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September 10, 2025

Darrell Windsor, Chairman
Planning Commission
100 Lincoln St.
Sitka, AK 99835

RE: Request to Include Community Garden Under Definition of Community Center

Dear Chairman Windsor,

The Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) has been working to establish a tribal community garden to increase food security for its tribal citizens. STA has teamed up with the Baranof Island Housing Authority and both entities have agreed upon a location for a 1 acre garden located off the cul-de-sac on Andrew Hope St. Unfortunately, the property is zoned R-2 MHP, which does not list community gardens as a conditional use.

The R-2 MHP zoning allows for a number of conditional uses including community centers. STA believes respectfully requests the Planning Commission consider adding "community gardens" under the definition of a community center. Pending approval by the Planning Commission, STA would submit a conditional use permit application for this property.

Resource Protection Director Jeff Feldpausch will be in attendance during the meeting where this request will be considered and can be reached at 907-747-7469 or emailed at jeff.feldpausch@sitkatriben-sn.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alicia Gassman
Chief Executive Officer
Sitka Tribe of Alaska

Cc: Amy Ainslie, Planning and Community Development Director, CBS