

**David Madore**

March 9 at 9:38pm · Edited ·



CP16#0693

Clark County to buy Fresh Farm Products from Northwest farms:

Tomorrow, we will be awarding three contracts to farms outside of Clark County, two in Oregon and one in Washington to provide the fresh eggs, dairy products, and fresh produce at a competitive price to our county for our jail meals.

\$43,157.40 will go to Sysco Foods of Wilsonville, Oregon annually for 1300 cases of Fresh Eggs and 18,720 pounds of Liquid Whole Eggs.

[http://clark.wa.gov/.../docu.../BidAward2611\\_AnnualFreshEggs.pdf](http://clark.wa.gov/.../docu.../BidAward2611_AnnualFreshEggs.pdf)

\$73,634.11 will go to Dairy Fresh Farms of Olympia, Washington annually for 33,000 1/2 Pints of milk, 20-gallons of milk, and 12-cases of Cottage Cheese

[http://clark.wa.gov/.../.../BidAward2612\\_AnnualDairyProducts.pdf](http://clark.wa.gov/.../.../BidAward2612_AnnualDairyProducts.pdf)

\$121,318.25 will go to Pacific Coast Fruit Company annually of Portland, Oregon for fresh produce.

[http://clark.wa.gov/.../d.../BidAward2613\\_AnnualFreshProduce.pdf](http://clark.wa.gov/.../d.../BidAward2613_AnnualFreshProduce.pdf)

Bids were solicited from all available sources. It is good that our county is supporting Northwest farms. Yet, farming in Clark County has trended to a smaller scale. Since Washington State has the highest minimum wage in the United States, farmers in our state normally cannot compete with other states.

Small and micro farms on smaller parcels have become the norm in Clark County as reflected in the latest USDA farm census report.

Every seven years, we have the opportunity to update our policies to plan for our future and ensure that we don't stagnate or drive the cost of land beyond the reach of citizens who would otherwise grow economically viable produce.

Our Comprehensive Plan Alternative 4 recognizes the need for our policies to adapt so more citizens have access to affordable parcels that can be farmed on a manageable scale by those who work full time at a regular job. Otherwise, much of our productive land will continue to lie fallow.

Fallow definition: left unplowed and unseeded during a growing season

We are doing our best to allow for a wider variety of affordable parcels in this comp plan update. Our community will learn more about our choices in Alternative 4 in the coming weeks.

Thank God! Yea Clark County!



Like · Comment · Share · 29 30 14



Chris Hunter, Ken Willmon, Charity McCray Blount and 26 others like this.

14 shares



**Lon Wells** King County has a voluntary program for farmer to sell development rights to the county and the land can only be used as a farm. The county accepts donations to buy development rights. Clark County should study the King County model it is over 25 years old so their should be data to show how the program stands over the test of time. Many of us would give money to save a old farm.

Like · Reply · March 9 at 9:47pm



**Don Railsback** The economic reality is that land in Clark County is too valuable to use for farming on a large commercial scale. It's just a fact; neither positive, nor negative.

Like · Reply · March 9 at 9:51pm



**Fred M. King** Lon, Agreed! Anything we can raise, pick, gather, glean or milk ourselves will save the county even more in revenue. There's certainly a ready made crew I sure would be willing to farm for themselves!

Like · Reply · 1 · March 9 at 9:51pm



**Fred M. King** Don, too valuable to whom? The tax collectors or the tax payers?

Like · Reply · 1 · March 9 at 9:54pm



**David Madore** Lon Wells, using taxpayer money to pay a single landowner for their private property rights creates one temporary winner and many permanent losers. When the government buys the land or the rights to the land, individual citizens lose the opportunity to buy manageable parcels and the free market is permanently stagnated.

Fascism does more harm than good. The free market that allows the industry of individuals to reap the fruit of their own labor is far better.

Like · Reply · 5 · March 9 at 10:03pm · Edited



**Don Railsback** Fred M. King, obviously too valuable for the land owner. I suppose it is possible that a Clark County land owner is unable to compete on the basis of price if farmers in other areas

can produce at a lower cost.

Like · Reply · March 9 at 10:01pm



**Lon Wells** Citizens would be able to buy a farm. This county has old farms and new small farms but the old farms are being subdivided and lost. [://kingcounty.gov/.../transfer-development-rights.aspx](http://kingcounty.gov/.../transfer-development-rights.aspx)



### Transfer of development rights in King County, Washington

Comprehensive information, contacts and application...

