

**WHATCOM COUNTY**

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**Mark Personius, AICP**  
Director

## Memorandum

TO: Honorable Whatcom County Councilmembers  
Honorable Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

THROUGH: Steve Roberge, Assistant Director, PDS

FROM: Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, CEP Administrator

DATE: March 9, 2022

SUBJECT: Request approval to sign agreement with Whatcom Community Foundation in order to secure matching funds for the Jones Agricultural Conservation Easement through the Conservation Easement Program.

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Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program staff requested funding from the Whatcom Community Foundation Sustainable Whatcom Fund to assist in purchasing the Jones Agricultural Conservation Easement. Whatcom Community Foundation has awarded \$32,000 for this project. \$17,500 of this amount is from an unused portion of an expired general grant for farmland preservation (Whatcom County Contract # 201510003). An additional \$14,500 has been awarded, for a total of \$32,000 under this agreement.

This request is to sign a grant agreement to secure funding from Whatcom Community Foundation for the Jones Agricultural Conservation Easement. This project was approved by Whatcom County Council on January 26, 2021 through Resolution 2021-004. This funding will be utilized with WA Recreation & Conservation Office funding and Conservation Futures funding to purchase the easement.

### **Request Summary**

Conservation Easement Program Staff request approval for the Executive to sign the Whatcom Community Foundation Grant Agreement number 24731, in order to receive matching funds to support acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the Jones property.

Please contact Conservation Easement Program Administrator Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke at (360)778-5956 with any questions.