Resolution No.

A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT DOCKET NO. LR20-04

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Washington Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A (the "**GMA**"), and specifically RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a), proposed amendments to the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan (hereinafter, the "**Comprehensive Plan**" or "**CP**") are considered by the County once every year.

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2021, the Board of Skagit County Commissioners ("**Board**") adopted Resolution No. R20210084, which, among other things, docketed a proposal by Skagit Partners LLC for consideration, that, if ultimately approved in the Board's legislative discretion, would amend the Comprehensive Plan to allow fully contained communities within portions of unincorporated Skagit County pursuant to RCW 36.70A.350. The Board did *not* docket the portions of the applicant's proposal that sought to amend the Countywide Planning Policies ("CPP") and the County's development regulations.

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act requires the County's Comprehensive Plan to be coordinated with, and consistent with, the Countywide Planning Policies, as required by RCW 36.70A.210.

WHEREAS, in 2002, Skagit County entered a joint interlocal planning agreement with the cities in Skagit County that plan under the Growth Management Act (hereinafter, the "**2002 Framework Agreement**").

WHEREAS, the purpose of the 2002 Framework Agreement is to jointly "plan for the future development of the Cities and the County to the end that the governments achieve a county wide pattern of community building, land use and conservation that reflects the environmental, economic, aesthetic, and social values of city and county residents," 2002 Framework Agreement Section 1, Purpose, at 4.

WHEREAS, in order to accomplish that purpose, the 2002 Framework Agreement further provides that "it is the intent of Skagit County and the Cities to cooperatively support a planning organization…to recommend CPPs and thereby ensure the adoption of consistent comprehensive planning policies…" 2002 Framework Agreement, Section 1, Purpose, at 4.

WHEREAS, the 2002 Framework Agreement establishes a Growth Management Act Steering Committee consisting of the Board of Commissioners and mayors of the cities party to the 2002 Framework Agreement (the "**GMASC**"), supported by a Technical Committee consisting of City and County planning directors, see 2002 Framework Agreement Section 3, at 5-6.

WHEREAS, the 2002 Framework Agreement specifically envisions "systematically and logically updat[ing] the CPPs as necessary," 2002 Framework Agreement Section 1, at 5.

WHEREAS, the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan adopted the 2002 Framework Agreement as an integral part of the County's comprehensive planning, recognizing that "the 2002 Framework Agreement between the County and the cities and towns establishes agreed upon procedures by which countywide planning policies will be developed and adopted, including those related to transportation." CP at 238-39.

WHEREAS, since the May 11, 2021, docketing of LR20-04, the Cities party to the 2002 Framework Agreement have raised concern that any proposal to amend the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan to allow fully contained communities in unincorporated Skagit County requires that population allocation and amendment of relevant CPPs be first raised, discussed and approved through the GMASC, as required by the Growth Management Act and 2002 Framework Agreement.

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges the importance of the GMASC in establishing our community's highest-level visioning for growth and development, and values the ongoing and cooperative regional planning relationship between the County and the Cities pursuant to the 2002 Framework Agreement.

WHEREAS, it is the Board's understanding and intent that Skagit County cannot approve any Fully Contained Community proposal until the applicant has secured necessary approvals through the GMASC process, as required by the 2002 Framework Agreement.

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to clarify its intent with respect to the LR20-04 proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Skagit County Board of Commissioners:

1. LR20-04, seeking amendment of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan to allow fully contained communities, is hereby deferred pending approval by the GMASC of any relevant Countywide Planning Policies, population allocation or other necessary approvals as required by the 2002 Framework Agreement.

2. Skagit County Planning and Development Services shall process LR20-04 consistent with this resolution.

WITNESS OUR HANDS AND SEAL OF OUR OFFICE this 20th day of January 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SEAL COURT STATE OF WASHINGTON

Peter Browning, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Linda Hammons, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Will Honea, Senior Deputy
Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney