

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Carolina Mejia-Barahona District One Gary Edwards District Two Tye Menser District Three

COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Creating Solutions for Our Future

Joshua Cummings, Director

November 2, 2022

Thurston County Board of Commissioners 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW Olympia, WA 98502

Subject: 2022-2023 Official Development Code Docket #A-18 New Agricultural Uses –

Critical Areas Code Amendment

The Thurston County Planning Commission has completed its review of Development Code Docket Item A-18 – New Agricultural Uses – Critical Areas Update. The Planning Commission held two work sessions on July 20 and October 5, 2022, as well as a public hearing on November 2, 2022.

No written or oral public comments were received for the public hearing. After thoughtful consideration of stakeholder feedback, staff analysis, and Department of Commerce's guidance on the protection of critical areas for agricultural lands, the Planning Commission recommends approval of the amendments by a unanimous vote (9-0), with the following findings:

- 1. The proposed amendment is consistent with the Growth Management Act 36.70A RCW.
- 2. The proposed amendment is consistent with Thurston County County-Wide Planning Policies.
- 3. The Thurston County Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on November 2, as required by Thurston County Code Chapter 2.05 Growth Management Public Participation

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed amendment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Eric Casino, Chair

November 2, 2022 – New Agricultural Uses – Critical Areas Update - Planning Commission Recommendation

cc: Thurston County Planning Commission Members

Ramiro Chavez, County Manager Joshua Cummings, CPED Director

Travis Burns, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Attachment: Proposed New Agricultural Uses – Critical Areas Code Update