

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: September 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Request approval to sign agreement with USDA NRCS in order to secure matching funds for the Vander Veen Agricultural Conservation Easement through the Conservation Easement Program.

Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program staff applied to the USDA NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program for several Conservation Easement Program applications. The Vander Veen application has been awarded matching funds to contribute towards the purchase of an agricultural conservation easement on the Vander Veen property.

This request is to sign a grant agreement to secure funding from USDA. It does not obligate Whatcom County to spend funds. This project will still require Council approval before an agricultural conservation easement can be completed.

Request Summary

Conservation Easement Program Staff request approval for the Executive to sign the Parcel Contract Agreement for project number 5505462201X7J (Vander Veen Agricultural Conservation Easement) to receive matching funds to support acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the Vander Veen property. This request is to secure funding from USDA.

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