

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Douglas County

Planning & Development Services

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Mary Miller, Planner

Date: October 12, 2015

RE: Item No. 2: TA-15-00346 – Text Amendment to the Land Development Code to add Urban Agriculture as a permitted use and establish standards

Attachments:

Attachment A: Survey/Questionnaire

Attachment B: Public Communication

Draft language

The draft language for the Urban Agriculture text amendment is being provided to the Planning Commission at this time for consideration and discussion, but not for action. Staff requests that the amendment be returned to staff with direction from the Planning Commission. The draft language will then be reworked and placed on a later Planning Commission agenda for action.

Process

The City Commission initiated a text amendment to add Urban Agriculture to the Development Code at their June 23, 2015 meeting. As a first step in developing draft language, staff reviewed the current *Agricultural* land uses permitted in the Development Code to better understand what was currently permitted. Staff worked with the Food Policy Council to develop the proposed language.

As part of the public outreach, the Food Policy Council distributed an online survey/questionnaire to various stakeholder groups in the City. This survey asked people to list the type of agriculture they were involved or interested in, and what barriers they met. A copy of the survey and a summary of the responses are included with this memo as attachment A. Approximately 150 people responded to the survey/questionnaire.

The Food Policy Council provided suggestions on the proposed language and arranged a public forum to discuss the Urban Agriculture text amendment. Approximately 46 people met at the Union Pacific Train Depot on Monday, September 28th, to discuss the draft language. The draft language has been revised to reflect the comments generated at this forum.

The draft language has also been placed on the Food Policy Council website and the Planning and Development Services website.

In addition to the information provided by the Food Policy Council and the public, staff researched other communities codes, guidebooks put out by planning organizations, and online information. The draft was sent to the Northeast Kansas Bee Association for a review of the bee keeping standards and a member contacted the Planning Staff with comments.

Current Regulations

Agriculture is a use group classification in the Development Code. (Sections 20-402 and 20-403) Uses which are permitted in this use group are:

- ***Agricultural Sales***

DEFINITION: *"On-site sale of feed, grain, fertilizers, pesticides, and similar goods. Typical uses include nurseries, hay, feed and grain stores."* (Section 20-1705)

WHERE ALLOWED: *Agricultural Sales* are permitted in the following districts: CC (Commercial Center); CR (Commercial Regional); CS (Commercial Strip); IL (Limited Industrial); and IG (General Industrial)

USE-SPECIFIC STANDARDS: No use-specific standards set in the Development Code.

- ***Crop Agriculture***

DEFINITION: *"Activities that primarily involve raising or producing field crops or other plants. Examples include farming, truck gardening, forestry, tree farming, and wholesale plant nurseries."* (Section 20-1709)

WHERE ALLOWED: *Crop Agriculture* is permitted in all Residential Zoning Districts except the RMG (Multi-Dwelling Residential – Greek Housing) District, and is permitted in all the non-residential districts except CD (Downtown Commercial), OS (Open Space), and H (Hospital) Districts.

USE-SPECIFIC STANDARDS: No use-specific standards set in the Development Code.

- ***Animal Agriculture***

DEFINITION: *"Activities that primarily involve raising, producing or keeping of animals. Examples include breeding or raising of fowl or other animals; stables; riding academies; kennels or other animal boarding places that are not otherwise specifically defined in this Development Code. The keeping of fowl in compliance with the requirements of Article 5 of Chapter III of the City Code shall not constitute an animal agriculture use."* Section 20-1708)

WHERE ALLOWED: Animal Agriculture is permitted in only the RS40 (Single-Dwelling Residential) District [minimum lot area of 40,000 sq ft]

USE-SPECIFIC STANDARDS: The following use-specific standards are provided in Section 20-502 of the Development Code:

- 1) *Animal husbandry, dairying, and pasturage, but not including the keeping of swine shall have a minimum lot area of not less than five (5) acres and shall have not less than one (1) acre of lot area for each head of livestock kept on the premises. No feedlots shall be allowed.*

-- [Livestock is defined in Section 20-1701 as "*Any animal customarily kept for producing food or fiber.*"]

- 2) *No animal agriculture uses shall be located nearer than 150 feet to any R District or nearer to an adjoining lot line than 100 feet.*
- 3) *Applicants shall show that adequate measures will be taken to prevent odor, dust, noise, or drainage from becoming objectionable to uses on other properties. No incineration of animal refuse shall be permitted."*

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

The following is a summary of the major changes being proposed with this text amendment.

- 1) Overall use category revised from 'Agriculture' to 'Urban Agriculture'.
- 2) *Agricultural Sales* moved from the 'Agriculture' to the 'Retail Sales and Services' use group as it is a type of retail, rather than agricultural use.
- 3) *Crop Agriculture* maintained as an Urban Agricultural use with the following changes:
 - a. Revise the definition.
 - b. Expand districts in which the use is permitted.
 - c. Develop Standards so it is clear that crop agriculture can occur in the required yards and also, with some limitations, in the right-of-way.
- 4) Keep *Animal Agriculture* as a use, but divide into two sections: *Large Animals* (cows, horses, etc); and *Small Animals* (chickens, fish, bees, goats, etc)
 - a. Revise the definition.
 - b. Establish districts in which the *Small Animal* use is permitted.
 - c. Develop standards for the *Small Animal* use.
 - d. Move the regulations and standards for fowl from Article 5 of Chapter III of the City Code to the 'Urban Agriculture' section.
- 5) Add *On-Site Agricultural Sales* as a use, to allow for the sale of products grown or raised on the property.
 - a. Define the use.
 - b. Establish districts in which the use is permitted.
 - c. Develop standards.

- 6) Add *Urban Farm* as a use.
 - a. Define the use.
 - b. Establish districts in which the use is permitted.
 - c. Develop standards.
- 7) Add *Agricultural Processing* as a use.
 - a. Define the use.
 - b. Establish districts in which the use is permitted.
 - c. Develop standards.

Staff requests specific direction for the following specific questions:

- 1) Should slaughtering of small animals be permitted within the City limits? The City Code currently prohibits the willful killing of any animal in city limits. Urban Agricultural proponents state that this is a component of agriculture and using a commercial slaughtering facility would be too expensive. Others note that slaughtering may not be acceptable to neighbors. Both options are listed in the draft language.
- 2) Property maintenance. Urban agriculture uses are typically conducted outside and include implements, wire, hay, organic material piles, etc. Should properties with urban agriculture uses have a different standard within the City Code related to the conditions of exterior yards? The Property Maintenance Code requires properties to be maintained in a sanitary condition free of rodents, noxious and tall weeds. The code requires that, *"No person shall allow on any yard, porch, deck, balcony, or other exterior area of a premises, the accumulation of any of the following items: lumber, wire, metal, tires, concrete, masonry products, plastic products, supplies, equipment, machinery, auto parts, stoves, refrigerators, televisions, sinks, garbage, rubbish, refuse, junk or the like."* A recent property maintenance enforcement case brought into question the applicability of this standard for agricultural based properties. Standard 2 in the Crop Agriculture section requires that the site be "maintained in accordance with the City Code, including maintaining the site free of debris or high grass or weeds, taller than 12 inches, and screening of exterior storage from view of right-of-way or adjacent property." If the Commission recommends revisions to the Property Maintenance Code for urban agricultural uses, then staff will need to process that amendment separately through amendment the city code.
- 3) Home Occupation Standards for on-site agricultural sales. Limit of customers per day? Type B limits to 10 per day. Proposed language provides 2 options: a limit of 25 customers a day, or a standard that customers to on-site agricultural sales businesses must not block off-site access drives.
- 4) Should standards be developed for rabbits? Maximum number, hutch size, etc.?

Current Development Code language in *italics*, added or revised language **bold**,
deleted text ~~struck through~~, comments, **highlighted**;

Definitions

Agricultural Processing: Manufacturing processes that increase the value of primary agricultural commodities. (This term does not include commercial slaughtering.)

*20-1705 Agricultural Sales: ~~On-site~~ The sale of feed, **plants**, grain, fertilizers, pesticides and similar goods. Typical uses include nurseries, hay, feed and grain stores.*

20-1707 Agriculture: Characterized by uses that create and preserve areas intended primarily for the raising of animals and crops, and the secondary industries associated with agricultural production.

20-1708 Agriculture, Animal: Activities that primarily involve raising, producing or keeping of animals to provide food, wool, and other products. Also referred to as Animal Husbandry. ~~Examples include breeding or raising of fowl or other animals; stables; riding academies; kennels or other animal boarding places that are not otherwise specifically defined in this Development Code. The keeping of fowl in compliance with the requirements of Article 5 of Chapter III of the City Code shall not constitute an animal agriculture use.~~

- **Small Animal Agriculture**, is limited to small animals which are more appropriate in a denser urban setting, such as bees, crickets, worms, rabbits, small goats, fowl, and aquatic animals/organism such as crayfish and fish.
- **Large Animal Agriculture** is limited to larger animals that are more commonly considered livestock and require more area such as cattle, sheep, horses, and goats that do not meet the criteria for Small Animal Agriculture.

20-1709: Agriculture, Crop: ~~Activities that primarily involve raising or producing field crops or other plants. Examples include farming, truck gardening, forestry, tree farming, and wholesale plant nurseries.~~

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, 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 barrel systems.

Bee Hotel: Bee hotels are places for solitary pollinator bees to make their nests. These bees live alone, not in hives, and typically do not make honey.

Community Garden An area of land managed and maintained by a group of individuals to grow and harvest food and/or horticultural products for personal or group consumption or for sale or donation. A community garden area may be divided into separate garden plots for cultivation by one or more individuals or may be farmed collectively by members of the group. A community garden may include common areas (such as tool storage sheds) maintained and used by the group.

Community Supported Agriculture

A member organization in which individuals or households become members by purchasing a share or agreeing to volunteer work for a share of the agricultural producer's output. The share is committed to in advance and the member then receives, in return, food items from the producer on a regular schedule throughout the season and sometimes all year.

Farmers Market: A food market at which local farmers sell products such as fruit and vegetables and often meat, cheese, and bakery products directly to consumers.

'Fowl' : ~~Shall mean those Domestic birds commonly kept for the production of meat, eggs, or feathers. For the purposes of this Article, 'Fowl' shall include, but not be limited to: ducks, chickens, turkeys, geese, swans, peafowl, guinea fowl, ostriches, and emus.~~

~~'Permitted'~~ For the purposes of this Article, 'Fowl' shall mean **only** ducks and female chickens:

Personal Garden A garden that is maintained by one or more individuals, typically on the same property as a dwelling unit.

On Site Agricultural Sales

Display or sale of agricultural products, such as plants, produce, eggs and 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 on a site that is registered to the same user (off-site bee hives).

Urban Agriculture The growing, processing and distribution of plant and animal products — by and for the local community — within an urban environment. Urban Agriculture includes, but is not limited to: animal husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, beekeeping, gardening, and horticulture.

Complementary activities associated with Urban Agriculture include the processing and distributing of food, collecting and reusing food waste and rainwater, and public outreach activities such as education and employment.

Urban Farm

An agricultural use which includes market gardens and production of food-producing or ornamental plants (such as truck farm or wholesale plant nursery), bees, fish, poultry, small and large 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. Home Occupation standards limiting the use to no more than 10 customers a day or to one non-resident employee would not be appropriate for an Urban Farm.

STANDARDS:---Article 5

Animal Agriculture, Small

1. General Standards for all Small Animal Agriculture
 - a. Structures shall comply with the Accessory Structure Standards except where expressly stated.
 - b. Waste, manure, etc. shall be managed to prevent odors and insects.
 - c. 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.
2. Standards that apply in the CD, CS, CC, and CR District
Small Animal Agriculture permitted in these commercial districts is limited to beekeeping and fish.
3. Bees
 - a. The following standards apply to the keeping of bees:
 - i. Africanized honey bees are not permitted.
 - ii. Hives must be registered with the Planning Office before the use commences.
 - 1) Prior to registering the hives, the registrant shall mail notice of the proposed hives to the physical address of the following properties:
 - All residents of the property, if the property contains multiple residences; and
 - Adjacent residents.

- 2) If the hive(s) will be located on property not owned by the registrant, written permission from the owner or person lawfully in possession of such land must be provided with the request for registration.
 - 3) The registration must be renewed every 2 years. Notification is not required for renewal of a license.
 - 4) A list of the registered hives shall be available upon request.
- iii. Up to 2 colonies may be located on a lot of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre or less; 4 colonies on lots between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre; 6 colonies on lots of $\frac{1}{2}$ to full acre. 8 colonies are permitted on any property larger than an acre (exception for additional colonies when they are set back at least 200 ft from all property lines.)
- 1) For every 2 colonies permitted on a tract there may be maintained upon the same tract one nucleus colony in a hive structure not exceeding one standard 9 $\frac{5}{8}$ inch depth 10-frame hive body with no supers attached as required from time to time for swarm management.
 - 2) Each such nucleus colony shall be moved to another tract or combined with another colony on the subject tract within 30 days after the date made or acquired.
- iv. Every person owning a hive, stand, box or apiary on property other than their residence shall identify such hive, stand box or apiary by a sign or other prominent marking stating in letters at least one inch high on a contrasting background the name, address, and phone number of the owner of such equipment.
- v. No hive shall exceed 20 cubic feet in volume.
- vi. The following locational requirements apply to all hives:
- a. Hives are permitted only in the side and rear yards, unless roof-mounted.
 - b. No hive shall be located closer than 3 ft from any property line.
 - c. No hive shall be located closer than 10 ft from a public sidewalk or 25 ft from a principal building on an abutting lot. (Hives must be relocated as needed as abutting lot develops.)
 - d. If a hive is within 10 ft of a property line, a flyway barrier is required.
 - This shall be at least 6 ft tall and extend 10 feet beyond the colony on either side. It can be solid, vegetative, or any combination of the two that forces the bees to cross the property line at a height of at least 6 ft.

