

File No. 120404

Committee Item No. 3

Board Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Economic Development Date June 11, 2012

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_

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OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)

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Completed by: Derek Evans Date June 8, 2012  
Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages.  
The complete document can be found in the file.

1 [Administrative Code - Urban Agriculture Program]

2  
3 **Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Sections 53.1**  
4 **through 53.4 to: 1) establish an Urban Agriculture Program to oversee and coordinate**  
5 **all of the City's Urban Agriculture activities; and 2) adopt goals for the City related to**  
6 **Urban Agriculture.**

7 NOTE: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman;  
8 deletions are ~~strike-through italics Times New Roman~~.  
9 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;  
10 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

11 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

12 Section 1. **Findings.** The Board of Supervisors finds and declares as follows:

13 1. Urban agriculture provides multiple benefits to San Franciscans. It connects City  
14 residents to the broader food system, provides green space and recreation, can save public  
15 agencies money, provides ecological benefits and green infrastructure, builds community, and  
16 offers food access, public health, and economic development potential.

17 2. San Franciscans have consistently demonstrated a demand for more space in  
18 which they can grow food. While private land offers some possibilities, public land is more  
19 likely to meet the demand. Land audits have surveyed potential sites and revealed that there  
20 is public land suitable for urban agriculture.

21 3. Access to land, materials, and supportive infrastructure are the top needs for people  
22 and groups interested in increasing food production within the City. Land access is critical for  
23 many residents living in apartments and other dense areas without access to open space for  
24 growing food. Access to materials would make it easier for urban gardeners and farmers to  
25 acquire basic resources such as mulch, compost, and tools. To prosper, those growing and

1 selling produce in the City also require supportive infrastructure, such as access to water,  
2 distribution channels, facilities for processing and serving food, and educational opportunities  
3 for aspiring gardeners.

4 4. At least seven City agencies provide funding for urban agriculture activities. In the  
5 past five years, total funding from the City has averaged approximately \$580,000 per year.  
6 The lack of coordination among agencies has led to an overall decline in City resources for  
7 urban agriculture activities relative to the funding level of the 1990s. Additionally, agencies  
8 such as the Planning Department, Port, Library Department, and the County Agricultural  
9 Commissioner support urban agriculture, though they currently do not provide funding.

10 5. The City currently lacks institutional support for urban agriculture. There is no  
11 full-time staff person dedicated to this issue and no citywide cross-departmental urban  
12 agriculture agenda. This lack of cohesion and accountability has created uncoordinated and  
13 duplicative urban agriculture efforts thus far.

14 6. The City has taken important steps forward with the Executive Directive on Healthy  
15 and Sustainable Food in 2009 and the passage of the Urban Agriculture Zoning Ordinance in  
16 2011. However, much more remains to be done.

17  
18 Section 2. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding  
19 Chapter 53, Sections 53.1 through 53.4, to read as follows:

20  
21 **SEC. 53.1. TITLE.**

22 *This Chapter shall be entitled "the Urban Agriculture Ordinance".*

23  
24 / / /

25 / / /

Supervisor Chiu  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Page 2  
6/5/2012

originated at : n:\govern\as2012\1200417\00777970.doc  
revised on: 6/5/2012 - n:\govern\as2012\1200417\00777970.doc

1 **SEC. 53.2. "URBAN AGRICULTURE" DEFINED.**

2 "Urban Agriculture" is the growing of plants and raising of animals, usually for food or  
3 flowers. Urban agriculture can occur in many types of places in the City, including, but not limited to,  
4 home gardens, community gardens, market gardens, demonstration gardens, gardens at institutions  
5 such as schools, workplaces, and jails, urban farms, orchards, rooftops, and greenhouses.

6  
7 **SEC. 53.3. URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.**

8 (a) Establishment. There is hereby created an Urban Agriculture Program for the City and  
9 County of San Francisco.

10 (b) Duties. The Urban Agriculture Program shall:

11 (1) Coordinate Urban Agriculture efforts with other public agencies operating in the  
12 City, including, but not limited to, the Recreation and Park Department, Public Utilities Commission,  
13 Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Department of the Environment, Planning  
14 Department, Department of Building Inspection, the San Francisco Food Security Task Force, County  
15 Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Real Estate, Public Library, Mayor's Office of  
16 Neighborhood Services, City Administrator, Port, and Airport, and the San Francisco Unified School  
17 District, City College of San Francisco, California Department of Parks and Recreation, United States  
18 National Park Service Golden Gate Recreation Area, and the University of California Cooperative  
19 Extension;

20 (2) Be responsible for promoting the development of comprehensive programs, policies  
21 and strategies to meet the goals described in Section 53.4 and generally enhance and increase Urban  
22 Agriculture in San Francisco;

23 (3) Develop strategic partnerships with community organizations, schools, and others  
24 for the purpose of advancing Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, and seek public feedback from these  
25 partners in major policy decisions;

1 (4) Advocate for Urban Agriculture policies and funding at the State and Federal level;

2 and,

3 (5) Collect data and metrics related to Urban Agriculture and make that information  
4 available to the public;

5 (6) Coordinate support among public agencies and community organizations for  
6 gleaning programs that collect excess produce from gardens, urban farms, and other sources in the  
7 City and distribute that produce to those in need;

8 (7) Explore how Urban Agriculture can provide job training and employment  
9 opportunities for San Francisco residents;

10 (8) Consult with the County Agricultural Commissioner and Director of Public Health  
11 to ensure that Urban Agriculture projects conform to applicable agricultural and public health laws  
12 and regulations and do not cause or contribute to public health risks, such as soil contamination and  
13 vermin infestations; and,

14 (9) Ensure that existing Urban Agriculture spaces are being utilized fully.

15 (c) Strategic Plan. By December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator, in  
16 consultation with relevant City departments and community stakeholders, shall develop a strategic plan  
17 for the Urban Agriculture Program to carry out its duties and to meet the City's stated Urban  
18 Agriculture goals, as contained in Sections 53.3 and 53.4. The strategic plan shall contain baseline  
19 data on Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, including, but not limited to, an accounting of all City  
20 funding and resources, a list of all local Urban Agriculture programs, a count of all active and inactive  
21 sites and site coordinators, a count of waiting lists, and a needs assessment of resident, organization,  
22 and business needs. The strategic plan shall also include a projected budget for the Urban Agriculture  
23 Program and identify potential sources of funding. The Mayor and the City Administrator shall submit  
24 the strategic plan to the Board of Supervisors for its approval by resolution, and make the plan  
25 available to the general public, by December 31, 2012. The strategic plan may set new target dates for

1 the City to reach the Urban Agriculture Goals set in Section 53.4, and those new dates shall be deemed  
2 ratified by the Board's approval of the strategic plan.

3 (d) External Evaluation. By December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator shall  
4 evaluate which City agency or non-profit organization receiving City funds should permanently  
5 manage the coordination of Urban Agriculture activities and house the Urban Agriculture Program.  
6 The evaluation shall examine fiscal capacity to secure reasonable funding as well as programmatic  
7 capacity to implement the Strategic Plan. The Mayor and the City Administrator shall submit the  
8 results of this evaluation and their recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and make the  
9 evaluation and recommendation available to the public.

10 (e) Annual Report. By January 1, 2014 and every year thereafter, the Urban Agriculture  
11 Program shall provide a report to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors summarizing key Urban  
12 Agriculture achievements, challenges, and indicators from the previous year, including an official  
13 accounting of all City funding for Urban Agriculture and an inventory of local resources and programs  
14 relevant to Urban Agriculture in San Francisco. These annual reports shall also provide data on  
15 progress the City made in the prior year towards meeting each of the Urban Agriculture Program's  
16 goals, as contained in Section 53.4.

17 (f) It shall be City policy that for Fiscal Year 2012-13, the City shall ensure that there is at  
18 least one full-time staff person assigned to support coordination of Urban Agriculture programs among  
19 City agencies and community stakeholders.

