

Articles of Association
of the
Kittitas County Conference of Governments

WHEREAS, the parties to this agreement recognize that the orderly growth throughout Kittitas County are matters of mutual concern, and

WHEREAS, the parties to this agreement recognize an existing and continuing need to communicate and cooperate so the needs and concerns of all involved are met with a high level of efficiency and economy, and

WHEREAS, the parties to this agreement recognize and accept the duties and responsibilities assigned them by the Regional Planning policies and the need for a fair and effective process by which to carry out these duties and responsibilities. Now, therefore,

It is hereby agreed to by the parties hereto as follows:

Pursuant to sections 36.70.060, as amended, and Sections 36.64.080 through 36.64.110, all of the Revised Code of Washington, the Cities of Cle Elum, Ellensburg, Kittitas, Roslyn, South Cle Elum and the County of Kittitas do hereby organize and establish a regional agency, hereafter referred to as the Kittitas County Conference of Governments ("COG").

The aforementioned sections of the Revised Code of Washington provide the basis for defining activities of the COG, but are not intended to limit the COG's ability to conduct any activity on behalf of a member jurisdiction that can be legally assigned or contracted by that jurisdiction. In this regard, the COG may be designated by all or some of the member jurisdictions - with concurrence by a super majority of the COG - as the legal or administrative entity described in RCW 39.34.030 to perform projects of mutual concern under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, provided these activities keep with the intent of these Articles of Association.

ARTICLE I Name

The name of the regional agency organized and established by this agreement shall be the "Kittitas County Conference of Governments," hereafter referred to as "COG".

ARTICLE II Purpose

The purpose of the COG shall be to develop and promote communication, understanding, and cooperation among the COG member jurisdictions on matters common to, and affecting the public served by the member jurisdictions in the COG, reference to wit, RCW 36.64.080 *The boards of county commissioners of any county*

and any counties contiguous thereto and the governing body of any cities and/or towns within said counties may establish and organize a regional agency hereinafter referred to as a conference, for the purpose of studying regional and governmental problems of mutual interest and concern, including but not limited to, facility studies on highways, transit, airports, ports or harbor development, water supply and distribution, codes and ordinances, governmental finances, flood control, air and water pollution, recommendations of sites for schools and educational institutions, hospitals and health facilities, parks and recreation, public buildings, land use and drainage; and to formulate recommendations for review and action by the member counties and/or cities legislative body.

Among other things, the Conference shall specifically serve its member jurisdictions with respect to the following subjects:

a) Create the document known as the County-wide Planning Policies and to assist in establishing long-range planning goals for Kittitas County. The COG will forward, by a super-majority vote, all planning documents it has created to the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners for possible adoption. The Board of Commissioners shall conduct public hearings and all other processes required by law and then adopt the County-wide Planning Policies as presented by COG, or, by their vote, return the document to the COG, along with recommended changes, for further deliberation by the COG.

b) Carry out those duties and responsibilities given it by the County-wide Planning Policies including, but not limited to, the review of population projections and examination of the settlement patterns in the county. All decisions and documents generated by activities of the COG under this section shall be transmitted by a super-majority vote to the Board of County Commissioners for possible adoption.

c) The COG shall further consider other specific subjects of mutual concern to its member jurisdictions when requested to do so by the member jurisdictions; provided, however, topics of regional concern will be deliberated by COG only if approved as a subject of regional concern by a super-majority vote of the COG member jurisdictions.

d) The super majority vote adopting a subject of mutual concern to come before COG shall include adoption of a specific ratification process by all member jurisdictions.

ARTICLE III Boundaries

The boundaries of the jurisdiction of the COG shall be coterminous with the boundaries of Kittitas County.

ARTICLE IV Member Jurisdictions

Member jurisdictions of the COG shall be as follows (*also see by-laws Section III Voting which outlines the appointment of alternates*):

- Kittitas County: 1 commissioner or alternate and 1 county official or alternate selected by the Board of Commissioners (said official being an elected or appointed official, consistent with the Bylaws).
- Cle Elum: 1 Mayor and 1 City Councilmember as selected by the city council.
- Ellensburg: 2 City Councilmembers as selected by the city council.
Kittitas: 1 Mayor and 1 City Councilmember as selected by the city council.
- Roslyn: 1 Mayor and 1 City Councilmember as selected by the city council
- South Cle Elum: 1 Mayor and 1 City Councilmember as selected by the city council.

Terms and selections of the COG representatives, subject to the restrictions listed above, shall be at the discretion of the legislative bodies they represent

The failure of any governmental unit, named above, to designate representatives to or participate in the COG shall not affect this agreement as it relates to the remaining parties.

ARTICLE V Officers

The selection and terms of the officers of the COG shall be determined by the by-laws.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Meetings of the COG shall be scheduled and conducted according to the COG by-laws, and consistent with the terms and restrictions of this agreement.

ARTICLE VII Finances

The sources of funding for the operation of the COG shall be as follows:

- a) Per-capita assessment to member jurisdictions based on population percentages (*see by-laws Section III Voting*).
- b) Grants and donations

The budget for COG shall be submitted by the executive secretary at or before the September regular meeting to each representative of the member jurisdictions for the purpose of preliminary review.

At the October general meeting a balanced budget will be adopted by resolution of the COG and, thereafter, within seven days recommended to the member

jurisdictions. After reviewing the budget, the member jurisdictions shall notify the COG, in writing, by no later than December 1, of their intent to continue participation in the COG at the specified per capita assessment or to terminate their participation.

Kittitas County, through its Auditor and Treasurer, shall act as the fiscal agent for the COG. All funds shall be deposited with the treasurer and disbursed by warrants issued by the Auditor pursuant to vouchers approved by the COG. The financial operation of the COG shall be subject to all applicable State statutes governing budgeting and auditing procedures.

ARTICLE VIII By-Laws

The COG shall adopt by-laws to carry out the purposes and objectives set forth in the Articles of Association.

ARTICLE IX Amendments

Amendments to the Articles of Association may be recommended by a super-majority vote of the COG present at any regular or special meeting of the COG. Recommended amendments shall be forwarded to the legislative body of each member jurisdiction for approval. Approval by the legislative bodies representing a super-majority vote of the COG membership shall be required to ratify any amendment to these Articles of Association.

Dated this 24th day of August, 1995.

Signed by:

Sam Bendt 8/24/95
Mayor, City of Cle Elum

Perry D. Huston Mayor Pro-Tem 8-24-95
Mayor, City of Ellensburg

Dolan R. Ellison
Mayor, City of Kittitas

Jack Perry
Mayor, City of Roslyn

D. L. ... 8/24/95
Mayor, City of South Cle Elum

Mary Seubert 9/15/95
Chair, Kittitas County Board of Commissioners