KINGCOUNTY.GOV | BY DARREN.GREVE@KINGCOUNTY.GOV

Like · Reply · March 9 at 10:05pm



**Lon Wells** <http://www.kingcounty.gov/.../farmland-preservation...>



### Farmland Preservation Program

Program designed to preserve working farms and the rural way of life in King County, Washington State.

KINGCOUNTY.GOV | BY FRED.BENTLER@KINGCOUNTY.GOV

Like · Reply · March 9 at 10:07pm · Edited



**David Madore** Lon Wells, Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) do more harm than good. The developer uses the purchased "rights" to super densify what would otherwise be reasonable density developments. They use it as a license to build tomorrows slums today. Take a look at King County to see the effect of the TDRs that licensed that choking density.

The result is to shrink the parcel sizes to leave no room for a backyard. The purchased rights lower the quality of life by packing high density housing so tight that the soil is inaccessible. No room for fruit trees, gardens, or private play areas for the kids.

Like · Reply · 8 · March 9 at 10:21pm · Edited

1 Reply



**Lon Wells** Clark County has done that on 21ave and 94th st family houses with no back yard for children to play and they did not save a farm. The county controls lot size. But this discussion is done I do not see how a free market will save the farms. Example the Frenchman's Park extension. What was a farm with a farm house and barn and it could have been leased as a farm. I knew some one that wanted to lease the land to run cows, The county bureaucrat says it would take him to much time to draw up a lease for the small return. The barn was torn down the house was torn down and the county pays some one to mow the field. If that land had been in private hands it would have been leased and the old 1800 farm house and barn would still be standing and livestock would be in the field. David I voted fro you and will vote again for you and I like much of what you are doing, But sometimes we respectfully disagree. The county could do much to save our farms.

Like · Reply · 5 · March 9 at 10:45pm



**Judy D. McIntyre** As my late husband said 20+ years ago, "before it is over with we will be eating bark and sh----ing sawdust." We ARE almost there!

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 6:37am



**Ed Elder** Seems like a win-win. I wonder how Looney Lou at the Daily Democrat will bash you for this?

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 6:45am



**Chad Taylor** Amazing that anyone could try to make the argument that communism is more productive than a free market system. I was waiting for "The Earth Is Flat" to come next.

Like · Reply · 2 · March 10 at 6:45am



**Missy Hannon** Thank you for the update. Could you tell us if anyone applied for the contract from within Clark County?

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 9:01am



**Casey Mollet** I find it crazy that Andresen Dairy is in BG and we are awarding a contract to a farm in Olympia. Sysco foods? Where are they getting their eggs? I question the fact that farming in Clark County is at a low. I know many who still farm. However, I also know that with high property taxes and urbanization of the county is forcing these people into poverty as well as making the dream die. Shame on you. I love Clark County for its rural feel, however government is driving that all away. Look at Ridgefield and how it's growing. Look at the road widening in BG and what it's doing. I get that some changes must be made to a certain degree, but when you move to an area like this specifically for the "rural-ness" and the Mayberry type feel, changing that will drive those out who truly care and bring in crime that wasn't existent before urbanization.

Like · Reply · 9 · March 10 at 9:21am · Edited



**Lon Wells** The day zoning laws were established ended the free market of land ownership. Now we have environmental laws sensitive area laws and a long list of rules and regulation that block the free market use of land.

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 10:33am



**Mike Hudson** Why can't you buy fresh from your own county?

Like · Reply · 5 · March 10 at 10:48am



**Karen Weber Learn** OR At Least OWN STATE !!! .... Why The Hell Do You THINK Your, KING Madore ????

Like · Reply · 3 · March 10 at 11:24am

**Jack Buckmeir** why do you think Obama is king?

Like · 1 · March 10 at 8:05pm



**Charity McCray Blount** What on earth? He is an elected official who's job is to make decisions on behalf of the people. It just unusual to see a politician like this actually do his job.

Like · March 10 at 8:32pm



**Chris Young** Karen, did you read the post? The Commissioners have to balance the desire to purchase locally with their responsibility to be frugal with the tax dollars that are collected from us. In this case, Sysco provided local product (Oregon and Washington) at the most reasonable cost offered. We can ask the Commissioners to manage our money frugally or ask them to solely purchase from Clark County businesses, but they cannot do both.

Like · March 10 at 10:16pm



Write a reply...



