

WHATCOM COUNTY

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Mark Personius, AICP
Director

Memorandum

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

THROUGH: Mark Personius, Director, PDS *MP*

FROM: Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, PDR Program Administrator *BLS*

DATE: January 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Request approval to sign agreement with Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Farmland Preservation grant program to provide matching funds for the acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the McLeod property through the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program.

Whatcom County PDR Program staff applied to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Farmland Preservation grant program in 2018 for several of the Purchase of Development Rights Program applications. Several of the Whatcom County applications ranked well and upon passage of the Washington State Capital Budget in 2019, the McLeod application has been awarded matching funds to contribute towards the purchase of an agricultural conservation easement on the McLeod property.

McLeod applied to the PDR Program in December of 2016. Approval to proceed with the acquisition of a title search and appraisal was approved by Whatcom County Council on August 8, 2018 through Resolution 2018-028.

Request Summary

PDR Program Staff request approval for the Executive to sign the Funding Board Project Agreement for project number 18-2060 (McLeod Agricultural Conservation Easement) to receive matching funds to support acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the McLeod property.

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