

[Email received 6/25/20. Resolution attached below.]

Hello Connie,

On behalf of the Wasco County Board of Commissioners, please accept the attached resolution (Wasco County Resolution 20-0008) in reference to the Gorge Commission's proposed amendments to the Management Plan and the June 25th hearing to receive comments.

The Wasco County Planning Department will provide additional comments by the June 30 deadline.

Thank you,  
Angie



**Angie Brewer, AICP | Director**  
**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

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***Email is the best way to reach me! In an effort to prevent, slow, and stop the spread of COVID-19 to our citizens and staff, our office will be limiting business to phone, email and online service. If you are not sure how to access services online, or you have a need that requires in-person assistance, please call our office at 541-506-2560 to discuss. Please keep in mind that response time may vary depending on staffing. Thank you for your patience during this time.***

*This correspondence does not constitute a Land Use Decision per ORS 197.015. It is informational only and a matter of public record.*



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IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASCO

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IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN POLICIES FOR URBAN AREA BOUNDARY REVISIONS

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**RESOLUTION #20-008**

**NOW ON THIS DAY**, the above-entitled matter having come on regularly for consideration, said day being one duly set in term for the transaction of public business and a majority of the Board of Commissioners being present; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1986, Congress passed the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, Pub. L. 99-663, §§ 2-18, 100 Stat. 4274 (1986), now codified at 16 U.S.C. §§ 544-544p ("Act"). The Act created the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area ("NSA") and designated 13 Urban Areas within the NSA.

**WHEREAS**, the Act states two purposes: (1) to create a national scenic area in Washington and Oregon "to protect and provide for the enhancement of the scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge"; and (2) to protect and support the economy of the area "by encouraging growth to occur in existing urban areas and by allowing future economic development in a manner that is consistent with" the first purpose.

**WHEREAS**, the Columbia River Gorge Commission ("Gorge Commission") adopted the Columbia River Gorge Management Plan ("Management Plan") in 1991 and the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture concurred with the Management Plan in 1992.

**WHEREAS**, Congress directed the Gorge Commission to review the Management Plan no sooner than 5 years but at least every 10 years to determine whether it should be revised. The Gorge Commission last adopted revisions to the Management Plan in 2004.

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, the Gorge Commission and U.S. Forest Service began to work on a second revision to the Management Plan and propose to adopt revisions to the Management Plan in 2020.

**WHEREAS**, the Gorge Commission proposes significant policy changes as a part of the proposed 2020 amendments to the Management Plan that undercut the purpose of the Act to protect and support the economy of the area and effectively prohibit any future growth in the Urban Areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Wasco County Board of Commissioners opposes the proposed 2020 amendments to the Management Plan that fail to protect and support the economic vitality of The Gorge. The proposed revisions to Part IV Administration, Chapter 1 Gorge Commission Role, Revision of Urban Area Boundaries are inconsistent with the Act and preclude future growth opportunities for the Gorge's Urban Areas.

**PASSED** this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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Kristen Campbell, County Counsel

**WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott C. Hege, Commission Chair

  
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Kathleen B. Schwartz, Vice-Chair

  
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Steven D. Kramer, County Commissioner