rental housing.

**Health Department and Emergency Operation Center:** The Health Department's budget for 2021-23 included the addition of 4.0 full-time equivalent staff members to implement a Children and Families Outpatient Mental Health Program. Additionally, a federal grant of \$1.0 million, combined with a County match of \$333,333, was awarded for the establishment of a COVID-19 Emergency Operation Center.

**Facilities and Transportation:** The Facilities Budget included the rehabilitation of the Kalapuya Building and accounts for the debt service requirement of outstanding bonds supported by department facility space charges. Furthermore, the budget reflected increased Highway Apportionment revenues, projecting an increase from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 per biennium through the 2025-27 period, following the approval of a transportation-funding package by the Oregon legislature in 2017.

**Department Consolidation:** The Natural Areas and Parks Department and Fair Department were consolidated to form the Natural Areas, Parks & Events Department, streamlining operations and improving efficiency.

## Benton County Board of Commissioners



The Benton County Board of Commissioners guides the development and progress of Benton County through policy decision-making. They oversee various departments and services, allocating and managing the County's budget to support essential initiatives. Through community engagement and public meetings, they foster transparency and inclusivity. The Board also advocates for the County's needs at the state and federal levels, securing funding for projects that enhance residents' well-being.

# Benton County by the Numbers

## Community Development

Population as of July 1, 2022: **97,630**



**16,209** Outside urban growth boundaries



**78,456** Inside urban growth boundaries

**679** Square Miles



**676** Land



**3** Water

## Benton Area Transit



**60,443** BAT lift rides  
**18,347** Commuter bus rides  
**39,023** Hours of service provided  
**606,339** Miles of service provided

## Sheriff's Department



**18,235** Total calls for service in 2022  
**8,103** Calls deputies responded to

## Juvenile



**997** Juvenile clients served  
**122** Juvenile referrals

## Assessment

**1,878** Physical Reappraisals Between July 1, 2021 and May 24, 2023

Converted business personal property program to paperless and successfully implemented an e-filing system for the 2023 tax year.

## District Attorney



Crimes processed by District Attorney's Office:  
2021: **6,024**  
2022: **5,419**



Victims Served Annually:  
2021: **43,650**  
2022: **40,911**



Services to Victims Annually:  
2021: **6,024**  
2022: **5,419**



Scheduled Court Appearances:  
2021: **22,041**  
2022: **23,440**



## Natural Areas, Parks & Events

**1,500** Total acres  
**24.3** Total trail miles  
**37** Campsites  
**4** Boat launches  
**6** Picnic shelters  
**309** Picnic shelter reservations  
**106** Beazell Education Center rentals  
**78** Alsea Guard Station rentals  
**26,525** County Fair & Rodeo attendance  
**2** New restrooms  
**1** New playground (total 4)

## Human Resources



**524** Employees  
**4,919** Job applications received  
**333** New hires





# Health Department

## Developmental Diversity

**574** People enrolled in case management  
**26%** Youth    **74%** Adult  
**100%** In stable housing

## Behavioral Health

**3,600** Total patients  
**51%** at Benton County office  
**21%** via Telehealth  
**18%** at Community locations

## Mental Health Crisis Response

**3,380** Encounters  
**FY 22-23:** 1,812 encounters with 1,006 patients  
**FY 21-22:** 1,568 encounters with 897 patients

## Women, Infants, & Children (WIC Nutrition)

**1,606** Participants  
**908** Families

## Communicable Diseases

**19,288** COVID-19 case reports  
**1,259** Non-COVID-19 communicable disease cases  
**1,125** Individual Sexually Transmitted Illnesses  
*(89% of non-COVID-19 communicable diseases)*

## Environmental Health Program

**919** Food vendor and restaurant licenses issued  
**339** Temporary food vendor licenses issued  
**66** Food complaints investigated  
**112** Pools and spas inspected  
**214** Pools and spas licensed

## Tobacco Retail Licenses

**51** Licenses issued  
**51** Routine inspections  
**6** Remediation discussions (*no formal violations*)  
**50** Minimum Legal Sale Age inspections  
**8** Formal violations with civil penalties

## Public Health Immunization Program

Over **60** onsite vaccination clinics  
Over **162** COVID-19 clinics  
Over **21,000** COVID-19 vaccinations  
**28** COVID-19 clinics for the unhoused  
**13** Monkey Pox clinics



# Community Health Centers of Benton & Linn Counties

**9,236** Primary care clinic patients served  
Nearly **80%** of kids **3-6** years old had annual wellness visits in 2022  
Exceeded adolescent immunization goal with **58%** immunized in 2022  
**5,232** Dental clinic patients served

## Community Health Centers Bridge Healthcare Gaps



The Community Health Centers of Linn and Benton County provided support during the pandemic, adapting to healthcare needs while maintaining primary care, and offering a range of services from dental care to medical assistant training. The health centers launched a Medical Assistance Training Program and were recognized by the Oregon Health Authority for the Community Health Worker Training Hub program. The dental program expanded services in Lebanon and was awarded grant funding for an expanded practice dental hygienist at the Lincoln Health Center. The program also re-established the School-Based Sealant and Fluoride Program in all Benton and East Linn County elementary and middle schools, received annual funding to collaborate with Strengthening Rural Families and Love, INC to aid those needing dental care, and expanded dental hygiene services in Albany.





## Public Works

### Fleet

**100** Best Fleet Award

**314** Internal vehicles and equipment serviced

**841** External vehicles and equipment serviced

### Facilities

**15** County office buildings

Over **240,000** sq. ft. of office space maintained

### County roads

**273** Miles of paved

**67** Miles of gravel

### Local access roads (Public Roads)

**21** Miles of paved

**48** Miles of gravel

### Road districts

**11** Road districts

### Bridges

**102** County bridge & large culverts

**3** Public road bridges

### Utility service districts

**3** Water systems

**3** Sewer systems

## Records & Elections

### 5 Elections

**60,473** Registered voters

**7,494** New registrants

**26,880** Voter registration updates

**216,600** Ballots mailed to voters

**111,112** Ballots returned by voters

**109,110** Ballots accepted and tallied

**3,412** Passport applications accepted

**787** Passport renewals

**3,228** Passport photos taken

**854** Marriage licenses issued

**5** Domestic partnerships registered

**7,317** Dogs currently registered

**2,652** New dog licenses

**4,507** Renewal dog licenses

**27,518** Real property & Lien instruments recorded

**15,706** Real property and lien instruments submitted electronically

## Fleet Crew Excellence



The Benton County Fleet Crew was awarded 4th place out of thousands in the Americas in the Best Public Fleets program competition. The Fleet team resides in the Public Works Department where they maintain and repair a wide array of vehicles and equipment.

The crew improved its ranking, from 9th place in 2022 to 4th place in 2023. The program aims to promote improvement and innovation in the fleet industry. Fleet Manager, Keith Nicholson, expressed that it is an honor to receive this recognition. Sustainability Coordinator, Sean McGuire, highlighted the fleet program's contribution to achieving sustainability goals. Board Chair Pat Malone expressed pride in the fleet crew's consistent recognition and commitment to excellence as one of the best fleet crews.

