

**Skagit County Conservation Futures Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
June 14, 2022

**Members in Attendance**

Andrea Xaver            Keith Morrison            Scott DeGraw  
Audrey Gravley        Margery Hite

**Members Absent**

Jim Glackin            Owen Peth            Hal Hart (ex-officio)            Trisha Logue (ex-officio)

**Staff and Others in Attendance**

Allen Rozema, Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland (SPF)  
Brandon Black, Skagit County Planning & Development Services  
Grace Kane, Skagit County Public Works  
Heather Spore, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community  
Sarah Stoner, Skagit County Public Works

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:10 AM.

**Review Agenda**

Agenda approved.

**April Meeting Summary**

Andrea noted four minor syntax typos to correct which she has provided to Sarah. Andrea made a motion to approve, with changes provided; Keith seconded. All were in favor.

**Overview of Agricultural Land Preservation Code**

Brandon Black, Senior Planner and Team Supervisor with Skagit County Planning and Development Services, provided an overview of the [Ag Land Preservation Code, SCC 14.16.860](#). A copy of the code in full was provided as handouts to those attending in person (Andrea, Keith, Scott, Sarah, Grace).

Brandon answered questions from the group regarding NRLEs (Natural Resource Lands Easements) and [CaRDs \(Conservation and Reserve Developments\)](#), an alternative division of land which includes different [allowable densities per lot size](#) (table on page 11).

**Marketing & Application Process**

**Annual Report 2021**

The group discussed the distribution of print and digital 2021 Annual Reports which were well received by community. Copies of the report were provided as handouts to those attending in person.

**FLP In the News, May 2022**

Sarah shared that she worked with La Conner Weekly News to tie an ag-related article to the May 11, 2022, issue which carried the FLP Annual Report insert. Two resulting articles printed in the same La Conner Weekly News edition as the 2021 FLP Annual Report insert.

- The articles are titled [“Farmland Legacy Program fends off residential development threats”](#) and [“14,000 acres in county Farmland Legacy Program.”](#) This is the fourth (and fifth) local media feature story on FLP in the past nine months, September 2021 to May 2022.
- Known mentions of FLP in the news prior to September 2021 appear to date back to 2015, totaling three media mentions of FLP in the decade prior to 2021 (between 2009 – 2020).

**Ag Advisory Board**

Sarah shared that as a result of the FLP Annual Report distribution, which included e-distribution to all Ag Advisory Board members, she was invited to attend the June Ag Advisory Board meeting on June 8, 2022. Her discussion focused on: past 25 years, current stats and especially looking ahead to the next 25 years for the program. The members present engaged with feedback and questions.

Sarah shared that the Ag Advisory Board (AAB) meets the second Wednesday of each month, in the evening. Meetings are open to the public. The July AAB meeting will include a presentation from Jenna Friebel, Skagit County Draining and Irrigation Districts Consortium Executive Director.

**SPF Our Valley Our Future Breakfast**

Sarah shared that she and Skagit County Public Works Director & County Engineer Grace Kane will attend the [Our Valley Our Future 2022 Business Breakfast](#) on Wednesday, June 15, 7 AM, at McIntyre Hall hosted by Skagitonian to Preserve Farmland. The event celebrates those who keep our valley farming.

**Easement Status / Property Updates**

Tabled due to time constraints. Digital file distributed prior to meeting for reference.

**Easement Review Subcommittee**

**(Members: [Andrea](#), [Keith](#), [Owen](#))**

Tabled due to time constraints.

**Valuation Process Review Subcommittee (Members: [Scott](#), [Margery](#), [Audrey](#), [Jim](#))**

Tabled due to time constraints.

**Member Updates**

Tabled due to time constraints.

**Financial Summary**

Tabled due to time constraints. Digital file distributed prior to meeting for reference.

**Administrative Business**

**CFAC 2022 Meeting Dates**

July 12	September 13	November 8
August 9	October 11	December 13

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM