



# The Short's Farm Project

*Supporting Community  
Resilience & Prosperity*



**Farm Steering Committee Meeting #2**

**February 21, 2024**



# Meeting #2 Objectives

- Establish Ground Rules
- Clarify the Role of UW Students & Faculty
- Review Timeline & Objectives
- Review & Affirm Commission Objectives for the Farm Plan
- Identify Key Information Sources
- Gather FSC Observations from Farm Tour



# Ground Rules

- All meetings subject to the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30)
- All “writings” (broadly defined) subject to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56)
- FSC Commitment & Responsibility
  - Attend five (5) in-person FSC Meetings
  - Attend at least two (2) Public Meetings & One (1) Commission Workshop
- Decision-Making Process
  - Spirit of consensus desired
  - Port Commission is ultimate decision-maker
  - No roll call votes – but “straw polls” may be taken

# Ground Rules, cont.

- Meeting Structure & Conduct
  - No elected officers – Port staff & UW Team to facilitate/provide process direction
  - Good faith participation & constructive dialogue anticipated
- Public Participation
  - Community input desired & encouraged
  - Discussions should occur at FSC meetings – not offline
  - All meetings noticed and open to the public
  - No oral public comments – written comments encouraged
  - Individual subject matter experts may be called
  - Meeting summaries to be kept and posted on the Port's webpage



# Role of UW Students & Faculty

- UW Graduate students to assist with:
  - Visioning
  - Community Engagement
  - Meeting Facilitation
  - Drafting of Farm Plan based on FSC guidance
- Student work guided by UW faculty and Port staff
- FSC members are the *subject matter experts*
- UW students & faculty are the *process experts*





# Schedule & Milestones

- **February 7:** FSC Mtg - Farm Tour
- **February 21:** FSC Mtg - Ground Rules/Expectations
- **March 6:** FSC Mtg – Students Present *Existing Conditions Report*
- **April 17:** Community Visioning Session (FSC attends as listeners)
- **April 18:** FSC Mtg – *Visioning Report/Draft Alternatives Framed*
- **May 15:** Public Open House – Feedback on Draft Alternatives
- **May 29:** FSC Mtg – Identification of *Preferred Alternative*
- **June 5:** FSC Mtg – *Draft Farm Plan* – Next Steps Identified
- **July 10:** Port Commission Workshop – *Farm Plan Presented*





# Process Expectations

- Creating a basic "road map"
- Outlining a widely shared community vision
- Developing plan alternatives
- Selecting a "preferred alternative"
- Identifying Information gaps/areas needing further research & analysis
- Prioritizing action items (first year, 2-5, 6-10, 11-20)
- Farm Plan 1.0 - a crucial first step – not the end of the story



# Commission Objectives

(Res. No. 797-23)

- Provide benefit local farmers - support, sustain, and expand ag production
- Materially improve habitat functions and values - especially for migratory fish
- Achieve the Port's standard rate of return of 9.5% on all direct Port investments
- Ensure consistency with existing policy and regulatory requirements and deed restrictions (e.g., the agricultural conservation easement).





# Key Resources

- Short's Farm Webpage - <https://portofpt.com/shorts-family-farm/>
  - Appraisals
  - JCCD Drainage Conditions/Options
  - Maps
  - NOSC Geomorphic Assessment
  - Conservation Easement
  - Environmental Site Assessments
  - Public Comments
  - Title Documents
- Existing Conditions Report Being Prepared by UW Team (forthcoming)





# Comments? Questions?

