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**King Conservation District**

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October 12, 2015

The Honorable Larry Phillips  
Chair, King County Council  
516 Third Ave, Room 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Councilmember Phillips:

I am writing in support of the ordinance authorizing the purchase and sale agreement for the former Tall Chief Golf Course, a piece of legislation that brings approximately 80 acres of unused farmland back into production, and permanently protects the property.

The King Conservation District values the collaborative relationship we have developed with King County, and was honored to be asked to participate on the review panel for the Proposals for Tall Chief. Josh Monaghan, KCD's Manager of Programs and Strategic Initiatives, served on the review panel along with several other agricultural community representatives. We believe that the review process was exceedingly thorough and fair, and that ultimately the panel selected the proposal that provides the most benefit to agricultural resources and the broader community in King County.

By transferring the property to the Kellers, a well-established dairy farming family, it will restore agricultural production on the site and all of the natural resources on the property will be permanently preserved. Furthermore, the Kellers have committed to utilizing the upland area of property to provide significant benefits to the Snoqualmie Valley agricultural community. Most significantly, they have committed to making an area available to farmers to store equipment during floods and they are proposing to develop several greenhouses that will be available for lease by valley farmers.

The KCD is committed to supporting farmers throughout King County, and the Board of Supervisors strongly supports the purchase and sale agreement currently being considered by the Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dick Ryon', is written over the word 'Sincerely'.

Dick Ryon  
KCD Chairman of the Board

cc: King County Councilmembers  
Dow Constantine, County Executive

*Handout from Josh Monaghan  
KCD during public comment  
at BEM mtg 10/28/15*