

Suggested revision to existing ordinance:

**Section 5.08.020 Keeping of animals.**

Unless specifically authorized by the city council for educational or entertainment or other purposes, no person shall keep or maintain livestock, bees, poultry or other animals, excluding household pets, unless the animals are located more than one hundred (100) feet from any residence other than the residence of the person who owns the animals. *Poultry kept in compliance with this ordinance or authorized by a permit issued by the city council will include no roosters.* The required one hundred (100) foot separation applies to any structures that house the animal, either temporarily or permanently, and the area(s) used by the animals for grazing, feeding, exercising and similar activities. (Ord. 174 § 2, 1995)

Suggested Parameters for Pilot Project:

**Poultry Pilot Project**

In an effort to assess the compatibility of urban chicken raising efforts with other quality of life considerations, the City Council is authorizing the keeping and maintaining of poultry in the City as a pilot project when certain criteria are met. Raising poultry will be authorized by a permit issued by the City when those criteria are met. This permit process will be implemented on April 1, 2011 and continue until it is permanently authorized by the Council, or until it is rescinded. The Council will assess the results of the pilot project at its regularly scheduled meetings in October, 2011 and (if necessary) March, 2012. If the project is continued, permits will be issued on an annual basis.

In order to be eligible for a permit:

- Poultry must be kept in a clean and sanitary pen or structure, no part of which shall be located less than forty (40) feet from any residence other than the residence owned or occupied by the person owning or possessing the animals. Pen or structure (coop) shall be well built and provide for the reasonable security of enclosed animals from predators. Permittee must agree to secure the permitted animals at night.
- Permit will authorize keeping of up to 3 birds in total, none of which may be roosters.
- Permit application will include acceptance by any neighbor(s) whose home(s) is/are within 100 feet of the coop/pen. Failure to obtain approval signatures from all affected neighbors will result in permit denial.

- Food for the permitted poultry will be stored in a secure area free of vermin and not accessible to bears, raccoons, or other scavengers. When poultry is secured for the night, all food containers will be secured.
- Permit applicants must certify that the affected property is not covered by neighborhood conditions, covenants, and restrictions that prohibit the keeping of poultry.
- Manure must be removed with sufficient frequency to prevent offensive odors. Any manure retained for fertilizer will be spread upon the ground evenly and turned under at once.
- The City will make an inspection of the property and coop prior to issuing a permit. An initial permit fee of \$25 will be charged to cover inspection and processing costs to the City. If there are no complaints nor known violations of the permit provisions, subsequent permits (if any) may be issued without cost.
- Complaints received by the City relative to non-compliance with the provisions of the permit will be investigated and, if found valid, may result in cancellation of the permit.
- Any complaints received by the City relative to the keeping of poultry but which do not allege violation of the conditions of the permit will be considered by the City Council when it re-evaluates the Pilot Project.