## **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



Cathy Wolfe
District One
Sandra Romero
District Two
Karen Valenzuela
District Three

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

August 6, 2014

Ms. Chanele Holbrook

Heernett Environmental Foundation/Creekside Conservancy 7332 Churchill Rd.
Tenino, WA 98501

Dear Ms. Holbrook:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Board of County Commissioners approved Heernett Environmental Foundation/Creekside Conservancy's (Heernett) request for \$300,000 from the Conservation Futures fund for acquisition of the Monarch Sculpture Park property of approximately five (5) acres. Thurston County understands that Heernett plans to bring the sculpture park to full operational status via a phased, multi-year approach in collaboration with the County that addresses all applicable permitting and construction requirements. The County also understands that Heernett will address land use violations on the property as time and resources are available.

Permitting needs and land use violations on the property were the subject of a memo circulated in January 2014 and a meeting with County staff on July 7, 2014. The memo is intended to be a guidance document. Unforeseen issues arising in the future may require additional remedies; actual requirements will be discussed during the permitting process.

The Board agreed to fund the Monarch Sculpture Park acquisition provided that the acquisition transaction and the conservation easement donation on approximately 70 acres of upland forest associated with this project are completed no later than December 31, 2015.

Thank you for your interest in the Thurston County Conservation Futures program. Please contact Andrew Deffobis in our Resource Stewardship Department at (360) 786-5467 or <a href="mailto:deffoba@co.thurston.wa.us">deffoba@co.thurston.wa.us</a> should you have any questions about this award.

Sincerely,

Karen Valenzuela, Chair

Sandra Romero, Vice-Chair

Cathy Wolfe, Commissione