

## Adam Zack

---

**From:** Suzanne Heyd <sheyd@snet.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 16, 2018 10:24 AM  
**To:** Comp Plan Update  
**Subject:** Vision Statement dedicated to Agriculture Request

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.

My husband Peter and I own Alala Farm on Orcas, a small organic farm producing vegetables, fruit, and medicinal herbs for our family, the co-op, restaurants, and the community at large. We produce everything by hand, and have no ability at this time to make any profit or even to find ways to bring our products and ideas to market commensurate with the time and effort of labor. We stay in agriculture because we believe in it, and we know it is good for our community and for the environment, but it comes at a cost to us in every way. We do not think that the current policies at the county level are working in support of this crucial undertaking.

Please add 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.

There were abundant 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,

Norris Suzanne Carlson (and Peter Carlson)  
Alala Farm  
117 Harrier Ridge Rd  
Eastsound