

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

CONSENT AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Josh D. Peters, County Administrator

FROM: Heidi Eisenhour, Commissioner

DATE: August 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Chimacum Commons letter of support

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Olympic Housing Trust and Jefferson Land Trust have requested a letter of support for their grant application for the Chimacum Commons affordable housing project to Dept. of Commerce's Housing Trust Fund. They are seeking to demonstrate strong local support from Jefferson County and have requested a letter signed by our three commissioners.

ANALYSIS:

We are keenly aware of the need for housing in our community and that workforce housing is a particular need we have. Beyond that, Chimacum Commons is consistent with at least three goals of the current Comprehensive Plan, including:

1. Land Use Goal 2: Encourage compact, well-designed rural development that minimizes sprawl, protects rural character, and efficiently uses infrastructure.
2. Land Use Goal 4, supporting opportunities to provide a variety of affordable housing types for county residents
3. Land Use Goal 16, ensuring development protects the natural beauty of Jefferson County

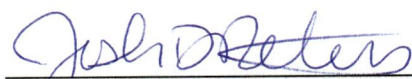
This project clearly aligns with existing Comprehensive Plan priorities and the desire to see more innovative projects which showcase collaboration between nonprofits and government to generate more workforce housing in Jefferson County.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

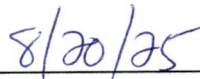
RECOMMENDATION:

Sign letter and return to Olympic Housing Trust.

REVIEWED BY:



Josh D. Peters, County Administrator



Date



Board of County Commissioners
1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Heather Dudley-Nollette, District 1 Heidi Eisenhour, District 2 Greg Brotherton, District 3

August 19, 2025

Washington State Department of Commerce
Housing Trust Fund Program
P.O. Box 42525
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Support for Chimacum Commons Affordable Housing Project

To Whom It May Concern:

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners is pleased to support the Chimacum Commons affordable housing project, led by Olympic Housing Trust in partnership with Jefferson Land Trust. This initiative responds to Jefferson County's urgent need for more affordable workforce housing while demonstrating the power of collaboration between local nonprofits and government.

Chimacum Commons is consistent with the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan, advancing key priorities including compact, well-designed rural development (**Goal 2**), providing a variety of affordable housing types (**Goal 4**), and ensuring development protects the natural beauty of our county (**Goal 16**).

Located in the heart of the Chimacum Valley, this project will create affordable homes that allow workers and families to live near their jobs, strengthening both our local economy and community life. Its thoughtful design balances housing needs with stewardship of our rural character and natural resources.

We respectfully encourage the Department of Commerce to invest Housing Trust Fund dollars in Chimacum Commons, a project that aligns state and local priorities and will serve Jefferson County for generations.

Sincerely,

Heather Dudley-Nollette
District 1

Heidi Eisenhour
District 2, Chair

Greg Brotherton
District 3