To: Emily Ryan

Subject: RE: Urban Agriculture Text Amendment

From: Emily Ryan [mailto:earyan@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 10:50 AM

To: Bobbie Walthall

Subject: Urban Agriculture Text Amendment

Dear Bobbie Walthall,

Please accept this written support for the approval of the Urban Agriculture Text Amendment proposed to the Lawrence City Code. Unfortunately, I cannot be at the meeting tonight.

I have spent countless hours over the last year working with different constituencies in Lawrence to develop, improve, and promote the text amendment. This is because I believe completely in its purpose. Ultimately, this is an opportunity for the City of Lawrence to make a bold statement, positioning itself on the side of sustainability and investing in the well being of its citizens.

Within this text amendment lie the possibilities for ecological improvement and environmental awareness. Children could grow up in the community with a heightened understanding of where food comes from and the ability to produce it themselves. Adults will be able to contribute to the positive efforts to reverse pollinator decline and colony collapse of honey bees. Those who desire to start an agricultural business will have new opportunities to do so. People will be able to understand better the natural order of ecological systems and processes as they have direct exposure to them in new ways.

All of this comes wrapped in a carefully researched, considered, and refined document, which is the text amendment. With the promise of the Food Policy Council and the County Extension office, education will be available so that anything pursued under this new code will be done so according to best practice and with mentorship and guidance available.

The approval of this amendment will be an incredible boost for Lawrence, as it continues to lead the region in progressive thought.

Thank you for your consideration. Emily Ryan

Subject: RE: comments regular item 3 urban agriculture

From: Patricia Sinclair

Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 9:51 PM

To: Bobbie Walthall

Subject: comments regular item 3 urban agriculture

To: City Commissioners From: Patricia Sinclair

Re: Urban Agriculture, reg agenda item 3

Date: April 25, 2016

Please give this Urban Agriculture proposal a big fat NO from me. First, despite multiple inquiries of city staff and my own searches, I could not even find out if it is legal to slaughter a chicken in the city. Who if anyone inspects or regulates this? I find that animal control is usually understaffed and unavailable and this is not on their agenda, or on the Humane Society's. Therefore, we are already in a situation where animals in the city have some regulations, but no inspection or enforcement.

Now, it appears, not from Mary Miller's late memo, but from the rest of the written documentation, that goats and sheep are to be allowed. The sounds and smell alone should make this a lose, lose scenario. And when we say away from the "public view" does this mean the general public or include a single resident who is subjected to seeing and/or hearing the suffering of an animal, perhaps being slaughtered by an unskilled person. There is no need for this.

Kansas passed a strict animal abuse law. I hope that it covers ignorant people who do not care for their animals humaely.

Many neighborhoods have covenants that provide stricter regulations than the city at large.

I believe that Commssioners should recuse themselves when items come before the city that affect them or their neighborhoods.such as the "Improvements:" for KU at 19th and so forth.

Please speak up and say whether this would be allowed next to your home.

Thank you,

To: Scott McCullough

Subject: RE: Proposed Urban Farming Ordinance

From: David Reynolds [mailto:engineer.dr98@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 6:24 PM

To: Scott McCullough **Cc:** Leslie Soden

Subject: Re: Proposed Urban Farming Ordinance

Scott:

1) The request regarding a license was a suggested method to establish a control method to ensure an expedited resolution process for the conditions mentioned or that can exist. It did not preclude you from suggesting something other than the current drawn out processes used to resolve issues. My thinking is the nature of some of these issues require more urgent processes.

Your response has not in the past, nor does it now provide satisfaction expressing a process to manage recalcitrant or absentee property owners; rental units where the parties do not have an investment in the neighborhood; etc.

It seems to me there are many situations that can be encountered where a more specific process should be in place to deal with these unknowns.

2) I agree that well maintained and protective caging can help. But the issue remains that an attractive dinner is available to wildlife, even the neighbors cat & dog.

Possibly specific recommendations regarding how this could be managed, including such things as caging, shelter types, etc.

I definitely do not agree with your statement that: "...the Commission must weigh against the positive value of keeping animals for agricultural production." is a valid trade off versus the safety of neighbors & children. This says we value a neighbor growing lettuce or keeping a sheep vs the neighbors child being bitten.

While we are trying to save energy & promote a green environmental policy, we can not forget there was a number of reasons why "keeping farm animals in the city was eliminated via ordinances throughout the USA" in the past. We should make sure we have properly addressed those original reasons for banning farm animals within the urban core of the city before we sign off on this ordinance.

Thank you for working to make this ordinance better for both the "Urban Farmer" & their "Neighbors".

David Reynolds

On Apr 25, 2016, at 5:12 PM, Scott McCullough < smccullough@lawrenceks.org> wrote:

Mr. Reynolds, please see below for responses to your questions.

Bobbie – please post Mr. Reynolds' and my exchange to the packet.

Scott McCullough, *Director*

Planning and Development Services – <u>www.lawrenceks.org</u> City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street P.O. Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044-0708 office (785) 832-3154 | fax (785) 832-3160

"Your opinion counts! Customer feedback helps us serve you better. Please tell us how we're doing by completing this short online Customer Satisfaction

Survey: http://lawrenceks.org/pds/survey/satisfaction."

From: Leslie Soden

Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:41 PM

To: David Reynolds **Cc:** Scott McCullough

Subject: Re: Proposed Urban Farming Ordinance

Ok am cc'ing Scott for reply again. Thanks David!

Leslie Soden, Vice Mayor lsoden@lawrenceks.org 913-890-3647

On Apr 25, 2016, at 3:08 PM, David Reynolds <engineer.dr98@gmail.com> wrote:

Commissioner Leslie

Subject: Proposed Urban Farming Ordinance must say I really appreciate the communication I have received from the Planning Staff & Scott regarding this topic. But there are several areas where a satisfactory answer has not been received. I am hoping you can address these prior to any final approval of the Urban Farming Ordinance.

1) The proposed Urban Farming Ordinance is Not Neighbor Friendly:

By that I mean there is no expeditious method to address parties that are not following the policies outlined in the ordinance and are recalcitrant in not correcting the situation.

I mention this by way of experience in referencing derelict properties. It takes months & possibly a year plus before any final action occurs.

In the mean time unsanitary, unsightly, smelly, noisy animals, and nuisance wildlife they attract remain.

I have asked Scott if some type of licensing procedure could be in place wherein a revocation of the license could occur (either temporarily or permanently) until the situation is rectified, or permanent action is required.

Scott has said he will not require licensing.

We have approached the keeping of animals from the standpoint that if the living conditions are kept clean and sanitary, then impacts should be reduced or no greater than domesticated animals, though we recognize that impacts are possible. The city does not license the keeping of any allowed animal (dogs, cats, chickens, etc.) but does have codes intended to maintain properties in clean conditions. If violations are present, then our typical code enforcement process is the vehicle we use to bring a property into compliance.

2) Concern for Wildlife & Predators Attracted by Urban Farming Small Animal Livestock.

In your packet a memo is attached titled: "Staff response To Reynolds Correspondence". Under question #2 the answer does not address fully my concern. I have sent an email to Scott but I have not heard back.

The concern is also the fact that such animals must cross neighbor's property to get to their prey, which are the small farm animals & their feed. In so doing these wild animals and vermin can pose a threat to neighbors families & children. This is a concern especially if the animal is already hungry and thus may attack anyone whom the animal views as a deterrent to their goal of eating a tasty meal. \odot

That the keeping of animals can present an environment for predators (and adjacent neighbor nuisance) is an issue the Commission must weigh against the positive value of keeping animals for agricultural production. The proposed standards intend to create an environment to raise animals in a clean and safe way. The code requires, for example, "The facilities used to house the animals shall be of adequate design to keep the animal confined and reasonably safe from predators, and provide enough shelter and room to provide humane conditions." I do not disagree that animals (domestic and non-domestic) can attract wildlife, but chickens, for example, have been allowed for several years and they appear to be kept in harmony with nearby residents given the few, if any complaints we have worked through with owners.

