

RESOLUTION 2020 439

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY,
WASHINGTON:

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE BENTON COUNTY ROAD TO RECOVERY PLAN AND MOVING BENTON COUNTY TO A MODIFIED PHASE 1 OF THE SAFE START WASHINGTON PLAN IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Benton County Board of County Commissioners declared an emergency in response to the developing situation surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 the Governor of the State of Washington issued a “stay at home” order for all of Washington State; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2020 the Governor of the State of Washington issued the Safe Start Washington Program which began a Phased approach to reopening Washington State; and

WHEREAS, as of May 4, 2020 Benton County has been at Phase 1 of the Safe Start Washington Plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2020 the Benton Franklin Health Board approved a plan to move Benton County to Phase 2 of the Safe Start Washington Plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2020 the Benton County Board of County Commissioners approved the Benton Franklin Health Boards proposed plan and submitted it to the Washington State Department of Health for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health did not agree to the proposed plan and requested certain modifications in order for Benton County to move out of Phase 1; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020 the Washington State Department of Health “paused” Benton County’s application and began working on the specific requirements to advance from Phase 1; and

WHEREAS, an amended plan has been prepared by the Benton Franklin Health District, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Health, Benton County and its cities; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020 the Benton Franklin Health Board approved the amended plan to move Benton County to a modified Phase 1 of the Safe Start Washington Plan; and


WHEREAS, The Benton County Commissioners feel that Benton County is ready to move out of Phase 1 of the Safe Start Washington Plan based on available data and the recommendation of the Health Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Benton County Board of County Commissioners hereby approve the Benton County Road to Recovery Plan; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Benton County Board of County Commissioners hereby approve moving Benton County into a modified Phase 1 of the Safe Start Washington Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Benton County Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the County Administrator to take whatever steps are necessary to submit the plan as soon as possible.

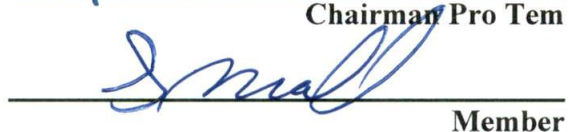
Dated this 2nd day of July 2020.



Chairman of the Board



Chairman Pro Tem



Member

Attest: ... 
Clerk of the Board

**Constituting the Board of County
Commissioners of Benton County,
Washington**