



## Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

### Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 4/19/2022

#### Consent Agenda

**Department:** Budget

**Presenter(s):** John Hudson, Budget

**Contact(s):** Jennifer Harrison, Ag and Land Resources Director

Ariel Zijp, Farmland Preservation Manager

**Subject:** Establish Four Conservation Easement Projects

**Brief Summary:** The Buncombe County Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) recommends approval and requests transaction costs for two easement projects, and the Buncombe County Land Conservation Advisory Board (LCAB) recommends approval and requests transaction costs for two easement projects, from FY22 Conservation Easement project funds. The two AAB projects consist of Clark/Mattox Farm and Berner Farm both in Barnardsville, held by Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District. The two LCAB projects consist of Full Sun Farm Phase II and Young Homeplace Farm both in Sandy Mush, held by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy.

- Berner Farm, 19 acres in Barnardsville - \$28,930
- Clark-Mattox Farm, 15 acres in Barnardsville - \$28,930
- Full Sun Farm Phase II, 27 acres in Sandy Mush - \$31,000
- Young Homeplace, 94 acres in Sandy Mush - \$36,000

This aligns with the 2025 Strategic Plan Goal: *Preserve farmland and environmentally sensitive tracts* and will preserve a total of 155 acres.

No new funding is required to establish the four new easements projects. Approving the budget amendment will allocate \$124,860 of the \$750,000 FY22 Conservation Easement project funds, leaving a balance of \$85,887.

**Recommended Motion & Requested Action:** Approve budget amendment establishing four conservation easement projects

**County Manager's Comments and Recommendation:** County Manager recommends as presented