

Proposed County Agricultural Committee January 31, 2018

Status

- 2017 proposal to create an agricultural committee to guide creation of a county business plan to facilitate agriculture as an economic activity in Clark County.
 - Initial scope attached.
- County recruits committee members.
- Council decides an additional recruitment could be useful.
- County re-recruits for members closing November 2017.
- Notebooks with information about potential members distributed to councilors in late 2017.

Additional issues for consideration

These issues might result in a change in scope and possibly advertisement for members based on a change of scope.

- Does the council desire an evaluation of agricultural zoned land with the goal of identifying land that should be retained in agricultural zoning and land that should be placed into urban reserve?
 - If yes, should the proposed agricultural committee scope be amended and the committee play a leadership role?
- Does the council desire evaluation of a transfer of development rights program?
 - If yes, should the proposed agricultural committee scope be amended and the committee play a role in developing and reviewing the program?

Proposal Agriculture Advisory Committee

Background

Food production for local markets is an integral part of our agriculture and local economy, and co-exists with agricultural production for commercial markets that export goods outside the state and nation.

The face of agriculture is changing. Changes in the size, scale, and structure of agriculture and food systems are happening not only in Clark County, but across the country where local farms and local food production are getting more and more attention. Clark County needs to address the long-term commercial viability of agriculture through a healthy and sustainable food system.

The county convened an Agricultural Preservation Advisory Committee (APAC) that met in 2008 and developed a number of recommendations, related to the viability of agriculture. The county also commissioned a rural lands study in 2012 by Berk Consulting, which produced the Situation Assessment of Agriculture and Forestry in Clark County. The APAC and Berk reports shall be reviewed by the committee and used as the starting point for fulfilling the committee's charge.

Charge

The Agriculture Advisory Committee shall:

- Produce economic analysis of agriculture in Clark County;
- Identify the current services that support farming;
- Develop an action plan that includes the future business growth potential of agriculture in Clark County including a full range of tools and strategies; and
- Advise the Council on policies and regulations that affect agriculture.

The committee shall include no more than nine members appointed by the Council, who believe that agriculture is commercially viable in Clark County.

Meetings: Initially, the task force will meet monthly to establish their protocols, issues, and schedule.

Potential list of Agriculture Advisory Committee

- WSU Extension 1
- Farm Bureau 1
- Wineries 1
- Conservation District 1
- Food System Council 1
- Live Stock 1
- CREDC 1
- County Councilor 2

County seeks residents in commercial agriculture to serve on ag advisory group

10/10/2017

Vancouver, Wash. - Clark County is seeking local residents who are directly connected to commercial agriculture in the county to serve on the newly forming Agricultural Advisory Committee.

The volunteer committee will advise the Board of County Councilors on policies and regulations that affect agriculture. The committee's work could include preparing an economic analysis of local agriculture, identifying current services that support farming, and developing an action plan outlining the business growth potential of agriculture in the county.

People involved in commercial agriculture who are interested in being appointed to the committee, and others, must submit a letter of qualifications and résumé to Jennifer Clark, County Manager's Office, P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver, 98666-5000.

Applications also can be faxed to 360.397.6058 or emailed to jennifer.clark@clark.wa.gov.

Application deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, 2017.

Applicants

Jordan Boldt
Gordon Coop
Sue Marshall
Ilyas Mohammed
Warren Neth
Justin O'Dea
Susan Rasmussen
Joshua seed
Denise Smee
Douglas Steinbarger
Heather Tischbein
Bill Zimmerman
Joe Zimmerman
Joe Beaudoin
Stephen Boynton
Shaun Conway
Lorrie Conway
Italia LaRuffia
Rachael Feston
James Kunetz
Anne Lawrence
Alice Lombard
Sean Treasure
Judith Zeider