- The flyway barrier requirement can be waived if the hive is located at least 10 ft off the ground.
 - e. The beekeeper shall promptly requeen the colony if the colony exhibits unusual defensive behavior without due provocation.
 - f. A constant supply of water shall be provided for all hives (within 25 ft of each hive) between March 1 and October 31 of each year.
- b. Bee hotels are permitted without registration.
4. Fowl Keeping of Fowl Prohibited; Exceptions:
(Ord. 8378, Ord 8731)
 (A) Except as provided in subsection (b), no person shall own, keep, or harbor, on a temporary or permanent basis, any Fowl within the City.
 (B) A person may own, keep, or harbor
- (Language is moved from other section of City Code; only change proposed to the current language is in Section d slaughtering.)*

The following standards apply to the keeping of Fowl within the City:

- a. Fowl may be kept on a property only as an accessory use to a permitted primary use.
- b. The maximum number of Permitted Fowl is limited to:
 - i. One fowl per 500 sq ft of lot size, rounded down; and
 - ii. No more than 20 fowl, regardless of the size of the lot.
- c. Any person who owns, keeps, or harbors Fowl, i.e. chickens and ducks, shall provide a coop or other similar shelter.
 - i. Any coop or shelter shall be screened or walled in a manner that allows the Permitted Fowl to be reasonably protected from predators.
 - ii. Any coop or shelter shall be a minimum of 3 sq ft in size per fowl if the fowl have an enclosed outdoor run, or 10 sq ft in size per fowl if the fowl do not have an enclosed outdoor run.
 - iii. Any coop or shelter shall be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of this section. In the event that the coop or shelter qualifies as an accessory structure then all requirements regarding placement and setbacks must be met.
 - iv. In no event shall any coop or shelter be located nearer than 5 foot from any neighboring property line.
 - v. Any coop or shelter shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary fashion to prevent the unreasonable accumulation of waste or other noxious substances, the emanation of noxious odors, or the presence of vermin.

- vi. A roost shall be provided for each chicken, with a minimum length of 10 inches per chicken and a minimum size of 8 sq inches. A roost is not required for ducks.
 - vii. For every three chickens, a minimum of one laying box space, with a minimum size of one square foot, shall be provided. Each laying box shall contain adequate clean bedding material such as hay or other soft material. A laying box is not required for ducks.
- d. **Slaughtering of Fowl is not permitted within the City limits.**

OR:

Commercial slaughtering of fowl is not permitted except in USDA licensed locations. Slaughtering for personal use may occur in compliance with State regulations and must occur within an enclosed structure.

5. Goats

- a. Goats may be kept on a property only as an accessory use to a permitted primary use.
- b. Only small goats are permitted as 'small animal agriculture'. Breeds which would be considered 'small goats' are Pygmy Goats, Nigerian Dwarf Goat and Miniature Dairy Goats.
 - i. Breeds that do not exceed 24" at the withers are considered small goats.
- c. Male goats must be neutered.
- d. Slaughtering is not permitted within the city limits.
- e. No more than 2 goats may be kept on the premises
 - i. Nursing offspring of goats licensed according to the provisions of this Code may be kept until weaned, no longer than 12 weeks from birth, without violating the limitations of this sub-section.
- f. The following standards apply to any structure used to house goats:
 - i. Must be located a minimum of 50 ft from any off-site dwelling.
 - ii. Must be located in the rear yard and a minimum of 15 ft from adjacent properties.
 - iii. The structure shall provide a minimum of 10 sq ft of living area per goat.
 - iv. A fenced open air enclosure shall be provided which has a minimum area of 150 sq ft per goat.

Agricultural Processing

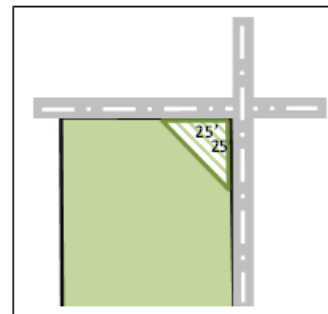
The following standards refer to Agricultural Processing occurring with an Urban Farm:

1. Agricultural Processing must be accessory to an Urban Farm.
2. The primary agricultural product being processed must be grown on the premises.
3. No outside storage of materials or products is permitted.
4. All processing must occur indoors with potentially offensive external effects mitigated to insure compatibility with nearby residential uses.
5. Employment is limited to 5 full-time equivalent employees.

