

City Planner Dan Penrose,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed amendment to Tenino Municipal Code (TMC) 108.40.010 and TMC 108.30.125.F, which would allow livestock processing facilities in areas currently zoned Public/Semi-Public with a Conditional Use Permit issued by the City.

As a local cattle producer, I understand the importance of having access to USDA meat processing facilities. Currently, the lack of such facilities in our area poses significant challenges for livestock producers like myself. Without adequate processing facilities nearby, we are forced to transport our animals long distances, which not only adds to our operational costs but also causes unnecessary stress to the animals.

The proposed USDA meat processing facility at the Ag Park would not only address these challenges but also provide numerous benefits to our community. By allowing for a public-private partnership, with the City providing the necessary site infrastructure and private investors like Colvin Ranch contributing to the build-out of the facility, we can create a sustainable solution that benefits both producers and consumers alike.

Having a local USDA meat processing facility would not only support the growth and viability of our local agriculture industry but also promote food security and economic development in our community. It would provide opportunities for job creation, stimulate local economic activity, and strengthen our agricultural infrastructure.

Furthermore, by promoting local meat processing, we can reduce our dependence on large-scale industrial facilities, which often prioritize efficiency over quality and sustainability. A local facility would allow for greater transparency and accountability in the meat supply chain, ensuring that consumers have access to high-quality, locally sourced products.

In conclusion, I urge the Tenino Planning Commission to approve the proposed amendment to TMC 108.40.010 and TMC 108.30.125.F, allowing for the establishment of a USDA meat processing facility at the Ag Park. This initiative has the potential to positively impact our community for generations to come and deserves our full support.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important matter.

Respectfully,

Ed Gregory

Farmer/Rancher

The Bowed G Family Farms

edg@bowedg.com

6621 State Highway S. 507

Tenino, WA

98589

