Stephen and Gloria Decater Talk, APRIL 11th 2005 Willits Economic Localization

CREATING LOCALLY BASED COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

COMPLETE NON-PROFIT SHARED EQUITY OWNERSHIP

- LAND IS OWNED ENTIRELY BY NON-PROFIT WITH 99-YEAR INHERITABLE USE LEASE GRANTED TO THE FARMER
- FARMER OWNS BUILDINGS AND SELLS THEM TO THE NEXT FARMER UNDER A LIMITED APPRECIATION FORMULA
- · FARMER PAYS OVERHEAD COSTS LEASE FEE TO THE NON-PROFIT
- · ALL MONEY FOR INITIAL PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY MUST BE FUNDRAISED AS TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE NON-PROFIT

OWNERSHIP

- · ECOLOGICAL FARMING USE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS ARE PURCHASED AND OWNED BY THE FARMER; THE NONPROFIT PURCHASES AND OWNS ALL NON-AGRICULTURAL USES AND EQUITY IN THE PROPERTY THROUGH & SPECIALIZED CONSERVATION EASEMENT
- FARMER SELLS AGRICULTURAL USE AND BUILDINGS TO THE NEXT FARMER AT A PRICE LIMITED TO THE LANDS ABILITY TO PAY FOR ITSELF OUT OF ITS AGRICULTURAL INCOME
- · NO LEASE FEES! FARMER PAYS REDUCED TAXES
- · MONEY FOR INITIAL PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY COMES FROM FARMER'S PRIVATE INVESTMENT COMBINED WITH TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION MADE TO THE NON-PROFIT FOR BUYING THE EASEMENT

CREATING LOCALLY BASED COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

MARKET BASED FARM

- . COMPETITIVE
- CROPS PLANNED FOR VARIABLE AND SOME WHAT UNKNOWN "MARKET"
- NON-COSMETIC PRODUCE
 DISCARDED OR DE-VALUED
- NO OR LIMITED OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
- · PRODUCER CARRIES ALL THE RISK
- COST OF FOOD BASED ON CURRENT MARKET RATE
- SUCCESS MEASURED IN TERMS OF INDIVIDUAL WELL-BEING
- FARMER IS ALONE AND RELIES ON OWN RESOURCES
- FARMLAND IS ENTERELY IN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

COMMUNITY BASED FARM

- . COOPERATIVE
- CROPS PLANNED IN SPECIFIC QUANTITY FOR KNOWN MEMBER GROUP
- EVEN NON-COSMETIC PRODUCE HAS FOOD VALUE
- OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND INTERACTION
- · SHARED RUSK
- COST OF FOOD BASED ON ACTUAL
 COSTS OF SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION
- SUCCESS IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF COMMUNITY/ ECOSYSTEM WELL BEING
- FARMER HAS SUPPORT OF MEMBERS
 GROUP AND VOLUNTEER HELP
- ALL NON FARMING USE AND EQUITY IN THE FARMLAND IS MOVED INTO NON-PROFIT OWNERSHIP

CREATING LOCALLY BASED COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

MARKET ECONOMY

BOTTOM LINE

- MEETS NEEDS OF INVESTORS IN THE FORM OF PROFIT
- PARTIAL COSTS OF PRODUCTION ON SHORT TERM BASIS

LABOR

 COMMODITY SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

LAND

- . SALABLE COMMODITY
- USAGE RIGHTS OWNED
 PRIVATELY

CAPITAL

 ACCRUES TO INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT REGULATION

ASSOCIATIVE ECONOMY

BOTTOM LINE

- MEETS NEEDS OF ALL PARTIES: PRODUCER, USER, ENVIRONMENT
- ALL COSTS OF PRODUCTION ON LONG TERM SUSTAINABLE BASIS

LABOR

- · CREATIVE EXPRESSION OF SERVICE
- NEEDS COMPENSATED BY THE COMMUNITY SERVED

LAND

- . RESOURCE OF THE COMMUNITY
- ECOLOGICAL USAGE RIGHTS OWNED
 BY PRIVATE STEWARD

CAPITAL

■ REDIRECTED BY COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE