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**COMMUNITY PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Joshua Cummings, Director

Creating Solutions for Our Future

Dear Mr. Dan Penrose and Ms. Jen Scharber,

The Thurston County Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) was recently notified of an amendment proposal to update Tenino Municipal Code (TMC) 108.40.010 and TMC 108.30.125.F to allow livestock processing facilities through a Conditional Use Permit in the Public/Semi-Public zoning district.

As part of Tenino's consideration of this amendment we wanted to share findings from a recent study Thurston County helped fund utilizing livestock producer engagement titled "Meat Production and Processing Infrastructure and Labor Study in The Central and South Puget Sound Region." This comprehensive study published July 18, 2023 identified barriers to long-term viability of our region's livestock producers, including the lack of both slaughter and cutting and wrapping (processing) facilities in the south Puget Sound. The study further identified Thurston County—and specifically Tenino--as a priority location for a new livestock processing facility given its proximity to 78 local producers and readily available state highway access.

Based on the findings from this recent study, the amendment proposal to allow livestock processing facilities at the SW Agriculture Business and Innovation Park would address identified barriers to agricultural producers in both Thurston County and the broader south Puget Sound. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Kevin Jensen
Agriculture Community Program Manager
Community Planning and Economic Development
Thurston County