I hope you can address these concerns prior to any approval of the proposed ordinance.

Thank You,

David Reynolds

Lawrence, KS.

To:Scott McCulloughSubject:RE: farm animals

From: Leslie Soden

Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:46 PM

To: Butch Moore Cc: Scott McCullough Subject: Re: farm animals

Hi Butch, hope you are doing well. I have cc'ed Scott McCullough for response. Thanks for sending in your

concerns. :-)

Leslie Soden, Vice Mayor lsoden@lawrenceks.org 913-890-3647

On Apr 25, 2016, at 3:44 PM, Butch Moore < bmoore@sunflower.com> wrote:

please do not allow goats sheep pigs etc to be raised and killed in the city. thanks, Irvan Moore (Butch) 1947 Vermont

From: Sandy Sanders <sandysanders@sunflower.com>

Sent: Friday, April 22, 2016 11:02 PM

To: Bobbie Walthall

Subject: Urban Agriculture Text Amendment.

I appreciate the work that's been done by many to update the **Urban Agriculture Text Amendment** and encourage the city commission to ratify the amendment.

Sandra Sanders 1640 Hillcrest Rd. Lawrence

To: Sharon Ashworth **Subject:** RE: urban agriculture

From: Sharon Ashworth [mailto:sharonashworth97@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, April 22, 2016 8:08 PM

To: Bobbie Walthall

Subject: urban agriculture

Dear Mr. Barry Walthall,

I missed the written comment deadline, but would just like to voice my support for the Urban Agriculture Text Amendment.

Thank you,

Sharon Ashworth Lawrence, KS

P.O. Box 1064, Lawrence KS 66044 a Kansas not-for-profit organization

Lawrence City Commission City Hall, 6 East 6th St. Lawrence KS 66044 22 April 2016

re: Code amendment for Urban Agriculture provisions

Mayor Amyx, and Commissioners:

The Sustainability Action Network is a local not-for-profit that has local food as one of our Programs, for reasons of lowering fossil fuel consumption, furthering our food sovereignty, and strengthening our local economy.

For eight years, we have been teaching permaculture and conducting Food Not Lawns workshops, and we founded two community gardens within the Common Ground Program of the City. We have been one of several groups advancing this text amendment for urban agriculture use in Lawrence, and we request that you amend the City Code as recommended by the Planning Commission.

This text amendment has been a community-wide effort: initiated by the City Commission, developed by the Food Policy Council, drafted by the Planning staff, harmonized with other sections of the City Code, vetted broadly at meetings in the community, and twice reviewed by the Planning Commission. It was handled in a way that we like to see such regulations be changed. As a result, this text amendment simultaneously gives local urban growers the needed latitude to have viable operations, and sets limits that are a model of safeguards for citizen property rights. This balance could not have been achieved if the process hadn't been so thorough.

Without enumerating Code Section details, we want to say that Sustainability Action supports all the provisions of this text amendment – the character and range of food growing options, the ability to enjoy fresh produce from one's neighbor by way of occasional on-site sales, the safeguards for the local ecology, the well-being of the small animals, and the various appeal processes that are available for the public.

Thank you for your interest, and happy Earth Day,

Michael Almon, Secretary Sustainability Action Network



K-State Research and Extension Douglas County 2110 Harper St. Lawrence, KS 66046 785.843.7058 www.douglas.ksu.edu

April 21, 2016

City of Lawrence Commission City Hall PO Box 708 Lawrence, KS 66044

Members of the Lawrence City Commission:

For nearly 100 years, K-State Research and Extension has worked to equip residents with food and fiber production knowledge. Whether for sustenance, community building, or vocation, we understand that people engage in agricultural production to achieve various goals. While each of these approaches to production require specialized skill, the educational needs of those engaged are constant. We pride ourselves on being an unbiased source of transformational information that is proven by rigorous science.

Your consideration of TA-15-00346, the text amendment for urban agriculture, promises to spur further interest in a variety of production systems. This letter is intended to inform you that we stand positioned to assist in both proactively addressing the educational needs and respond to the questions that develop from any change to the city code you may adopt.