Crop Agriculture

Crop Agriculture must comply with the following standards:

1. Crops may be grown within the right-of-way adjacent to the property without the need to obtain a use of right-of-way permit; however, the use is temporary and may need to be abandoned when street or infrastructure improvements are proposed.
 - a. Crops may not exceed 3 ft in height when located within 8 ft of the roadway or within 3 ft either side of a sidewalk to avoid interference with visibility for driveways and other access points.
 - b. Crops may not be planted within 1 ft on either side of the sidewalk and may not grow onto the sidewalk.
 - c. Crops taller than 3 ft are not permitted within the sight distance triangle (area created by connecting the endpoints of two 25 ft lines, measured along the curb line, from the intersection of two adjacent streets). See figure.
2. The site shall be designed and maintained so as to prevent the free flow of stormwater, irrigation water, chemicals, dirt, or mud across or onto adjacent lots, properties, public streets, or alleys.
3. The site shall be maintained in accordance with the City Code including maintaining the site free of debris or high grass or weeds, taller than 12 inches, and screening of exterior storage from view of right-of-way or adjacent property.



On-Site Agricultural Sales

1. Only eggs or whole, uncut, fresh produce and/or horticultural products produced or grown on site may be donated, sold on-site, or distributed through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) pick-ups as On-Site Agricultural Sales.
 - a. An exception to this standard is honey that is produced in off-site hives that are registered to the same person that operates the on-site production.
2. On-Site Agricultural Sales for personal gardens on the same property as the gardener's residence require registration as a Type B Home Occupation.
3. The following standards apply to On-Site Agricultural Sales associated with Urban Agricultural uses occurring on properties without a residence:
 - a. One temporary sign advertising only food or horticultural products grown on-site may be displayed during sales.
 - i. The sign must be on-site, unilluminated, and not more than 2 sq ft in area or 3 ft in height.
 - b. Sales may occur between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 - c. Employment is limited to 1 employee.
 - d. Customer or employee parking shall not block off-site access drives.
 - e. Any stands used for the display or sale of products shall be located a minimum of 15 ft from the curb and shall be temporary; being removed and stored when sales are not in progress.

CHANGES TO OTHER SECTIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT CODE:

Section 20-602(e)(6)(viii)

Covered Accessory Structures (Buildings) are items such as garages, greenhouses, storage Buildings, wood sheds, covered decks, coops for fowl, or other agricultural structures, and covered porches. Covered Accessory Structures that are six feet or less in Height are allowed in required Side and Rear Yards, and covered Accessory Structures greater than six feet in Height are allowed in the required Rear Yard where an Alley abuts the Rear Lot Line, but no covered Accessory Structure is allowed in a required Front Yard.

Section 20-533 General Standards For Accessory Structures

The standards of this subsection apply to all accessory uses and structures.

- (1) Time of construction
Accessory Structures shall be constructed in conjunction with or after the Principal Building. They shall not be built prior to the construction of the Principal Building.

- **No principal building is required for structures that are accessory to an Urban Agriculture use.**

(2) Subordinate Nature

- (i) Accessory Uses shall be a subordinate part of a Principal Use and be clearly incidental to a Principal Use.
- (ii) Accessory Structures shall be of secondary importance and subordinate in size and Scale to the Principal Building on a site.
 - **No principal building is required for structures that are accessory to an Urban Agriculture use.**

(3) Density and Dimensional Standards

Unless otherwise expressly stated, the Setback, Height, and Building coverage standards of the Base District apply to both principal and Accessory Structures (See Density and Dimensional Standards, Article 6). Accessory Structures in residential districts shall be located to the rear of the front Building line and may be located as close as 5' to interior and Rear Lot Lines. Setbacks from interior Side Lot Lines shall not apply to accessory Buildings placed on lots that abut Alleys. An Accessory Structure may be located up to the rear property line when the Lot abuts an Alley and when the doors to the Building do not open directly onto the Alley. There shall be no Setback required between an Accessory Structure and an Alley when Access to the Structure is parallel to the Alley, except that no part of the Structure shall overhang or otherwise encroach onto the Alley.

- **These setback requirements apply to structures used for *Urban Agriculture* unless a different setback is specified in Section XXXX.**

(4) Building Coverage

- (i) A detached Accessory Structure may not have a larger footprint than the Building footprint of the Principal Building.
- (ii) The combined footprint of all Accessory Structures may be equal to the footprint of the Principal Building or 20% of the Lot Area provided the total footprint of all Structures does not exceed the maximum Building coverage as permitted by Sec. 20-6019a0 or (b) for the corresponding Zoning District.
 - **Temporary *Urban Agriculture* structures used to extend the growing season such as cold frames, low tunnels, and hoopouses are exempt from these Building Coverage regulations.**

20-537 Home Occupation

(6) Site-Related Standards

- (i) Signs

One non-animated, no-illuminated, accessory identification sign of no more than 2 square feet in area shall be permitted. The allowed sign shall be placed flat against a wall or door, displayed in a window, or within ten feet 910'0 of the building entrance.
- (ii) Outdoor Activities
 - a. All activities shall be in completely enclosed structures, **except for On-Site Agricultural Sales.**
 - b. Exterior storage or display of goods or equipment is prohibited, **except for the display of goods offered for sale with On-Site Agricultural Sales.**

(8) Additional Type B home Occupation Regulations

The following are additional regulations that apply to Type B Home Occupations. Waivers or variances from this section of the regulations are prohibited.

- (i) Hours
Customers or clients may visit the site only during the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., **with the exception of customers for On-Site Agricultural Sales. Customers may be visit the site for On-Site Agricultural Sales only during the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.**
 - (iii) Customers/Clients
Only 10 customers or clients may visit the site in a day, **with the exception of On-Site Agricultural Sales.**
 - a. **Up to 25 customers or clients may visit the site in a day for On-Site Agricultural Sales.**
- OR
- There is no maximum limit on customers for On-Site Agricultural Sales; however, customer or client parking must not block off-site access drives.**

PARKING

20-902 Off-Street Parking Schedule A

Use Category	Minimum Number of Vehicle Parking Spaces Required	Minimum Number of Bicycle Parking Spaces
Agricultural Sales	1 per 500 square feet of Building area + 1 space per acre of outdoor storage or assembly	1 per 10 auto spaces
Agriculture, Small Animal	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
Agriculture, Large Animal	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
Agriculture, Crop	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
On-Site Agricultural Sales		
Personal Garden	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
Community Garden	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
Farmers Market	<i>Schedule D</i>	<i>5 or 1 per 5 auto spaces, whichever is greater</i>
Agricultural Processing	1 per employee on largest shift	1 per 5 auto spaces
Urban Farm	1 per employee on largest shift	1 per 5 auto spaces

Urban Agriculture Community Input

Thank you for your interest in helping shape urban agriculture policy in the City of Lawrence. The Douglas County Food Policy Council welcomes the opportunity to assist the Planning and Development Services Department in gathering input from citizens as it drafts an urban agriculture text amendment to the City Code, to present to the Planning Commission.

We will formally accept comments through Wednesday, August 26.

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

The City of Lawrence is currently conducting a comprehensive revision of its urban agriculture policies. Urban agriculture policies can include:

- Determining what gardening practices require a permit, minor site plan, or City registration
- Placement and maintenance of compost
- Soil quality assessment and drainage
- Residential keeping of chickens, honey bees, and other small animals, and their processing on-site
- Requirements for accessory buildings like a shed or hoop house
- Maintenance requirements for gardens
- Sale of home-produced foods and operation of farm stands in residential areas
- Defining different types of gardens (e.g. home garden, market garden, community garden, etc.)
- Water use rates for urban agriculture
- Roof top gardens
- Community garden land access
- Public and food safety

1. Do you currently practice urban agriculture?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. If you practice urban agriculture, what best describes your core activities? Check all that apply.

☐ Supplementing household foods

☐ Home gardening

☐ Bringing in cash income

☐ Community gardening

☐ Enhancing your community

☐ Composting

☐ Making a living

☐ Value-added products for sale (i.e., jams, jerky, etc.)

☐ Crop production (fruit, vegetable, etc.)

☐ Donating harvest to food bank

☐ Animal production (chickens)

Other (please specify)

Urban Agriculture Community Input

3. What barriers have you experienced in your practice (or consideration) of urban agriculture?

4. What elements would you most prefer to see in an urban agriculture policy for the City of Lawrence?

5. We would like to collect your contact information in order to keep you informed and engaged during this policy process, including a public meeting on Monday, September 28th to review a draft of the policy proposals and collect feedback prior to its submission to the Planning Commission. Please provide:

First Name

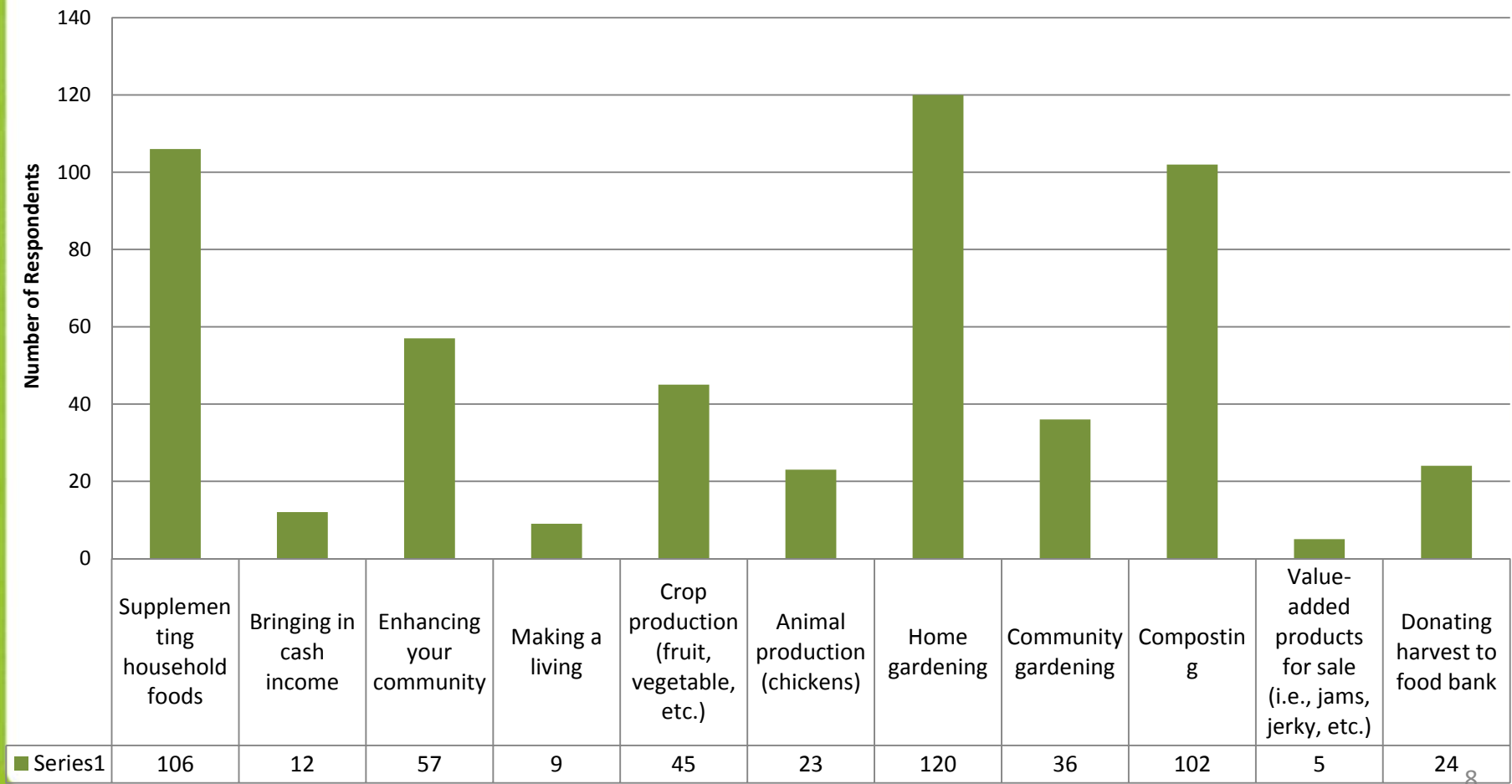
Last Name

Email Address

Zipcode

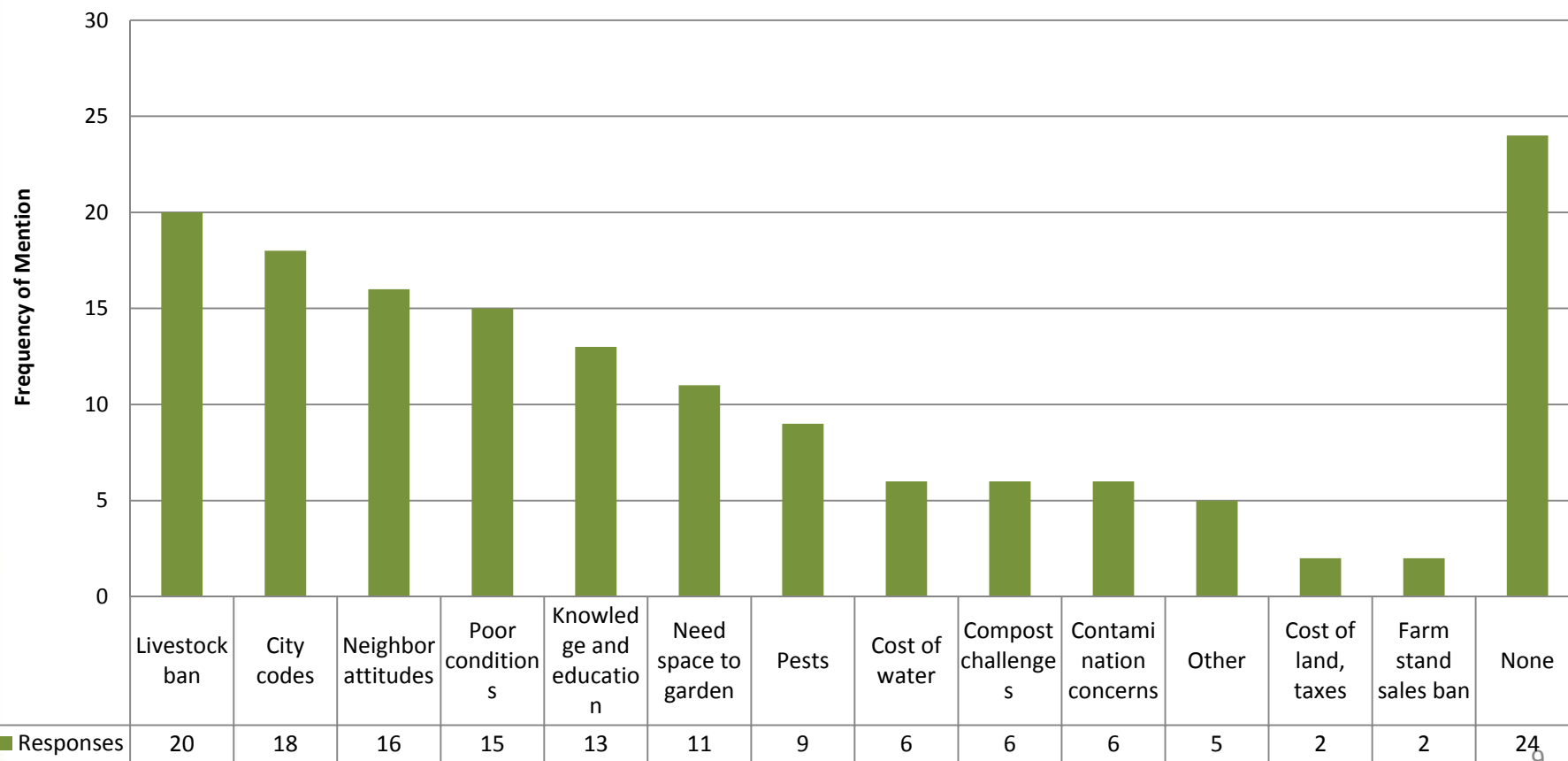
Public Input Survey: Current Practices

If you practice urban agriculture, what best describes your core activities?



Public Input Survey: Current Barriers

What barriers have you experienced in your practice (or consideration) of urban agriculture? *Grouped by similar response types*



Public Input Survey: Policy Priorities

- Support for urban ag production generally
- Concern about over-regulation, permits
- Interest in expanded livestock production (including bees)
 - Awareness about need for responsible regulation
 - Some opposed to small animal agriculture
- Interest expanding sales, community gardens, educational opportunities
- Concern about water access, chemical impacts

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

To the Lawrence City Commissioners:

We write to address the current city regulations on beekeeping within the city of Lawrence. We propose that the city code (Chapter 3) be amended to make an exemption for beekeeping in the form of pollinator hotels and individually maintained beehives. I am requesting that a text amendment be initiated, following the precedent of other exemptions such as hedgehogs and Vietnamese potbellied pigs (Section 3-104) and chickens and ducks (Section 3-501).

Pollinator bees and honeybees are threatened. Yet, they are essential to the pollination and propagation of plants (edible and not). Lawrence is often a leader in recognizing issues that affect the world on a large-scale and an active responder on the local level. Certainly, this as an opportunity for the City of Lawrence to make an official statement that recognizes the value of bees and other pollinators, and acknowledges their importance with an official stance that encourages their activity within Lawrence.

Recognizing the critical role of pollinators in a healthy ecosystem, we have been working with the Food Policy Council to collect research on other city policies and codes. As well, the recent White House Pollinator Research Action Plan¹ suggests the pressing need to encourage the life of pollinators.

Clearly, there are motivating forces for making this change. The City of Lawrence boasts a number of initiatives, organizations, and institutions that would be ideal partners for “expanding public education programs and outreach,” as cited in the White House document. Of course, the ability to “increase and improve pollinator habitat” within city limits would make this all possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

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¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/Pollinator%20Research%20Action%20Plan%202015.pdf>

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