# Benton County Environmental Health Program



The Benton County Environmental Health Program oversees the regulation of groundwater well systems, septic system installation and repair, animal bite investigations, and the inspection of facilities that require a state license. This includes restaurants, mobile food carts, hotels, pools, spas, organizational camps, retail tobacco outlets, and recreational vehicle parks. The program also inspects childcare facilities, the food service in public schools, as well as the food service in Greek Life housing at Oregon State University. Environmental Health also conducts investigations into foodborne illnesses and complaints.

“Our team of professionals comprises environmental health specialists registered with the state, administrative support personnel, a retail tobacco sales specialist, and a climate adaptation specialist,” said Scott Kruger acting environmental health program manager. “We take pride in serving the residents of Benton County and being available to assist them every day. Our program provides education and support to our community, ensuring compliance with state public health laws.”

## Justice System Improvement Program



The Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) is a multi-year initiative that began with a detailed 2018 assessment. The plan involves the development of a number of new facilities as well as expanded mental health and behavioral health crisis programs and services. The vision is to balance treatment and accountability to transform lives, ensure safety, and strengthen the community.

## Strategic Communications

Benton County strives to provide transparent, engaging, and community-focused communication with tailored messages for diverse demographics. Using a multi-channel approach including social media, website, media, listservs, and events we aim to inform community members with timely and accurate information. Using strategic communication planning and coordinated strategies, the long-term vision is to build trust and community relationships with effective communication

“We regularly assess and adapt our communication strategies to ensure that we remain responsive to the needs of the community members we serve,” said Benton County Public Information Officer Cory Grogan.

## Partnerships with Elected Officials



Benton County visited or received visits from Senator Ron Wyden, Senator Jeff Merkley, retired Representative Peter DeFazio, Representative Val Hoyle, Senator Sara Gelser, and Representative (House Speaker) Dan Rayfield and staff. These officials have helped champion crucial projects like the Benton County Crisis Center and other initiatives. The collaboration between Benton County and elected officials has been instrumental in driving positive change and addressing critical issues affecting the community.

The partnership between Benton County and elected officials exemplifies the positive impact that can be achieved through effective collaboration and mutual support. By leveraging the expertise and resources of elected officials, Benton County has been able to directly benefit its residents and foster a thriving, inclusive community.

# Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

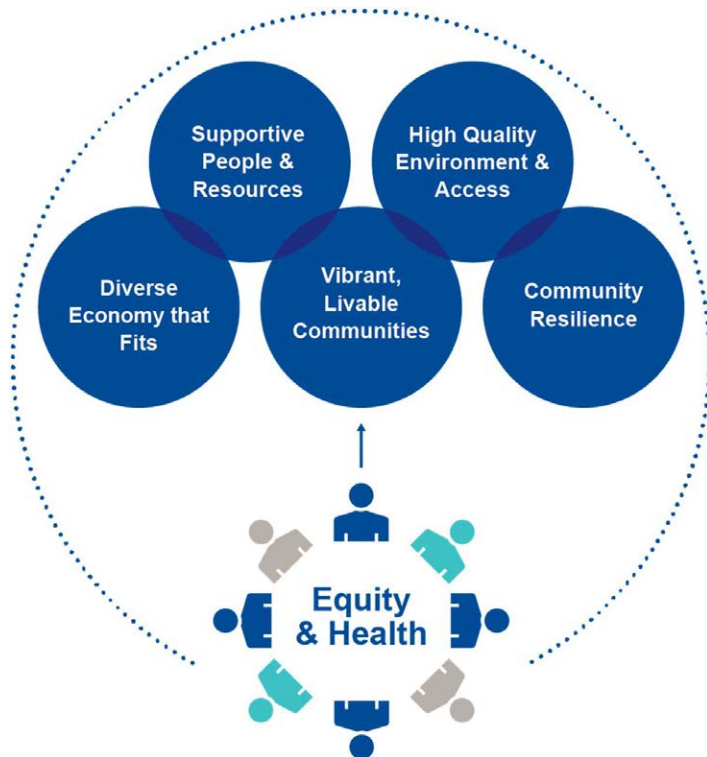


Benton County is committed to supporting an inclusive environment and creating equitable access to resources and opportunities for all County residents and visitors. We recognize that the strength and resiliency of a community is directly tied to the availability and accessibility of resources and opportunities for all individuals, regardless of race, disability, religious practices or beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, age, or socioeconomic background.

The County's mission to ensure access, equity, and inclusion in Benton County's services, policies, practices, and procedures relies heavily on our commitment to foster a community where everyone feels valued, included, respected, and safe. This includes, but is not limited to, recruitment and retention of a workforce that is representative of the community members we serve and an ongoing commitment to implementing equitable and inclusive principles in our work. We value the importance of employing staff who possess valuable lived experiences to ensure our workforce is culturally and linguistically responsive and leverages diversity to promote innovation and positive outcomes for the people we serve. With equity and inclusion at the forefront of our work, and in partnership with our community, Benton County is committed to cultivating a community where all residents have the same opportunities to thrive.

## Sustainability

In 2016, Benton County initiated the 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative to foster public trust, align operational efforts with long-term vision, and prepare for the future. Led by community leaders, the initiative identified Core Values by engaging with thousands of community members over two years. These Core Values now serve as guideposts for the County's initiatives, goals, and activities in recent biennium budgets. Benton County is dedicated to sustainability, fiscal responsibility, efficiency, environmental stewardship, and promoting health and equity for all.



## Transitioning to Renewable Energy



Transitioning to renewable energy is one of the ways Benton County is addressing the climate crisis. This 112 kilowatt solar array was installed on the Law Enforcement Center (180 NW 5th street in downtown Corvallis) in 2021 with funding from Pacific Power's Blue Sky Program and Energy Trust of Oregon, and is one of five renewable energy projects Benton County has installed to date.

**Benton County's goal is to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 50% of 2010 levels by the year 2030, and to be net-zero by 2050.**



# Departments at a Glance

## Assessment

The Assessment Department assesses all properties in Benton County as of January 1, of each year. The department administers special programs such as special assessments, senior deferral, veteran and active duty military exemptions, enterprise zones, and various other property tax exemptions. It is also responsible for reviewing taxing district budgets; maintaining County property maps; computing tax rates for districts; and insuring the distribution of the tax levies.

## Community Development

The Community Development Department houses the Building Division and Planning Division. The Building Division is responsible for administering the building permit and inspection program in accordance with State building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and manufactured dwelling setup specialty codes. The Planning Division is responsible for managing the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and administering the County's zoning regulations and long range land use planning. The Community Development Department also oversees implementation of the Solid Waste & Water Quality Program.

## Elections & Records

The Elections Office sets up, administers, and conducts, all Federal, State, County, City, and Special District elections held in Benton County. Benton County Elections is also responsible for voter registration, election filings, petition drives, campaign information, determination of political boundaries, issuing of ballots, and the publication of Voters' Pamphlets. The Benton County Clerk directs the department and the office is also designated as a passport application acceptance agent.

## Finance Department

The Finance Department is responsible for budgeting, accounting services, collection of property taxes, treasury management and financial advice to Administration and the Board of Commissioners. The department develops and monitors internal controls used to protect County assets and provides risk management services by securing liability and property insurance for the County. The department also develops and manages the County's biennial budget as well as the budgets for eight county service districts. The Finance Department is also responsible for managing the preparation and execution of the County budget.

## Health Department

The Health Department, co-located and integrated with the Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties is responsible for a variety of health services including behavioral and mental health, substance abuse, dental care, developmental diversity, environmental health, health management services, primary care, and public health.

The Developmental Diversity Program provides support for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Public Health Division provides services related to communicable diseases, family planning, health promotion, HIV/STI, immunizations, maternal and child health, public health emergency preparedness, tobacco prevention, and WIC. The Environmental Health Program protects the people of Benton County through managing sanitation, safe food and water, proper disposal of wastes, and disease prevention, plus licenses all restaurants and mobile food stands in the County, trains food service workers in food safety, and investigates all reports of foodborne illness.



## Human Resources

Human Resources is a strategic partner in building a highly skilled, diverse and motivated team of employees, working together to meet community member's needs. Human Resources provides the following services for the County: recruitment, personnel policies, employee records management, training, employee relations, labor contract administration, new employee orientation, position classification and compensation, and benefits administration.

## Information Technology

The Information Technology Office provides a full spectrum of quality information and communications systems to support the achievement of County strategic objectives. The office business function and service areas include applications, database, and programming services; network services; personal computer support; telephone and voicemail services; end user training; informational resources management; information availability; web and graphic design; disaster recovery planning & services; and technology leadership.

## Juvenile Department

The Juvenile Department protects the community through prevention and control of juvenile delinquency. It operates under the balanced approach of accountability, community safety and competency development. This is met with a continuum of care that includes supervision, support and rehabilitation services to youth and families.

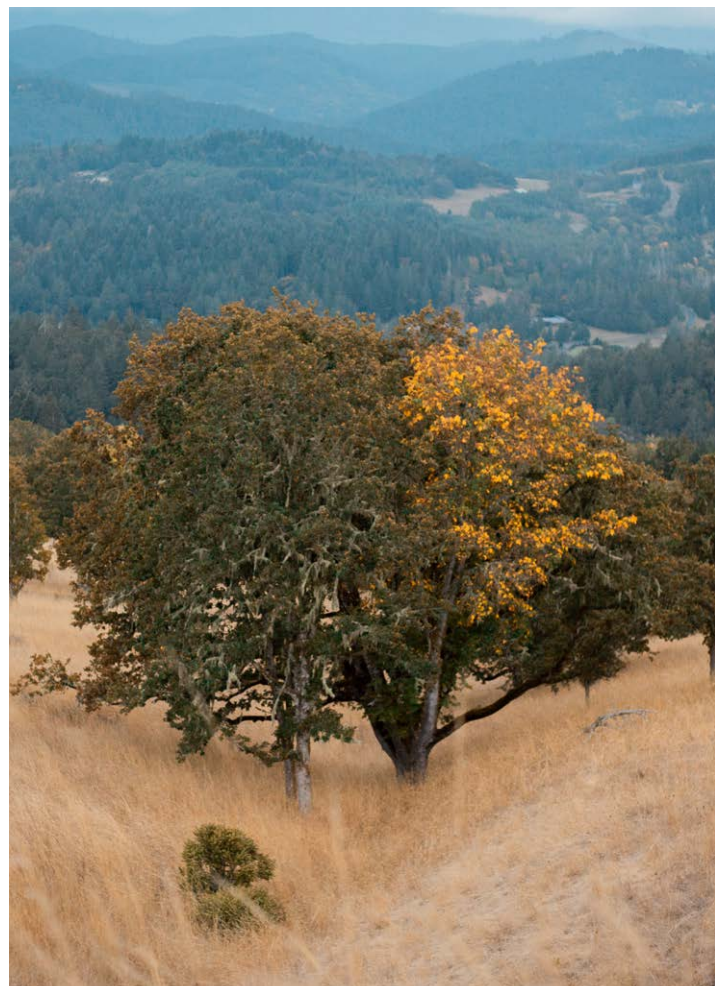
## Natural Areas, Parks & Events

The Benton County Natural Areas, Parks and Events Department (NAPE) serves the Benton County residents by providing access to natural, historic, and recreational areas and conserving, restoring and developing parkland investments. The department manages a dozen parks, natural areas, and boat landings; outdoor education and recreation; habitat conservation; prairie conservation; firewood program; Crystal Lake Cemetery; Alsea River rental cabin; Salmonberry Campground; Beazell Memorial Forest and Education Center; and County trails. NAPE also manages and maintains the Benton County Event Center and Fairgrounds that is the home of the annual Benton County Fair & Rodeo.

## Public Works

The Public Works Department oversees the Surveyor's Office, Roads Division, Engineering Services, Facilities Division, Special/Rural Public Transportation, and the Motor Pool and Shop, and assists the Board of Commissioners on issues related to the utility and service districts. The Surveyor's Office files property line adjustment surveys, manages partition and subdivision plats, and oversees the public land corner restoration program and the County road list.

The Road Maintenance Division maintains 275 miles of hard surfaced roads and 170 miles of gravel roadways throughout Benton County and is responsible for surface/sign/traffic marking, vegetation, and bridges and drainage systems. Engineering Services is responsible for the transportation system design and planning, pavement management program, construction management, and site development review. The Special/Rural Public Transportation program provides transportation options for persons with disabilities, persons older than 60 years of age, underserved populations, and rural communities.









# Offices with Elected Officials

## District Attorney's Office



DA John M. Haroldson

The District Attorney's Office represents the state government and is responsible for the prosecution of criminal offenses in Benton County. Divisions in Office include criminal, family law, child support enforcement, medical examiner, and victim services. The District Attorney is elected at-large to a four-year term.



Xan Augerot



Pat Malone



Nancy Wyse

## Sheriff's Office



Sheriff Jeff Van Arsdall

The Sheriff's Office provides professional public safety services with integrity and accountability. Services include animal control, civil process, concealed handgun licensing, courthouse security, emergency management, jail operations, law enforcement, patrol, investigations, parole & probation, and search & rescue. The Sheriff is elected at-large to a four-year term.

## Benton County Board of Commissioners Office

The Benton County Board of Commissioners include Pat Malone, chair; Nancy Wyse, commissioner; and Xan Augerot, commissioner. Commissioners oversee all functions of County government services and set the budgets for the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office. They act as executives, overseeing County operations; legislators, set County ordinances; and also fill a quasi-judicial role in land use matters.