The horticulture program at the Extension office regularly works to educate citizens through educational seminars, special events, demonstration gardens, and one-on-one consultations. Furthermore, the Douglas County Extension Master Gardeners is a corps of volunteer educators who continually engage in more food production education. The agriculture program at the Extension office has expertise in livestock production systems that can be adapted to address the needs of residents that choose to engage in urban livestock production, should it be permitted.

We are here to serve the needs of all Douglas County residents. Do not hesitate to let us know how we can be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Marlin A. Bates

Horticulture Agent

lunt TE Ses

Roberta Wyckoff Agriculture Agent

Roberto Wyckoff



Memo to: City of Lawrence Commission

From: Helen Schnoes, Douglas County Food Systems Coordinator

Eileen Horn, Lawrence and Douglas County Sustainability Coordinator

Subject: TA-15-00346 (Text Amendment for Urban Agriculture)

Date: April 20, 2016

Thank you for taking an interest in urban agriculture. The City of Lawrence faces an exciting opportunity with this text amendment. As your citizen advisory group on local food systems, the Douglas County Food Policy Council is composed of 23 individuals engaged in issues ranging from rural farming to food sector economic development to healthy food access. **The DCFPC supports the text amendment before you today.**

Supporting urban agriculture in Lawrence aligns with our **goals of wellness, economy, environment, and equity**. It builds on the success of previous Douglas County Food Policy Council initiatives including the Common Ground community gardening program, the SNAP-matching program at farmers' markets, and the support of a regional food "hub" to grow economic development opportunities in the food sector.

Since July of last year, we have engaged closely with the Planning Department and interested citizens to inform the proposed text amendment before you. We have reviewed best practices from peer communities, like Fayetteville, AR, and Fort Collins, CO. As part of an iterative and thoughtful process, we facilitated:

- A survey in August 2015 with over 150 responses to understand current barriers and desired changes.
- A public forum in September 2015 to review the initial text amendment draft.
- Ongoing edits and feedback to drafts provided by the Food Policy Council and the broader community.

Through our efforts, the Food Policy Council prioritized clarifying existing regulations, expanding key practices of citizen interest, protecting the current operations of urban farmers, and minimizing undue nuisance on neighbors.

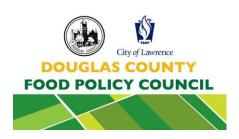
We stand ready to implement a range of public education and training resources upon your approval of the urban agriculture text amendment. These will include:

- A chart that "translates" the policy in a summary form for residents (draft attached)
- A series of cards on key topic areas in the text amendment, with resources (draft for bees attached)
- A public talk in development with the Lawrence Public Library
- A Lawrence in Focus video with City of Lawrence Communications staff
- Trainings planned and hosted by our colleagues with K-State Research and Extension—Douglas County
- Process support for individuals interested in obtaining an Urban Farm Special Use Permit

We will be on hand to answer your questions at the City Commission meeting. We look forward to working with you to create a food plan to incorporate into Horizon 2020 and build a robust local food system in Lawrence.

