



February 2, 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,

I am writing to express the support of the Southwest Washington Grower's Cooperative for amending municipal codes to allow the building of a USDA meat processing facility at the Southwest Washington Agricultural and Business Innovation Park.

Our farmer owned cooperative supports agriculture producers in Thurston, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pierce, and Skagit Counties. The lack of USDA processing capabilities in the region leaves our livestock producers with minimal options for processing. This in turn creates a narrow marketing and distribution opportunity for local meat, which results in an economic loss for the entire region. Amending municipal codes and supporting a processing facility will no doubt increase the sustainability and viability of agriculture across Southwest Washington.

The Southwest Washington Grower's Cooperative is proud to support the development of USDA meat processing facilities that will enhance agriculture in the region.

Thank you for supporting this regional agricultural infrastructure and economic development opportunity that will fill a compelling need within this low-income, underserved, and rural area.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Fenn

David Fenn
President, Board of Directors
SW WA Grower's Cooperative
Cell: 360-520-5056
PO Box 130
Curtis, WA 98538