BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Local Incentives for the Lower Columbia-Maritime Enterprise Zone

Ordinance No. 2002-04

The Board of County Commissioners for Columbia County, Oregon, ordains as follows:

<u>SECTION 1</u>. <u>TITLE</u>.

This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No. 2002-04.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY.

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to ORS 285B.656, 285B.671, and 203.045.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Columbia County's local incentives offered in the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone to place a cap of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) on the fifty percent (50%) permit fee reduction.

SECTION 4. HISTORY.

In 1987, the Columbia County Board of Commissioners signed Ordinance No. 87-01 which established local tax and permit fee relief for the Rainier Enterprise Zone. In addition to regulatory assistance offered to qualifying businesses, the Ordinance allowed a fifty percent (50%) reduction in permit fees paid to the County. The Enterprise Zone was sponsored by Columbia County and the City of Rainier. By Resolution No. 240-97, in 1997, Columbia County, the City of Rainier, and the City of Clatskanie applied to extend the boundaries of the Lower Columbia-Maritime-Rainier Region Enterprise Zone to include 5.71 square miles of land in and around the City of Clatskanie. The Lower Columbia Maritime-Rainier Enterprise Zone, was thereafter re-designated as the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone. By letter dated February 6, 2002, the Board of County Commissioners requested approval from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department for an amendment of the local incentives adopted by Ordinance No. 87-01, to place a cap of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) on the fifty percent (50%) permit fee reduction offered in the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone. The amendment was requested due to the economic hardship that the local incentive was creating for the County. The State Community Solutions Office approved of the amendment by letter dated May 22, 2002, which is attached hereto as Attachment 1, and is incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT AND AUTHORIZATION.

1. Columbia County's Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone local incentive related to the fifty percent (50%) permit fee reduction is amended to place a cap of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) on the amount of the reduction of permit fees.

Example #1:

Normal Building Permit Fee:		\$20,000
	Capped Fee Reduction	\$10,000
	Permit Fee Payable	\$10,000
	Permit Fee Reduction Percentage	50%
Example #2:		

Normal Building Permit Fee:	\$200,000
Capped Fee Reduction	\$10,000
Permit Fee Payable	\$190,000
Permit Fee Reduction Percentage	5%

2. The Department of Land Development Services is authorized to reduce permit fees by fifty percent (50%) up to a maximum reduction amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

SECTION 6. <u>EMERGENCY</u>.

This ordinance being immediately necessary to maintain the public health, safety and welfare, an emergency is declared to exist and this ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption.

, 2002. **DATED** this day of Approved as to Form BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS By: Sarc FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON Office of County Counsel By: Chair **Recording Secretary** Mount First Reading: _ une By: 200 Commissioner Second Reading: 5,200 2 Effective Date: 2002 Commissioner





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COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MAY 2 4 2002

COLUMBIA COUNTY

MAY 28 2002

Dear County Commissioners:

Columbia County Commission

May 22, 2002

Columbia County

230 Strand Street St. Helens, OR 97051

COUNTY COUNSEL

The Northwest Community Solutions Team, along with the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department's Northwest Team has reviewed your letter dated February 6, 2002, requesting that Columbia County adjust a local benefit to the Enterprise Zones in the County.

Currently, Columbia County offers a 50% reduction in all permit fees to companies locating in an Enterprise Zone. Due to the high costs incurred by the County when siting large companies into the Enterprise Zones, the county wishes to cap this benefit at \$10,000.

We understand the request and feel that this is an appropriate and prudent decision. The \$10,000 benefit will still encourage small and medium sized businesses, while not detracting from large companies, as they will still benefit from the tax abatements.

The Enterprise Zone program is intended to help companies <u>and</u> communities. We support Columbia County's change in the local enterprise benefits.

Sincerely,

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Pete Dalke, Chair NW Community Solutions Team

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Joan Rutledge, NW Team Manager Oregon Economic and Community Development Department