From: Euler, Gordon
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:53 AM
To: Ann Foster (annfoster5093@gmail.com)
Cc: Wiser, Sonja
Subject: FW: Letter from FSC to Mr. Lagler

Ann

No—we can send it to them. Thanks

Gordy

From: Ann Foster (mailto:annfoster5093@gmail.com)
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:50 AM
To: Euler, Gordon
Subject: Letter from FSC to Mr. Lagler

Hi Gordy,
Attached is the letter, sent about a month ago

The copies say 7 copies to Planning Commission. Do I have to send a hard copy to each of them individually?

Best,
Ann
September 24, 2015

Dennis Lagler
PO Box 1300
Brush Prairie, WA 98606

Dear Mr. Lagler,

The Clark County Food System Council is writing to offer our support for the opportunities presented by the conversion of your property in Brush Prairie from agriculture to industrial land. Clark County Food System Council is a citizen advisory board whose mission is to increase and preserve access to safe, local, and healthy food for all residents of Clark County. We believe there is an urgent need to undertake local food production strategies. The health and resilience of our community will be greatly enhanced if we invest in strengthening local agriculture.

We are encouraged by the possibilities your land offers that can help fill in some of the gaps within Clark County’s food system. Here are some of our ideas:

One, meat farmers are currently unable to process their animals locally. Transporting animals for long distances adds costs for the farmer in both time and fuel, and it is stressful for the animals. The proposed industrial land could house a meat processing operation. Two, once the land is re-zoned to industrial not all of the acreage can be developed, much of this fertile soil is flat and perfect for entry-level farmers who cannot afford to purchase property. Leased farmland meets a need in our county for beginning farmers looking to get started. Three, required buffers around the property can be used for fruit or nut trees. The products of these trees could be donated to the Clark County Food Bank and be a source of local food for the emergency food system. Four, in a recent feasibility study on organic waste capacity in Clark County, your property has been identified and evaluated as a site suitable for a large scale, residential food and yard debris composting facility. Composting is an important piece of a healthy local food system.

The vision of a former large dairy operation being used for a mix of food production, processing and composting, fruit and nut trees, habitat for pollinators, beekeeping and raising small animals such as rabbits, goats and chickens recognizes that these acres have tremendous value as agriculture lands. This vision retains the spirit of this prime agricultural land, and honors the hard work and many years you invested in this land as a farmer.
The Food System Council is grateful that you are interested in a legacy that supports a thriving local food system providing healthy and affordable food to our citizens, enhancing our food security, and strengthening our economy. The Food System Council remains committed to participating in the master planning process for your property and contributing our ideas for its future. We look forward to talking with you.

Sincerely,

Garrett Hoyt, Chair
Clark County Food System Council

CC
Steve Horenstein, Attorney at Law
Clark County Board of County Councilors (3)
Clark County Planning Commission (7)
Clark County Community Planning, attention Gordy Euler