May 10th, 2022

To the Whatcom County Council:

The City of Ferndale would like to express our enthusiastic support for the Kulshan Community Land Trust moving forward with an affordable housing development on Thornton Street in Ferndale.

Ferndale continues to be one of the fastest growing communities north of Everett and despite the City's efforts to invest in more housing, the need far outstrips our ability to respond. There is a growing concern that residents will be pushed out of the community that they love due to rising housing prices.

Affordable housing cannot simply be located in our county's municipal seat, it must also be available in the small cities that form the backbone of our County.

Kulshan Community Land Trust has a strong track record of success in Ferndale and the greater Whatcom community in providing access to housing for some of our most vulnerable residents. This project is a continuation of that good work and the City looks forward to working with them to make the project a success.

We urge the Whatcom County Council to devote the resources necessary to move this project forward.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mayor Greg Hansen

City of Ferndale, WA