

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of the Transfer of Jurisdiction  
Over a Portion of Three Roads Located  
Within the City Limits of the City of St Helens

ORDER NO. 67-2024

WHEREAS, ORS 373.270 allows the County to transfer jurisdiction over county roads to a City if the County determines that such a transfer is necessary, expedient or in the best interest of the County and the City determines that acquiring jurisdiction over the county roads is necessary, expedient or in the best interest of the City; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2024, the Board of County Commissions initiated a proceeding upon its own motion to transfer jurisdiction over the following portions of roads to the City of St Helens:

1. Gable Road going westerly from Highway 30 to the centerline of the intersection with Columbia Boulevard.
2. Bachelor Flat Road going westerly from the centerline of the intersection with Columbia Boulevard to 125 feet past the center of the intersection with Whitetail Avenue (end of sidewalk on the north side and to the current city limits).
3. Columbia Boulevard from Sykes Road to Gable Road.

A map showing the location of the Subject Roads is attached hereto, labeled Exhibit "A", and incorporated herein by this reference.; and

WHEREAS, Gable Road and Bachelor Flat Road are the common names for sections of a road officially named C.N. Gable Road and assigned County Road #40. The section of County Road #40 proposed for transfer is that portion that runs from Highway 30 west to the current city limit for the City of St Helens, which is 125 feet west of the center of the intersection with Whitetail Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Boulevard is the name commonly in use for a portion of a road officially named Jacob Skuza Road and assigned County Road #194. The section of County Road #194 proposed for transfer is that portion running between Sykes Road and Gable Road; and

WHEREAS, the portions of roads proposed for transfer are county roads currently under County jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with ORS 373.270, the County posted notice of a public hearing in at least three public places in the County, at least one of which was within the City proposed to take jurisdiction of these roads; and

WHEREAS, the County also published notice of a public hearing in the *Columbia County Spotlight*, a newspaper of general circulation in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners held a hearing on December 11, 2024, to hear the matter, consider any objections or testimony offered by any person interested and determine whether it is necessary, expedient or for the best interests of the County to surrender jurisdiction over the County road or a portion thereof to the City of St Helens; and

WHEREAS, the transfer of jurisdiction over urban county roads to the city in which they are located permits that city to exercise local control over such roads and thereby better serve its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the transfer of jurisdiction over urban county roads to the city in which they are located allows the County to focus the expenditure of its limited road funds on the unincorporated portions of the County where funding for the maintenance of such roads is more limited; and

WHEREAS, the proposed transfers, if accepted by the City, will consolidate jurisdiction over the entire length of the roads commonly known as Gable Road and Columbia Boulevard in the City of St Helens, eliminating fragmentation of jurisdiction over these roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD HEREBY FINDS, as follows:

1. The Board finds that it is necessary, expedient and in the County's best interest to transfer jurisdiction to the City of St Helens over the portion of C.N. Gable Road, County Road #40 located west of Highway 30 to the current limit of the City of St Helens which is 125 feet west of the center of the intersection with Whitetail Avenue. The Board adopts the above recitals as additional findings in support of its decision.
2. The Board finds that it is necessary, expedient and in the County's best interest to transfer jurisdiction to the City of St Helens over the portion of Jacob Skuza Road, County Road #194 that runs between the road commonly known as Sykes Road and C.N. Gable Road, County Road #40. The Board adopts the above recitals as additional findings in support of its decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD HEREBY ORDERS, as follows:

1. The Board hereby offers to surrender jurisdiction to the City of St Helens over the portion of C.N. Gable Road, County Road #40 located west of Highway 30 to the current limit of the City of St Helens which is 125 feet west of the center of the intersection with Whitetail Avenue, as depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto.
2. The Board hereby offers to surrender jurisdiction to the City of St Helens over the portion of Jacob Skuza Road, County Road #194 that runs between the road commonly known as Sykes Road and C.N. Gable Road, County Road #40, as depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto.

3. Upon the City's acceptance of the County's offer to surrender jurisdiction, the County's jurisdiction over the portions of C.N. Gable Road, County Road #40 and Jacob Skuza Road, County Road #194 offered for surrender, shall cease, and the full and absolute jurisdiction over such portions of roads for all purposes of repair, construction, improvement and the levying and collection of assessments therefore shall vest in the City. The express intention of this order is that upon the City's acceptance, the City shall have jurisdiction over the entirety of the roads commonly known as Gable Road and Columbia Boulevard in the City of St Helens as well as the portion of what is known as Bachelor Flat Road that is located within the limits of the City.
4. Upon acceptance of the County's offer to surrender jurisdiction, this Order and the City's acceptance shall be recorded in the Columbia County deed records, without cost.
5. This offer to surrender jurisdiction shall expire six months for the date signed below.

DATED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

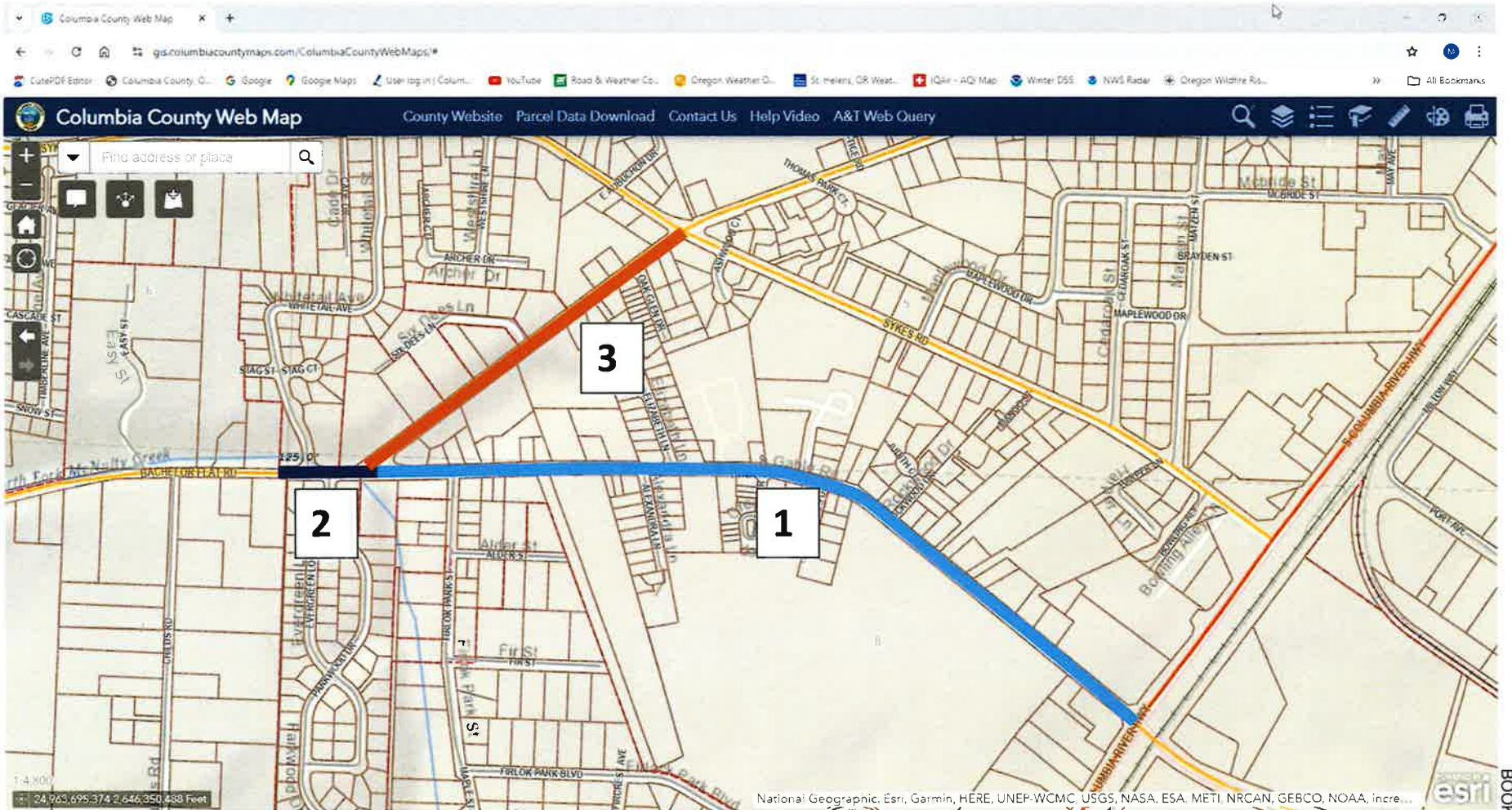
By: [Signature]  
Chair

By: [Signature]  
Commissioner

By: [Signature]  
Commissioner

Approved as to form:

By: [Signature]  
Office of County Counsel



1. Portion of C.N. Gable Road, known as Gable Road, to be transferred to the City of St Helens.
2. Portion of C.N. Gable Road, known as Bachelor Flat Road, to be transferred to the City of St Helens.
3. Portion of Jacob Skuza Road, known as Columbia Boulevard, to be transferred to the City of St Helens.