



# County eliminates four top positions

Environmental services will be reassigned to other departments.

The reorganization will save the county nearly \$1.26 million over the next two and a half years, McCauley said.

However, it puts four county employees out of a job — including Sen. Don Benton, R-Vancouver, who was head of the department until McCauley placed him and three of his staff

on paid administrative leave pending termination set to take place June 30.

“The reorganization is an example of the county’s ongoing dedication to finding effective ways to serve the community and be good stewards of taxpayer dollars,” McCauley wrote in a news release.

“Making the changes now helps put the county on better financial footing

as it faces a possible 5 percent general fund shortfall for the 2017-2018 budget,” he wrote.

However, Benton and his supporters have stated they believe the move was one of retaliation and was politically motivated.

“I’ve saved the county millions

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## Hearings coming up on county land-management decisions

*County citizens will have several chances to have their voices heard*

Citizens may participate beginning this week in the next round of land-management decisions at the county.

County officials will be considering two ways to allow more homes on properties currently zoned for forestry or agriculture when public hear-

ings begin next week on proposed changes to the local growth management plan.

The proposed plan update would reduce minimum lot sizes from 20 to 10 acres on land zoned for agriculture and from 40 to 20 acres where forest land is zoned FR-40.

At the request of the Board of County Councilors, county planners have drafted two options for how homesites could be

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## Hearings

*Continued from page A1*

created on those lands.

Option one would allow farmland to change from a parcel 20 acres or larger into two homesites and one “remainder” lot.

Likewise, it would allow certain forest land to change from a parcel 40 acres or larger into two homesites and one “remainder” lot.

This option would require homesites to be clustered along property lines and adjacent to existing roads to minimize new roads or driveways.

In a somewhat different approach, option two would allow farmland to change from a parcel 20 acres or larger into two separate lots 10 acres or larger.

Likewise, it would allow certain forest land to change from a parcel 40 acres or larger into two separate lots 20 acres or larger.

Homesites would be allowed only within building envelopes approved

by the county under option two.

Both options would limit each homesite to roughly one acre, depending on how much land is needed to meet septic requirements. Homesites and non-residential “remainder” lots could be owned separately.

Planning Director Oliver Orjia-ko said those development patterns should help meet state requirements for preserving land for commercial agriculture and forestry.

Hearings will be at the Public Service Center, on the sixth floor:

May 19, 6:30 p.m.: Joint public hearing on entire plan update, including environmental impact statement

May 24, 6:30 p.m.: Joint public hearing on entire plan update, including environmental impact statement

June 2, 6:30 p.m.: Planning Commission deliberations

June 21, 10 a.m.: Board of County Councilors deliberations

Related materials may be found at [www.clark.wa.gov/community-planning/title-40-development-code-revisions](http://www.clark.wa.gov/community-planning/title-40-development-code-revisions)

hat this has done to my the way that Benton and his em- plications regarding habitat and