

February 5, 2024

City of Tenino 149 Hodgen Street South Tenino, WA 98589

Re: Municipal Code Amendment TMC108.40.010 and TMC 108.30.125.F Allowance of Livestock Processing Facilities

Dear City of Tenino Planning Commission,

Fay Farm and Ranch supports the amending of municipal codes that would allow a USDA meat processing facility at the Southwest Washington Agricultural and Business Innovation Park.

The Fay Family has lived and farmed in the Adna area of the Chehalis River Valley since 1862. We hope to continue this tradition for decades to come. In my life I have watched the decline of local agriculture brought on by urban growth, government regulations, and many producers have lost the will to survive. Agriculture operations face many infrastructure challenges in our region, one of the most notable is livestock processing. This lack of USDA processing forces producers like us to settle for the least profitable options for selling our livestock. Our region has an ideal climate for growing an abundance of forage and raising high-quality grass-fed beef. We just don't have the infrastructure to support the processing and distribution of local meat.

I encourage you to help make agriculture in Southwest Washington viable and sustainable by amending your municipal codes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jacob R. Fay

Jake Fay Fay Farm and Ranch (360) 269-6077