Sincerely,

Helen Schnoes and Eileen Horn Staff Liaisons, Douglas County Food Policy Council



Douglas County Food Policy Council Roster

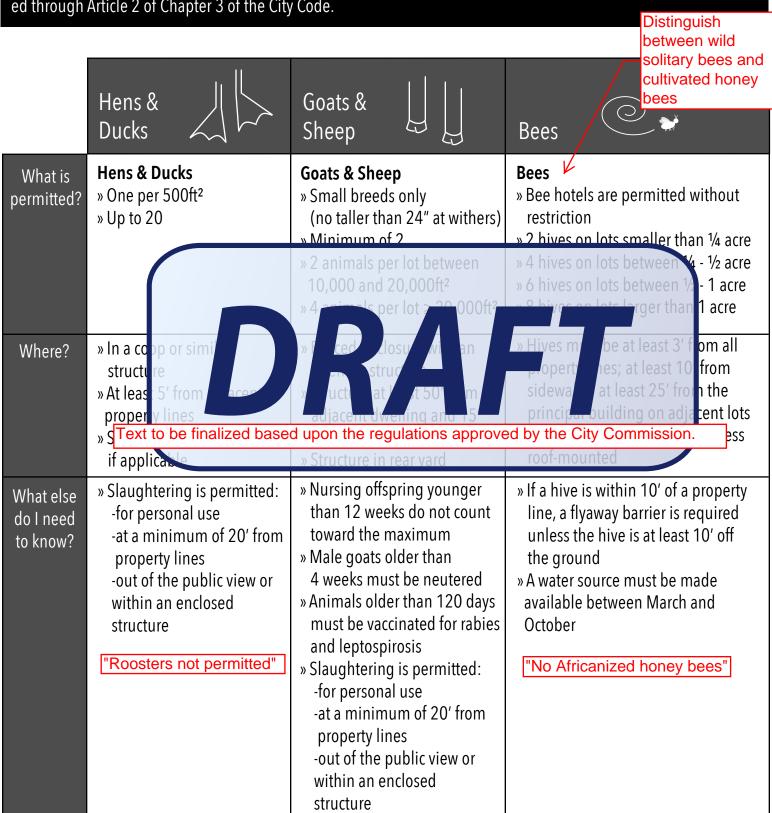
February 2016

	Appointe d			
	Ву:	Food System Sector:	Representing:	Current Member:
1	County	At-La rge	Appointed by Jim Flory	Carolyn Wulfkuhle
2	County	At-La rge	Appointed by Mike Gaughan	Joshua Falleaf
3	County	At-La rge	Appointed by Nancy Thellman	Ashley Jones - Wisner
4	County	Agricultural Producer	Vesecky Family Farms	William Vesecky
5	County	Agricultural Producer	Douglas County Farm Bureau	Scotty Thellman
6	County	Agricultural Producer	Moon on the Meadow Farm	Jill Elmers
7	County	Retail Food Outlet	Merchants Restaurant	T.K. Peterson
8	County	Institutional Food Purchaser	USD 497	Crystal Hammerschmidt
9	County	Education	KU Center for Sustainability	Ki m Crine r
10	County	Extension Service	Douglas County Extension	Marlin Bates*
11	County	NGO- Heal th/Nutrition/MD	Dietitian	Carol Gilmore
12	County	NGO- Local Food Systems/Sustainable Ag.	The Kansas Rural Center	Jennifer Kongs
13	County	Youth Representative	Youth	Russell Mullin
14	County	Senior Food & Nutrition Programs	Douglas County Senior Services	Pattie Johnston
	County	Selliot Food & Natiration Flograms	Bougids warrey serior services	Tatac Johnston
15	City	At-Large (appointed by Gty)	Sunflower Foundation	Elizabeth Burger
16	City	At-Large (appointed by City)	Lawrence Douglas County Health Dept.	Chris Tilden
17	City	Agricultural Producer	Pendle ton's	John Pendleton
18	City	Retail Food Outlet	The Merc Community Market & Deli	Rita York Hennecke
19	City	Retail Food Outlet	Hy-Vee	Jan Hornberger
20	G: i	City of Lawrence Sustainability Advisory		
20	City	Board	City of Lawrence	Michael Steinle
21	City	Food Security	Just Food	Aundrea Shafer
22	City	Established Farmer's Market in Douglas County	Downtown Lawrence Farmers Mkt	Jen Humphrey**
23	City	Business Community	Lawrence Chamber of Commerce	Brady Pollington
	Council Staff Liaison: Helen Schnoes, Food Systems Coordinator Eileen Horn, Sustainability Coordinator Planning and Development Services Liaison: Amy Miller, Assistant Director			*Chair **Viœ Chair

URBAN AGRICULTURE | City of Lawrence

Small Animal Urban Agriculture

Small Animal Urban Agriculture includes raising, producing or keeping of animals to provide food, wool, and other products. It is limited to small animals which are more appropriate in a denser urban setting, such as bees, crickets, worms, rabbits, small goats, small sheep, fowl, and aquatic animals/organisms such as crayfish and fish. Domesticated animals such as cats and dogs are not considered within Small Animal Agriculture. These are regulated through Article 2 of Chapter 3 of the City Code.



