

Dear Members of the SJC Planning Commission:

I would like to request the addition of a new stand-alone section to the Vision Statement dedicated to Agriculture. Existing references to agriculture are scattered between several of the Vision Statement elements but there is no statement that accurately reflects the importance of agriculture to our community.

I am a member of the Lopez Locavores and Transition Lopez Island. Both of these groups are committed to creating a resilient and regenerative food system here on Lopez, believing that this is critical to the continued thriving of our community in all the islands.

There were numerous comments during the Vision Statement interviews, pop-up studios and workshops that demonstrate the community's desire to take bold measures to strengthen our local agricultural economy. Our updated Vision should reflect that desire.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Ande Finley  
Lopez Island