## Crisis Center Groundbreaking



On June 14, 2023, the Benton County Commissioners and dignitaries gathered to break ground on the new Benton County Crisis Center in Corvallis. The center will provide voluntary walk-in treatment and support for individuals in mental health crisis. It is funded by \$7.7 million from state and federal sources, including Oregon state general funds and American Rescue Plan Act funds. The Crisis Center aims to offer immediate assistance, prevent the escalation of crises, and save lives. It will be staffed by the Benton County Health Department's crisis team and is part of the Justice System Improvement Program.



## Benton County ‘Talks Trash’



The Benton County “Talks Trash” Solid Waste Process Workgroup hosted a community open house on April 4, 2023. Community members who supported the event volunteered thousands of hours working with County staff and key stakeholders to provide recommendations about the future of sustainable materials management, solid waste, and disposal in Benton County.

The workgroup delivered a final report to the Benton County Board of Commissioners that provided recommendations to the Board about specific solid waste topics such as landfill size/capacity/longevity, sustainable materials management plan, past land use application conditions, legal issues, land use review, and community education.

## Benton County Attends Sustainability Fair



Employees from the Benton County Community Development and Health Departments joined Commissioner Pat Malone and members of the County Sustainability Program at the annual Sustainability Fair & Town Hall. The Fair was waste-free, with more than 45 exhibits highlighting local sustainability initiatives. A Town Hall followed the Fair, where County Commissioner Malone and others discussed various sustainability initiatives. The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition event returned to its in-person format in 2023, which had been on hiatus since 2019.

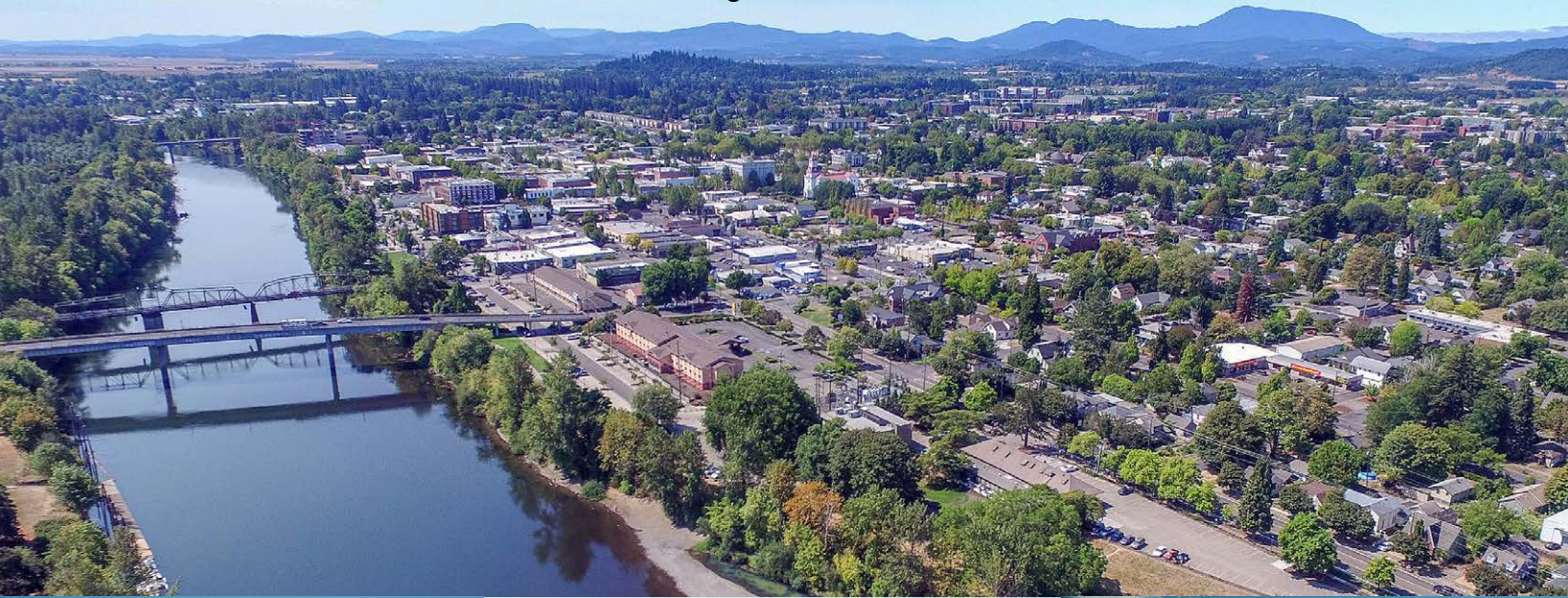
## Benton County Breakfast Brings Employees Together



The Benton Breakfast is an annual event to recognize Benton County employees for their dedication and service to the Benton County community. This year’s breakfast on May 11, at the Benton County fairgrounds, had a superhero theme and recognized outstanding individuals with public service awards.











# Benton County

OREGON

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4500 SW Research Way • Corvallis, OR 97333

Assessment	541-766-6855
Board of Commissioners	541-766-6800
County Administration	541-766-6800
Community Development	541-766-6819
District Attorney	541-766-6815
Elections	541-766-6756
Event Center and Fairgrounds	541-766-6521
Finance and Property Tax	541-766-6808
Health Services	541-766-6835
Human Resources	541-766-6081
Juvenile	541-766-6810
Natural Areas and Parks	541-766-6871
Public Works	541-766-6821
Records	541-766-6831
Sheriff	541-766-6858

Cover photo by Porter Raab

## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

### Agenda Placement and Contacts

---

**Suggested Agenda Date** 08/08/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Finance

**Contact Name \*** Rick Crager

**Phone Extension \*** 6246

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Rick Crager and Shurisa Steed

### Agenda Item Details

**Item Title \*** Grant Applications and Funding Requests

- Item Involves \*** Check all that apply
- Appointments
  - Budget
  - Contract/Agreement
  - Discussion and Action
  - Discussion Only
  - Document Recording
  - Employment
  - Notice of Intent
  - Order/Resolution
  - Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
  - Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
  - Proclamation
  - Project/Committee Update
  - Public Comment
  - Special Report
  - Other

**Estimated Time \*** 15 minutes

**Board/Committee Involvement \***  Yes  No

**Advertisement \***  Yes  No

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

---

### Item Issues and Description

---

**Identified Salient Issues \***

Cities located within Benton County have requested funding for economic development activities and opportunities; discuss and act on providing appropriate funding as requested. Funding for the cities shall be provided through the County Transient Lodging Tax. Additionally, we are proposing a grant request by Linn Benton Food Share to support the distribution of food and supplies to nonprofit agencies in Benton County, where said supplies will be distributed to individuals and families seeking emergency food and supplies.

**Options \***

Provide requested funding.  
Decline requested funding.

**Fiscal Impact \***

Yes  
 No

**Fiscal Impact Description \***

\$30,000; \$10,000 for each city (Monroe, Philomath, and Adair Village).  
\$75,960 to Community Consortium, Linn Benton Food Share.

