



AGENDA ITEM

DATE: October 16, 2025
MEETING DATE: October 21, 2025
SUBJECT: Code Amendment re: Domestic Fowl
PRESENTED FOR: Decision: Information:
PRESENTER(S): Michael Custer, City Attorney

History/ Facts and Issues:

Code Section 10-103 will be amended to include language re: keeping of domestic fowl for non-commercial purposes in residential neighborhoods, as follows:

- a) For commercial purposes, trade purposes or resale, it shall be unlawful for any persons to have, store, keep, pen or possess, any chickens, geese, turkeys, ducks or other domestic fowl in the city within 25 feet, in any direction, of any dwelling house or place or building occupied as a residence or office by any person. The prohibition contained in this section shall not apply in the city limits when domestic fowl are kept on a constructed and graded-to-drain concrete or other impervious flooring and the same is maintained uncracked in a sanitary condition.
- (b) For commercial purposes, trade purposes or resale, when any chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys or other domestic fowl are enclosed in pens, coops, or the like in the city, such coop or pen shall be built at least 25 inches from the ground with a hardware cloth floor and a mesh of not less than one-half inch. Underneath the hardware floor and mesh shall be placed, of equal length and width with such coop or pen, a removable pan or metal vessel or a pan or vessel of tongue and groove flooring, which shall be kept and maintained at all times in a sanitary and clean condition.
- (c) For non-commercial purposes or personal use, if any domestic chickens, geese, ducks, or other domestic fowl are maintained within the city limits, then they are subject to the following standards and limitations:
 - (1) The number of hens shall not exceed six (6) for any residential lot measuring less than one (1) acre. One (1) additional hen shall be allowed per acre for lots exceeding one (1) acre, up to a maximum of ten (10) hens within the City Limits.
 - (2) Roosters are prohibited.
 - (3) Fowl must be kept in pens, coops or the like, which must be enclosed on all sides, including the top and must provide adequate security from rodents, wild birds, and predators.
 - (4) Coops, pens or enclosures shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. Fowl shall not be permitted to create a nuisance consisting of odor, noise or pests, or contribute to any other nuisance condition.
 - (5) Coops, pens, or enclosures shall be located no closer than twenty-five (25) feet of any property lines.

- (d) If the property owner can provide proof that the violation of section (c) of this ordinance was present prior to its effective date, Code Enforcement shall not pursue enforcement for a period of six (6) months from the effective date of this ordinance. This section (d) allows property owners time in which to bring their property into compliance.

Recommended Action:

Approve Amended Ordinance.