**Jeffrey Posey** David Madore, why did you choose not to use Clark County farmers? You could have greatly served local business.

Like · Reply · 3 · March 10 at 12:56pm



**Jonathan Johnson** Jeffrey Posey, I can't answer for David nor the county. I don't know what Clark County businesses took the opportunity to bid, but in public service you normally can't disqualify a bid based on location of the provider, except where federal law requires US-made products. So if a producer outside of the area is able to provide products that meet the RFP and

their bid is lower than a local producer, there is a general obligation to go with the lower bid.

There are some food distributors in Clark County, I don't know how they bid. As far as I know, there are no large-scale egg producers in Clark County. Anderson Dairy is located in Clark County, but I don't know if they bid, and if they did, how their bid compares to the one from Dairy Fresh Farms.

If Dairy Fresh Farms were to subcontract to Anderson Dairy, that would still be of benefit to Clark County farms. Anderson Dairy does or has subcontracted to provide packaged dairy products to Darigold, Alpenrose, and Safeway; not sure about Fred Meyer. Much of the milk found in local grocery stores is produced locally.

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 1:36pm



**Julie Parkes** David Madore, what is the quality of food that these companies provide? Are they non-GMO? Are the animals fed all kinds of antibiotics? You know what, I'm pretty sure the quality of their food isn't even close to what the local farmers grow. I support the local farmers and love the green valleys of Clark County and the rural feel of the area. How about developing the local farmers instead of the major corporations who are going to hurt.

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 1:38pm

**Jack Buckmeir** people in jail don't care about GMO or antibiotics unless they're Liberals.

Like · March 10 at 5:37pm · Edited



**Julie Parkes** Jack Buckmeir, have you done any research at all? It doesn't matter if the GMO's are fed to just people in jail. Growing GMO's affect all the farms around the GMO farm.

And the overuse of antibiotics in animals has caused problems with people fighting infections.

Wanting to serve my kids healthy food doesn't make me a liberal, it makes me a good parent.

Like · 2 · Yesterday at 6:49am



Write a reply...

**Jack Buckmeir** what about "Joe's Farm"?

Like · Reply · March 10 at 5:33pm



**David Madore** Jonathan Johnson, thank you for posting such a great informative answer to explain why local farms either did not bid or did not compete. We are making sure that our local farm bureau is always notified of any bid opportunities.

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 8:03pm

1 Reply

**Jack Buckmeir** David, you are a real asset to Clarke County. I'm sure that you make the Leftist nutcases really unhappy. Please remember that there is no such thing as a "Happy Leftist nutcase" nor has there ever been in all of history.

Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 8:10pm · Edited



**Jeffrey Posey** Thank you, Jonathan.

Like · Reply · March 10 at 8:23pm



**David Becker** <http://www.prnewswire.com/.../packaged-facts-sales-of...>

# Packaged Facts

## Packaged Facts: Sales of Local Foods Reaches \$12 Billion

ROCKVILLE, Md., Jan. 28, 2015 /PRNewswire/ – Like...

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Like · Reply · 2 · March 10 at 8:26pm



**Jonathan Johnson** Another thing about these bid packages: it is generally good financial practice to get a product from a single source. To source eggs from a dozen different smaller, but more local, farms would represent a higher cost of contract management, and a higher probability of contract breach by the provider.

Most large food corporations such as Sysco don't actually own the farms or grow the food themselves; they contract that out to other farms, most of which are family owned and run. The corporations can handle the supply chain management better than the large commercial consumers such as Clark County, restaurant chains, and grocery stores.

Independent commercial consumers such as locally owned restaurants, fruit stands, meat markets, and groceries are better able to interact with local producers simply because their purchase needs are not so large, and they often have a loyal clientele that is willing to pay more for local fare.

Like · Reply · 2 · March 10 at 9:17pm



**Casey Mollet** <http://www.prnewswire.com/.../packaged-facts-sales-of...>

# Packaged Facts

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ROCKVILLE, Md., Jan. 28, 2015 /PRNewswire/ – Like...

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Like · Reply · 1 · March 10 at 9:43pm



**Anna Miller** Jonathan. I appreciated reading your thoughtful and informed post. I learned something.

Like · Reply · Yesterday at 12:15am



**Deanna Gaylor Turner** How's about supporting local farms as the "Norm"? <http://www.prnewswire.com/.../packaged-facts-sales-of...>

# Packaged Facts

## Packaged Facts: Sales of Local Foods Reaches \$12 Billion

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