Total fiscal impact = \$105,960

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

---

**Mandated Service?\***  Yes  
 No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

---

#### Core Values\*

Select all that apply.

- Vibrant, Livable Communities
- Supportive People Resources
- High Quality Environment and Access
- Diverse Economy that Fits
- Community Resilience
- Equity for Everyone
- Health in All Actions
- N/A

#### Explain Core Values Selections\*

Provide support for economic development within rural cities and support Benton County residents seeking emergency supplies.

#### Focus Areas and Vision\*

Select all that apply.

- Community Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Outdoor Recreation
- Prosperous Economy
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Mobility and Transportation
- Housing and Growth
- Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- Food and Agriculture
- Lifelong Learning and Education
- N/A

#### Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection\*

N/A

## Recommendations and Motions

---

### Item Recommendations and Motions

---

**Staff Recommendations\*** Staff recommends providing funding for the Cities of Monroe, Philomath, and Adair Village. Staff also recommends providing funding for the Community Service Consortium Linn Benton Food Share.

**Meeting Motions\*** I move to ...  
 approve the requested funding totaling \$105,960 through four separate grant applications, including \$10,000 each to the Cities of Philomath, Monroe, and Adair Village, totaling \$30,000 for economic development, and \$75,960 to Community Service Consortium Linn Benton Food Share for purchase of emergency food and supplies to support residents of Benton County seeking resources.

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

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### Item Comments and Attachments

---

**Attachments** Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

Grant Agreement - Adair Village.pdf	177.72KB
Grant Agreement - CSC.pdf	179.13KB
Grant Agreement - Monroe.pdf	177.12KB
Grant Agreement - Philomath.pdf	177.03KB

**Comments (optional)** If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

**Department Approver** RICHARD CRAGER

## Department Approval

---

### Comments

### Signature



## BOC Initial Approval

---

Approvals Required  Counsel

Finance

HR

Counsel Approver VANCE CRONEY

County Administrator Approver SUZANNE HOFFMAN

## Counsel Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Vance H. Croney

## County Administrator Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Suzanne Hoffman

## BOC Final Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Hanna Kwiatkowski





Financial Services Department

Office: (541) 766-6100

Fax: (541) 766-6893

PO Box 964

Corvallis, OR 97339

[co.benton.or.us](http://co.benton.or.us)

## Grant Letter of Agreement

between  
Benton County  
and  
City of Adair Village

The Grant Agreement (hereinafter "AGREEMENT"), is made between Benton County, (hereinafter "COUNTY"), and City of Adair Village, (hereinafter "RECIPIENT").

**WHEREAS**, on June 20, 2023, Benton County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "BOARD") approved the 23-25 Biennium Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, during the regular public meeting on August 8, 2023, BOARD approved a grant in the amount of \$10,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTY and RECIPIENT desire to have this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing recitals which are incorporated herein by reference, and the terms and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

**1. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM**

This AGREEMENT shall commence July 01, 2023, and remain in effect through June 30, 2025 (hereinafter, "COMPLETION DATE"), unless terminated earlier by the COUNTY or RECIPIENT in writing.

**2. USE OF FUNDS**

The RECIPIENT will use the GRANT to further economic development and activities within the Adair Village city limits (hereinafter "PROGRAM").

**3. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

Upon execution of this CONTRACT and satisfaction of all condition's precedent, half of GRANT funds will be released to RECIPIENT with the remaining amount to be released July 2024.

**4. TERMINATION**

At any time, with or without cause, COUNTY, in its sole discretion shall have the absolute right to terminate this AGREEMENT by giving written notice to RECIPIENT. If COUNTY terminates pursuant to this paragraph, RECIPIENT shall be entitled to payment for all expenses incurred through the date of termination; provided, that there shall be deducted from such payment the amount of damage, if any, sustained by COUNTY due to any breach of the AGREEMENT by RECIPIENT.

**5. FINANCIAL RECORDS AND REPORTING**

RECIPIENT will cooperate with COUNTY to provide all necessary financial information and records to provide COUNTY the reporting required. RECIPIENT will keep proper books of account and records on all activities associated with the GRANT, including, but not limited to, invoices, cancelled checks, payroll records, instruments, agreements, and other supporting financial records documenting the use of the GRANT. RECIPIENT will maintain these books of account and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and will retain these books of account and records until five years after the COMPLETION.

**6. NOTICES**

All notices, funding requests and payment shall be made in writing and may be given by personal delivery, by mail or email, receipt requested. Notices sent by mail should be addressed as follows:



RECIPIENT

City Adair Village  
Pat Hare  
6030 NE William R Carr Ave  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
Pat.hare@adairvillage.org

COUNTY

Benton County  
4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this AGREEMENT is executed and shall become effective as of the last date signed below.

**BENTON COUNTY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Chief Financial Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Adair Village, Authorized Signer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Financial Services Department

Office: (541) 766-6100

Fax: (541) 766-6893

PO Box 964

Corvallis, OR 97339

[co.benton.or.us](http://co.benton.or.us)

## Grant Letter of Agreement

between  
Benton County  
and  
Linn Benton Food Share

The Grant Agreement (hereinafter "AGREEMENT"), is made between Benton County, (hereinafter "COUNTY"), and Linn Benton Food Share, a program of Community Services Consortium, (hereinafter "RECIPIENT").

**WHEREAS**, the RECIPIENT submitted a funding request to the COUNTY on January 26, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 20, 2023, Benton County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "BOARD") approved the 23-25 Biennium, and

**WHEREAS**, on August 8, 2023, Benton County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "BOARD") approved a grant in the amount of \$75,960 to Linn Benton Food Share; and

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTY and RECIPIENT desire to have this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing recitals which are incorporated herein by reference, and the terms and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

**1. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM**

This AGREEMENT shall commence July 01, 2023, and remain in effect through June 30, 2025 (hereinafter, "COMPLETION DATE"), unless terminated earlier by the COUNTY or RECIPIENT in writing.

**2. USE OF FUNDS**

The RECIPIENT will use the GRANT to support the distribution of food and supplies to non-profit agencies in County where they will be distributed to any family or individual seeking emergency food (hereinafter "PROGRAM").

**3. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

Upon execution of this CONTRACT and satisfaction of all conditions precedent, GRANT funds will be released to RECIPIENT on a quarterly basis over the 2 year period in the amount of \$9,495 not to exceed the annual amount of \$37,980. Any GRANT funds released that are not expended within 90 days of receiving said funds they must be returned to COUNTY within 30 days following.

**4. TERMINATION**

At any time, with or without cause, COUNTY, in its sole discretion shall have the absolute right to terminate this AGREEMENT by giving written notice to RECIPIENT. If COUNTY terminates pursuant to this paragraph, RECIPIENT shall be entitled to payment for all expenses incurred through the date of termination; provided, that there shall be deducted from such payment the amount of damage, if any, sustained by COUNTY due to any breach of the AGREEMENT by RECIPIENT.