URBAN AGRICULTURE | City of Lawrence

Crop Agriculture

Crop Agriculture includes the management and maintenance of an area of land to grow and harvest food crops and/or non-food ornamental crops, such as flowers, for personal or group use, consumption, sale, or donation. Crop Agriculture uses include, but are not limited to, personal gardens, community gardens, market gardens, rooftop gardens, tree farms, hay meadows, or truck gardens. Standard structures used for Crop Agriculture include hoop houses, cold-frames, greenhouses, equipment or planting sheds, composting and waste bins, and rain barrels.



On-Site Agricultural Sales

On-Site Agricultural Sales are the sale of agricultural products, such as plants, produce, eggs or honey, grown or produced on the property. Honey produced off-site may be sold in conjunction with honey that is raised on-site if it is produced in a hive that is maintained by the property owner of the sales property (off-site bee hives).

What activity is permitted?

- » Sale of unprocessed products grown on-site or grown at another site under the same operation and sold in conjunction with products raised on-site
- » Sales between 8am and 8pm
- » Sales must occur at least 20' from the road. Sales area size is dependent on lot size. (100ft² sales area for lots up to 7,000ft²; 150ft² for lots between 7,000 and 10,000ft²; 300ft² sales area for larger lots)

What structures are allowed?

- » Sales structures/tables must be temporary and removed when sales are not in progress
- » Signs are permitted during sales. They must be at least 20' from the road or mounted. Free-standing signs cannot be more than 3' high and must be 2ft² in area.

Urban Farm

Urban Farm designates land for agricultural use which includes production of food-producing or ornamental plants (such as market garden, truck farm or wholesale plant nursery), bees, fish, fowl, and small or large agricultural animals, for commercial purposes. End products are typically sold on- or off-site or are distributed through the community supported agriculture (CSA) distribution or other small scale distribution model An Urban Farm typically includes employees and customers coming to the site and may or may not include a residence.

How is it desginated?

- » An Urban Farm can be designated through a Special Use Permit (SUP) Department for assistance."
- » Activity may include: agricultural processing; employees; education; etc.
- » May exceed limits placed on Animal Agriculture and On-Site Sales

Work with the Planning

So you want to keep bees...

I'm interested in pollinators.

I'm interested in honey production.

Consider a **bee hotel!**Bee hotels provide
temporary housing for
pollinators and are easy
to build and maintain.

They are permitted

without restriction in

the City of Lawrence.

Do I need a permit or registration?

How many hives can I have on my lot?

Where are hives permitted?

What about the bees?

No! Just include your phone number on the hive(s).

Two hives for every quarter acre, not to exceed 8 hives.

- Side yards and back yards
- On roofs
- More than 3' from property lines
- A flyaway barrier is required if within 10' of a property line
- More than 10' from public sidewalks
- Provide water March October
- No Africanized honey bees

How do I get started?



Beekeeping Resources

View the entire Urban Agriculture Text Amendment:

NEKBA (Northeast Kansas Beekeepers' Association):

Founded in 1948 to provide public education on beekeeping, or Apiculture. Offers classes, workshops, and mentoring. http://www.nekba.org/

K-State Research and Extension--Douglas County:

Local experts providing technical assistance and community-based trainings on a range of food and farming topics, including Master Gardeners. http://www.douglas.k-state.edu/Contact: (785)-843-7058

Douglas County Food Policy Council:

A joint city/county advisory body whose goal is to identify the benefits, challenges and opportunities for a successful, sustainable local food system in Douglas County. The DCFPC worked with the Planning Department in 2015 and 2016 to develop beekeeping and other urban agriculture policies. The group offers a forum for citizens interested in shaping local food policy. http://www.douglascountyks.org/fpc/welcome Contact; (785)-832-5157

