

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, PDS Director

FROM: Alexander Harris, Conservation Easement Program Outreach Coordinator

DATE: November 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Presentation by Conservation Easement Program (CEP) Oversight Committee and staff providing an update and requesting approval to proceed with acquisition of one agricultural conservation easement

Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program (CEP) staff and the Chair of the CEP Oversight Committee would like to provide a program update and request approval to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire an agricultural conservation easement on the following property pursuant to the process outlined in the CEP Guidelines:

- ACE2025-3 Steensma

The presentation will cover the following topics:

- Brief update on the work being done by the CEP Oversight Committee
- Overview of the Steensma application that has been approved by the CEP Oversight Committee and now requires Council approval before staff proceed with acquisition.

Request Summary

Conservation Easement Program staff requests approval of the attached Resolution to authorize the Executive to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire an agricultural conservation easement on the Steensma property, provided the appraisal is completed, the conservation easement is drafted in accordance with the CEP guidelines, the landowner has agreed to the offer price and conditions, and budget authority has been adopted by Whatcom County Council.

Please contact CEP Outreach Coordinator, Alexander Harris, at (360)778-5979 with any questions.