**5. FINANCIAL RECORDS AND REPORTING**

RECIPIENT will cooperate with COUNTY to provide all necessary financial information and records to provide COUNTY the reporting required. RECIPIENT will keep proper books of account and records on all activities associated with the GRANT, including, but not limited to, invoices, cancelled checks, payroll records, instruments, agreements, and other supporting financial records documenting the use of the GRANT. RECIPIENT will maintain these books of account and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and will retain these books of account and records until five years after the

COMPLETION. RECIPIENT shall submit to COUNTY an Expenditure and Progress Report on a quarterly basis throughout the term of this agreement. Report due dates are as follows: October 15<sup>th</sup>, January 15<sup>th</sup>, Aril 15<sup>th</sup>, and July 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Failure to submit a quarterly report may result in, (i) withholding of payments until report is received, or (ii) termination of this agreement and remaining payments if RECIPIENT fails to respond to this requirement after reasonable notice.

**6. NOTICES**

All notices, funding requests and payment shall be made in writing and may be given by personal delivery, by mail or email, receipt requested. Notices sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

RECIPIENT

Linn-Benton Food Share  
Ryan McCambridge  
PO BOX 1920  
Corvallis, OR 97339  
rmccrambridge@communityservices.us

COUNTY

Benton County  
4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this AGREEMENT is executed and shall become effective as of 8/8/2023.

**BENTON COUNTY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Chief Financial Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Community Services Consortium,  
Authorized Signer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Financial Services Department

Office: (541) 766-6100

Fax: (541) 766-6893

PO Box 964

Corvallis, OR 97339

[co.benton.or.us](http://co.benton.or.us)

## Grant Letter of Agreement

between  
Benton County  
and  
City of Monroe

The Grant Agreement (hereinafter "AGREEMENT"), is made between Benton County, (hereinafter "COUNTY"), and City of Monroe, (hereinafter "RECIPIENT").

**WHEREAS**, on June 20, 2023, Benton County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "BOARD") approved the 23-25 Biennium Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, during the regular public meeting on August 8, 2023, BOARD approved a grant in the amount of \$10,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTY and RECIPIENT desire to have this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing recitals which are incorporated herein by reference, and the terms and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

### 1. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

This AGREEMENT shall commence July 01, 2023, and remain in effect through June 30, 2025 (hereinafter, "COMPLETION DATE"), unless terminated earlier by the COUNTY or RECIPIENT in writing.

### 2. USE OF FUNDS

The RECIPIENT will use the GRANT to further economic development within the Monroe city limits (hereinafter "PROGRAM").

### 3. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Upon execution of this CONTRACT and satisfaction of all condition's precedent, half of GRANT funds will be released to RECIPIENT with the remaining amount to be released July 2024.

### 4. TERMINATION

At any time, with or without cause, COUNTY, in its sole discretion shall have the absolute right to terminate this AGREEMENT by giving written notice to RECIPIENT. If COUNTY terminates pursuant to this paragraph, RECIPIENT shall be entitled to payment for all expenses incurred through the date of termination; provided, that there shall be deducted from such payment the amount of damage, if any, sustained by COUNTY due to any breach of the AGREEMENT by RECIPIENT.

### 5. FINANCIAL RECORDS AND REPORTING

RECIPIENT will cooperate with COUNTY to provide all necessary financial information and records to provide COUNTY the reporting required. RECIPIENT will keep proper books of account and records on all activities associated with the GRANT, including, but not limited to, invoices, cancelled checks, payroll records, instruments, agreements, and other supporting financial records documenting the use of the GRANT. RECIPIENT will maintain these books of account and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and will retain these books of account and records until five years after the COMPLETION.

### 6. NOTICES

All notices, funding requests and payment shall be made in writing and may be given by personal delivery, by mail or email, receipt requested. Notices sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

RECIPIENT

City of Monroe  
Steve Martinenko  
PO BOX 486  
Monroe, OR 97456  
Steve.martinenko@monroeoregon.gov

COUNTY

Benton County  
4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this AGREEMENT is executed and shall become effective as of the last date signed below.

**BENTON COUNTY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Chief Financial Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Monroe, Authorized Signer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Financial Services Department

Office: (541) 766-6100

Fax: (541) 766-6893

PO Box 964

Corvallis, OR 97339

[co.benton.or.us](http://co.benton.or.us)

## Grant Letter of Agreement

between  
Benton County  
and  
City of Philomath

The Grant Agreement (hereinafter "AGREEMENT"), is made between Benton County, (hereinafter "COUNTY"), and City of Philomath, (hereinafter "RECIPIENT").

**WHEREAS**, on June 20, 2023, Benton County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "BOARD") approved the 23-25 Biennium Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, during the regular public meeting on August 8, 2023, BOARD approved a grant in the amount of \$10,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTY and RECIPIENT desire to have this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing recitals which are incorporated herein by reference, and the terms and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

### 1. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

This AGREEMENT shall commence July 01, 2023, and remain in effect through June 30, 2025 (hereinafter, "COMPLETION DATE"), unless terminated earlier by the COUNTY or RECIPIENT in writing.

### 2. USE OF FUNDS

The RECIPIENT will use the GRANT to further economic development and activities within the Philomath city limits (hereinafter "PROGRAM").

### 3. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Upon execution of this CONTRACT and satisfaction of all condition's precedent, half of GRANT funds will be released to RECIPIENT with the remaining amount to be released July 2024.

### 4. TERMINATION

At any time, with or without cause, COUNTY, in its sole discretion shall have the absolute right to terminate this AGREEMENT by giving written notice to RECIPIENT. If COUNTY terminates pursuant to this paragraph, RECIPIENT shall be entitled to payment for all expenses incurred through the date of termination; provided, that there shall be deducted from such payment the amount of damage, if any, sustained by COUNTY due to any breach of the AGREEMENT by RECIPIENT.

### 5. FINANCIAL RECORDS AND REPORTING

RECIPIENT will cooperate with COUNTY to provide all necessary financial information and records to provide COUNTY the reporting required. RECIPIENT will keep proper books of account and records on all activities associated with the GRANT, including, but not limited to, invoices, cancelled checks, payroll records, instruments, agreements, and other supporting financial records documenting the use of the GRANT. RECIPIENT will maintain these books of account and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and will retain these books of account and records until five years after the COMPLETION.

### 6. NOTICES

All notices, funding requests and payment shall be made in writing and may be given by personal delivery, by mail or email, receipt requested. Notices sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

RECIPIENT

City of Philomath  
Mike Murzynsky  
PO BOX 400  
Philomath, OR 97370  
Mike.murzynsky@philomathoregon.gov

COUNTY

Benton County  
4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this AGREEMENT is executed and shall become effective as of the last date signed below.

