

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017- 068

**A Resolution to Formally Adopt the Population and Employment Projections
Recommended by the Conference of Governments of Kittitas County**

- WHEREAS,** Kittitas County opted into the GMA (GMA), RCW 36.70A, voluntarily on December 27, 1990, through Resolution 90-138; and; and
- WHEREAS,** Kittitas County is required to update its Comprehensive Plan under the requirements of RCW 36.70A for the year 2037 by June 30, 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** Employment and population projections are a key element in projecting land use demands and establishing policies for such development in the creation and adoption of Comprehensive Plan update; and
- WHEREAS,** Kittitas County made contract in 2015 with BERK and Associates to provide an estimate of population projection and land use capacity analysis for the year 2037; and
- WHEREAS,** BERK has made and presented such projections to the KCCOG and the Board of County Commissioners, and
- WHEREAS,** The Kittitas County Conference of Governments (KCCOG) has been meeting with County and City of Ellensburg since February, 2016 to discuss such projections; and
- WHEREAS,** After several meetings throughout 2016, the KCCOG recommended to the Board of County Commissioners approval of the 2037 population projections provided by staff on November 16, 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** The population projection was presented to the Board of County Commissioners at a regular study session to discuss the population projection and allocation; and
- WHEREAS,** Additional meetings were held before the KCCOG to discuss 2037 employment projections and allocation throughout the County; and
- WHEREAS,** 2037 employment projections and distribution were approved by KCCOG for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners at the regularly scheduled March 15, 2017 meeting; and

WHEREAS, The KCCOG recommended that such 2037 population and employment projections be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their formal approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the attached Population and Employment projections by jurisdiction shall be adopted as the official projections for the update of the 2037 Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan as provided in Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this 4th day of April, 2017

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Paul Jewell, Chairman



Laura Osiodacz, Vice-Chairman



Obie O'Brien, Commissioner



Julie A. Kjorsvik

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Neil Caulkins,
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Attachment A

Kittitas County Population and Employment Allocations for 2037

The Kittitas County population/employment projections and allocations establish the growth forecasts to be used for planning purposes and the specific growth targets for each Urban Growth Area (UGA). As established by the Washington Growth Management Act (RCW 43.62.035), the State of Washington Office of Financial Management (OFM) prepares twenty-year growth management planning population projections for each county planning under GMA. The OFM prepares high, medium and low forecasts for each county, with the middle range representing the most likely scenario. Total county forecasts must be based upon the most recent projection provided by the OFM when counties and jurisdictions make population projections for planning purposes (RCW 36.70A.110(2)).

The county level forecasts are reviewed and distributed among the jurisdictions in the County through a collaborative process. The Kittitas County Conference of Governments (KCCOG) is the body charged with leading this process. Once population allocations are established, jurisdictions must develop plans that demonstrate the capacity to accommodate their 20-year population projection consistent with GMA.

The KCCOG updated the Kittitas County population allocation based on a projected two percent (2%) overall annual County population growth and within the OFM 2012 population forecast. This results in a Kittitas County total population forecast of 65,967 in 2037. The allocation adopted by the KCCOG for anticipated population growth of the municipal UGAs and the unincorporated rural County is based upon the assumption that sixty-five percent (65%) of the future population will reside within urban areas and that thirty-five percent (35%) will reside in rural areas of the County. County Employment projection is based upon an employment estimate of 19,362 workers in 2015 with an anticipated growth rate of two percent (2%). Employment allocation and projection is based upon the assumption that eighty percent (80%) of job growth will locate in urban areas (and that twenty percent (20%) percent will locate in rural areas outside the established urban growth areas. Results from this analysis are shown below:

Table 1. 2037 Population and Employment Projection

Jurisdiction	2037 Population Growth	2037 Population	2037 Employment Growth*	2037 Employment
Cle Elum	1808	3683	1353	3399
Ellensburg	11757	32540	6998	18488
Kittitas	807	2288	365	804
Roslyn	307	1203	202	1352
South Cle Elum	464	1059	6	13
County Rural	8154	25197	2231	6461
Kittitas County Total Population and Employment	23297	65967	11155	30517

*2015 Employment estimates based on total countywide employment estimate of 19,362 and 2015 employment shares