



## Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

### Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: February 6, 2024

#### New Business

**Department:** Agriculture & Land Resources    **Presenter(s):** Jill Carter, Open Space Bond Manager  
John Hudson, Budget Director

**Contact(s):** Jill Carter, Open Space Bond Manager  
Ariel Zijp, Farmland Preservation Program Manager

**Subject:** Open Space Bond: Establish Two Conservation Easements

**Brief Summary:** The Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) and Land Conservation Advisory Board (LCAB) request Open Space Bond funds for the easement purchase costs for two conservation easement projects. The projects consist of:

Parham/Fortner Farm, +/- 30 acres in Leicester - \$150,000  
Lake Eden Preserve, +/- 336 acres in Swannanoa - \$250,000

The Board of Commissioners have previously approved transactions costs related to these easements out of the annual General Fund Conservation Easement allocations.

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

**Recommended Motion & Requested Action:** Approve budget amendment

**County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:** Recommends as presented