**BENTON COUNTY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Chief Financial Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Philomath, Authorized Signer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benton County, Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

### Agenda Placement and Contacts

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**Suggested Agenda Date** 08/08/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** Work Session

**Department \*** Health Services

**Contact Name \*** April Holland

**Phone Extension \*** 6840

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Rebecca Taylor, April Holland

### Agenda Item Details

**Item Title \*** Coordinated Homeless Response Office: Update and Discussion on the House Bill 4123 Strategic Plan

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- Appointments
- Budget
- Contract/Agreement
- Discussion and Action
- Discussion Only
- Document Recording
- Employment
- Notice of Intent
- Order/Resolution
- Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- Proclamation
- Project/Committee Update
- Public Comment
- Special Report
- Other

**Estimated Time \*** 30 minutes

**Board/Committee Involvement \***  Yes  
 No

**Advertisement \***  Yes  
 No

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

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### Item Issues and Description

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**Identified Salient Issues \***

The Coordinated Homeless Response Office provides systems-level coordination, centralized communication, and strategic resource planning to support more equitable, accessible, and responsive solutions to housing and homelessness in Benton County. The Coordinated Office staff convene, lead, schedule, facilitate, research, coordinate, manage, plan, communicate, and support a variety of efforts across the community to move forward complex system solutions.

The HB 4123 Strategic Plan brings the policy leadership developed within the structure of a Coordinated Homeless Response System into a framework where the community can act and make progress on the community's priorities. Its key purposes include achieving collective impact through work and resource prioritization, accountability/stewardship, and strategic priorities, as well as to provide a community roadmap of coordinated and interdependent programs and initiatives.

In addition to an overarching update, this presentation will share the Office's efforts align with partners and the inclusion of county-specific work.

**Options \***

NA

**Fiscal Impact \***

Yes

No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

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**Mandated Service?\***  Yes  
 No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

---

**Core Values\*** Select all that apply.

- Vibrant, Livable Communities
- Supportive People Resources
- High Quality Environment and Access
- Diverse Economy that Fits
- Community Resilience
- Equity for Everyone
- Health in All Actions
- N/A

**Explain Core Values Selections\*** Increasing supports for rapid rehousing and provision of new shelter beds contributes to all of our Core Values.

**Focus Areas and Vision\*** Select all that apply.

- Community Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Outdoor Recreation
- Prosperous Economy
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Mobility and Transportation
- Housing and Growth
- Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- Food and Agriculture
- Lifelong Learning and Education
- N/A

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection\*** NA

## Recommendations and Motions

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### Item Recommendations and Motions

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Staff NA  
Recommendations\*

Work Session I move to ...  
Motions\* NA

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

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### Item Comments and Attachments

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**Attachments** Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

**Comments (optional)** If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

**Department Approver** APRIL HOLLAND

## Department Approval

---

**Comments**

**Signature**




*April Holland*

## County Administrator Approval

---

**Comments**

**Signature**



*Suzanna Hoffman*

# Benton County Coordinated Homeless Response Office:

## HB 4123 Strategic Plan Update for County Commissioners

BOC – Health Department and CHC update

7/6/2023





# Coordinated Office Staff

- April Holland, Interim Health Department Director
- Rebecca Taylor, Project Manager

# Today's Goals: Benton County Commissioner Update.



- Recap: 7/6/23 Benton County Commissioner Update

- Update: Strategic plan organization



- Update: Partner engagement and coordination

- Discussion: Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO) Strategic Alignment with Benton County Commissioner Strategic Priorities.





# Why?

Everyone in Benton County should have the opportunity to live in decent, safe, and affordable housing.

- HOPE Vision



# How?

- Use data to drive assessments, prioritization and accountability.
- Take a comprehensive systems and multi-sector approach.
- Engage and involve the community, not just direct service providers.
- Prioritize vulnerable populations.
- Promote community safety for all.
- Promote racial and ethnic justice.

- HOPE Values:

# Recap: What We Discussed Last Time

- The work and history that got us where we are today in Benton County. (see Attachment A: Community Progress Timeline)
- Reviewed Coordinated Office 5-year draft strategic plan:
  - **Update to Benton County 10-year plan\*** Intervention Areas serve as Strategic Priorities:
    - I. **Community and Organizational Systems and Policy Change**
    - II. **Comprehensive Care Coordination**
    - III. **Prevention**
    - IV. **Street Outreach and Rapid Response**
    - V. **Community Engagement, Inclusion, & Neighborhood Belonging**
  - Integration of **HOPE Policy Recommendations and House Bill 4123 requirements.** (see Attachment B: Alignment At a Glance)

# Recap: Strategic Plan Purpose

- **Goal 1: Community Roadmap**
  - Communicate locally and regionally what we are working on.
  - What roles we each play
- **Goal 2: Work and Resource Prioritization:**
  - Operational coordination.
  - Collaborative decision-making.
  - Guide staff
- **Goal 3: Accountability and Stewardship:**
  - Maximize impact of limited resources.
  - Transparent collaboration.
  - Achievable metrics.
- **Goal 4: Strategic Priorities:**
  - Inclusive and relevant to rural and urban communities

# Recap: The Parts

## A Coordinated Response System needs:

- Leadership, structure, and support for providers and system improvements.
- Sustainable resources and additional funding beyond the local level.
- Central point of communication.
- Community engagement.

## Benton County's Coordinated Response System:

- Federal Best Practices
- Intergovernmental Council
- HOPE Advisory Board
- Service Provider Network.
- Coordinated Homeless Response Office and staff

# Community Engagement for Strategic Plan

- **HOPE Board:**

- Does this make sense?
- Will it be understandable to a broad range of community members?
- Feedback is helping us effectively communicate our local work to the State and to Benton County communities.

- **Service Provider Network and Partner (Local and Regional):**

- Where is their opportunity for collective impact?



# Strategic Plan Revised formatting: 5-year Timeline with integrated metrics

The Work: Actions – Projects – Progress	Partners	Timeline				
		FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
1. Solicit projects and allocate housing and community development funding annually.	<b>Lead:</b> City of Corvallis	Annually				
2. Support coordination and additional funding for affordable units and shelter capacity.						
3. Modify county code language to allow vehicle camping and micro-shelter options.	<b>Lead:</b> Benton County Coordinated Office <b>Collaborators:</b> Unity Shelter, City of Corvallis	2021				
4. Support funding and coordination for the Navigation Center to add more 24/7/365 sheltering for all populations.	<b>Lead:</b> Benton County Coordinated Office					
5. Maintain partner commitments and program models that can be scalable to site availability and funding. (e.g. Project Turnkey 2.0)	<b>Convenor:</b> Benton County Coordinated Office <b>Collaborators:</b> All community partners					
6. Provide affordable housing technical support to rural areas and smaller cities.	<b>Lead:</b> City of Corvallis	As needed				
7. Determine appropriate metrics for affordable housing production at various area median income (AMI) levels	<b>Leads:</b> City of Corvallis <b>Collaborators:</b> All community partners	2023 – 2024				
8. Supporting community partners in sustaining the retention of affordable housing efforts						
9. Increasing access to units by working in partnership with landlords to better serve marginalized populations.	Lead: Coo					

# **Discussion:**

## **Alignment with Commissioners' Priorities for FY23-25**

- **Community Resiliency**
- **Health & Equity in All Actions**
- **Homelessness & Housing Insecurity**
- **Community Safety & Justice Systems Improvement**
- **Responsible Governance**

# Upcoming Dates & Milestones 2023

## August

Convene first Intergovernmental Council Meeting  
Strategic Plan due 8/31/2023.

Identify internal county HB 4123 Strategic Plan  
Engagement. Ongoing

Continue HB 5019 Community Plan  
development in partnership with OHCS and  
regional and local partners.

## Fall:

HB 5019 Implementation

Planning Situation Table training

HB 4123 Report to Legislature due in November

CSC Continuum of Care status

# **\* New Initiative: HB 5019 \***

**HB 5019 (2023 new legislation) requires:**

- **Local Planning Groups**
  - Benton County utilizing HB 4123 structure and staff to develop Community Plan.
- **OHCS guided with required forms to fill out**
- **\$26 million to be distributed throughout Rural Continuum of Care by formula allocation and competitive RFP for shelter**
  - ~\$1.4 million to Benton County







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Benton County

# Community Progress Timeline

## The Foundation for a Coordinated Homeless Response in Benton County, OR

### Planning

### Implementation

**2017-2018**

HOAC & County Health Update the 10-year Plan

**Fall 2020**

HOPE Board solicits community feedback on priority areas

**Fall 2021**

City/County/CSC Staff Coordinating to implement policy recommendations

**Fall 2022**

County partners with ROCKit to initiate community driven Coordinated Entry improvement process

**May 2023**

HOPE Board community engagement for feedback on strategic plan

**Winter 2020**

HOPE Board identifies priority topic areas based on the Update to the 10-Year Plan.

**April 2021**

HOPE Board solicits community feedback on final draft HOPE Policy Recommendations

**Winter/Spring 2022**

County hires:  
• Communications Coordinator  
• Project Manager  
• Grant Researcher and Writer

**Spring 2023**

Countywide outreach events with regional health assessment partners



**2019**

Formation of the HOPE Advisory Board. County/City IGA partnership and hiring of HOPE Coordinator.

**Winter 2021**

Development of HOPE Policy Recommendations

**Jan. 2022**

HB 4123 Pilot Legislation includes Benton County and City of Corvallis

**Winter 2023**

Public outreach begins in small cities and unincorporated areas to launch coordinated office and invite participation

**August 2023**

Strategic Plan due

**Summer 2020**

HOPE Board conducts GAP analysis and data collection identify

- Community Safety
- Racial and ethnic disparities
- Vulnerable populations

**Summer 2021**

Final HOPE Policy Recommendations accepted by Benton County and City of Corvallis

**Sept. 2022**

HB 4123 MOU executed by County, City of Corvallis and CSC

Development of HB 4123 Coordinated Office Strategic Plan with HOPE Board Community Engagement



**Coordinated Office Strategic Priorities:**

*Everyone in Benton County should have the opportunity to live in decent, safe, and affordable housing.*

**I. Community and Organizational Systems and Policy Change**

*Homelessness in Benton County demands a comprehensive, coordinated response from the county, cities, and diverse community partners, leaders and persons experiencing homelessness. Therefore, WE WILL:*

**A. Strengthen capacity in our systems,**

**B. Better align and leverage our resources, and**

**C. Increase coordination and collaboration of all community partners.**

**HOPE Policy Recommendations:**

Policy #1. Facilitate and coordinate data improvement efforts with community partners.

Policy #2. Work with providers to create metrics for successful program goals.

Policy #4: Collaborate with social service and health care partners to increase the number of paid, full time case managers to support people transitioning out of homelessness.

Policy # 12. Increase supportive services and stable funding streams to provide services to residents at more affordable housing locations.

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Sustainable funding to support the ongoing operations of the coordinated homeless response system.

Creating pathways.

Increasing or streamlining resources and services to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

**II. Comprehensive Care Coordination**

*WE WILL inform an improved system of care coordination and data sharing.*

**HOPE Policy Recommendations:**

Policy #1. Facilitate and coordinate data improvement efforts with community partners.

Policy # 3. Prioritize collaboration and coordination of providers and partners with routine meetings for improved care coordination facilitated by a full-time staff member.

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Increasing or streamlining resources and services to people experiencing homelessness.

Incorporating best practices for ending homelessness.

Creating pathways to permanent and supportive housing that is affordable to local populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

**III. Prevention**

***WE WILL prevent homelessness by understanding housing needs to implement diverse solutions that support the needs of both rural and urban communities.***

**HOPE Policy Recommendations:**

Policy # 7. Facilitate and support the creation of a Resource Center.

Policy # 8. Explore and investigate the need and the barriers to accessing housing for individuals and their families in our community whose past history has impacted their ability to secure housing.

Policy #11. Increase available rental/income assistance options.

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Increasing streamlining resources and services to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Eliminating racial disparities within homeless services within the services area

Creating pathways to permanent and supportive housing that is affordable to local populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Incorporating best practices for ending homelessness.

Sustainable funding to support the ongoing operations of the coordinated homeless response system.

**IV. Street Outreach and Rapid Response**

***WE WILL:***

- ***Provide safe and accessible crisis response.***
- ***Expand street outreach to transition more people out of homelessness.***

**HOPE Policy Recommendations:**

Policy #4: Collaborate with social service and health care partners to increase the number of paid, full time case managers to support people transitioning out of homelessness.

Policy #5: Pursue implementation of a crisis response team and collect data on the scope and scale of need for crisis response.

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Sustainable funding to support the ongoing operations of the coordinated homeless response system.

Increasing streamlining resources and services to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Eliminating racial disparities within homeless services within the services area

**V. Housing**

***WE WILL expand housing and sheltering system options and capacity.***

**HOPE Policy Recommendations:**

Policy #4. Collaborate with social service and health care partners to increase the number of paid, full-time case managers to support people transitioning out of homelessness.

Policy # 6. Provide organizational capacity to facilitate and coordinate providers in establishing a 24/7/365 Sheltering System for all populations with onsite resources at shelter locations to transition people out of homelessness.

Policy # 10. Increase development or acquisition of affordable housing units for permanent supportive housing (PSH) by 20 new units per year for the next eight years to add at a minimum 160 new units of PSH in Benton County (might need to evaluate metric).

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Sustainable funding to support the ongoing operations of the coordinated homeless response system.

Increasing streamlining resources and services to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Incorporating best practices for ending homelessness.

Eliminating racial disparities within homeless services within the services area

Creating pathways to permanent and supportive housing that is affordable to local populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

**VI. Community Engagement, Inclusion, & Neighborhood Belonging**

***WE WILL foster a community in which everyone has opportunities to participate and feel valued and supported.***

**HOPE Policy Recommendation**

Policy # 8. Explore and investigate the need and the barriers to accessing housing for individuals and their families in our community whose past history has impacted their ability to secure housing.

Policy #9. Provide routine communication, notice, and opportunities for community involvement on the topic of homelessness services.

**HB 4123 Requirements:**

Central point of communication

Intergovernmental Agreement