



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: October 4, 2022

New Business

Department: Agriculture and Land Resources **Presenter:** John Hudson, Budget Director

Contact(s): Jennifer Harrison, Agriculture and Land Resources Director
Ariel Zijp, Farmland Preservation Manager

Subject: Establish Six Conservation Easement Projects

Brief Summary: The Buncombe County Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) recommends approval and requests transaction costs for five easement projects, and the Buncombe County Land Conservation Advisory Board (LCAB) recommends approval and requests easement purchase for one easement project, from FY23 Conservation Easement project funds. The five AAB projects consist of Fisher Farm in Asheville, Harlan/Dizoff Farm in Barnardsville, David Rogers and Roger's Family Trust Farm in Leicester, Roberson Farm in Weaverville, held by Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District (BCSWCD). The one LCAB project consists of Camp Woodson Phase II in Fairview, held by Conserving Carolina.

- Fisher Farm, 70 acres in Asheville \$55,000
- Harlan/Dizoff Farm, 50 acres in Barnardsville \$48,000
- David Roger's Farm, 22.3 acres in Leicester \$ 35,000
- Roger's Family Trust Farm, 156.1 acres in Leicester \$ 66,000
- Roberson/Weaver Farm, 58 acres in Weaverville \$45,000
- Camp Woodson Phase II, 234 acres in Fairview \$135,000 (Easement Purchase)
(Funding for Camp Woodson Phase I was approved in FY22)

This aligns with the 2025 Strategic Plan Goal: *Preserve farmland and environmentally sensitive tracts.*

The Agricultural Advisory Board approved the BCSWCD projects at their 8/23/22 and 9/20/22 board meetings. Land Conservation Advisory Board approved the Camp Woodson Phase II project at their 9/21/22 board meeting.

No new funding is required. Approving the budget amendment will allocate \$384,000 of the \$750,000 FY23 Conservation Easement project funds.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation: County Manager recommends as presented