20  
21 **SEC. 53.4. URBAN AGRICULTURE GOALS.**

22 The City hereby adopts the following goals related to Urban Agriculture:

23 (1) To complete and publish, by January 1, 2013, an audit of City-owned buildings with  
24 rooftops potentially suitable for both commercial and non-commercial Urban Agriculture;

1           (2) To develop, by January 1, 2013, incentives for property owners to allow temporary Urban  
2 Agriculture projects, particularly on vacant and blighted property awaiting development;

3           (3) To develop, by January 1, 2013, a streamlined application process for Urban Agriculture  
4 projects on public land, with clear evaluation guidelines that are consistent across agencies;

5           (4) To create, by July 1, 2013, a "one-stop shop" for Urban Agriculture that would provide  
6 information, programming, and technical assistance to all San Francisco residents, businesses, and  
7 organizations wishing to engage in Urban Agriculture;

8           (5) To develop new Urban Agriculture projects on public land where residents demonstrate  
9 desire for the projects, with at least 10 new locations for Urban Agriculture completed by January 1,  
10 2014;

11           (6) To open garden resource centers in neighborhoods across the City, either at existing or new  
12 sites, that provide residents with resources such as compost, seeds, and tools, with at least 5 completed  
13 by January 1, 2014; and,

14           (7) To develop sufficient Urban Agriculture resources such that by January 1, 2014, San  
15 Francisco residents seeking a community garden plot have to wait no more than a year for access to a  
16 plot.

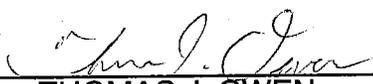
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18           Section 3. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the  
19 date of passage.

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21           Section 4. This section is uncodified. In enacting this Ordinance, the Board intends to  
22 amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers,  
23 punctuation, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent part of the Administrative Code that  
24 are explicitly shown in this legislation as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions,  
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and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the legislation.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
THOMAS J. OWEN  
Deputy City Attorney

**REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

(6/5/2012, Substitute Legislation Introduced)

[Administrative Code - Urban Agriculture Program]

**Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Sections 53.1 through 53.4 to: 1) establish an Urban Agriculture Program to oversee and coordinate all of the City's Urban Agriculture activities; and 2) adopt goals for the City related to Urban Agriculture.**

Existing Law

The City does not currently have a program to survey and coordinate urban agriculture Citywide.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal would amend the Administrative Code to create an "Urban Agriculture Program" for the City. The proposal defines "Urban Agriculture" as "the growing of plants and raising of animals, usually for food or flowers," in places such as home gardens, community gardens, market gardens, demonstration gardens, gardens at institutions such as schools, workplaces, and jails, urban farms, orchards, rooftops, and greenhouses.

The proposal would adopt a number of overarching goals for Urban Agriculture in San Francisco:

- To complete and publish, by January 1, 2013, an audit of City-owned buildings with rooftops potentially suitable for both commercial and non-commercial Urban Agriculture;
- To develop, by January 1, 2013, incentives for property owners to allow temporary Urban Agriculture projects, particularly on vacant and blighted property awaiting development;
- To develop, by January 1, 2013, a streamlined application process for Urban Agriculture projects on public land, with clear evaluation guidelines that are consistent across agencies;

- To create, by July 1, 2013, a “one-stop shop” for Urban Agriculture that would provide information, programming, and technical assistance to all San Francisco residents, businesses, and organizations wishing to engage in Urban Agriculture;
- To develop new Urban Agriculture projects on public land where residents demonstrate desire for the projects, with at least 10 new locations for Urban Agriculture completed by January 1, 2014;
- To open garden resource centers in neighborhoods across the City, either at existing or new sites, that provide residents with resources such as compost, seeds, and tools, with at least 5 completed by January 1, 2014; and,
- To develop sufficient Urban Agriculture resources such that by January 1, 2014, San Francisco residents seeking a community garden plot have to wait no more than a year for access to a plot.

The target dates could be modified in the Strategic Plan for the Urban Agriculture Program, discussed below.

To achieve these goals, the proposal would create an Urban Agriculture Program for the City. The Program would have several functions:

- Coordination of Urban Agriculture efforts among City departments and other public agencies operating in the City;
- Development of comprehensive programs, policies and strategies to meet the City's Urban agriculture goals;
- Development of strategic partnerships with community organizations, schools, and others to advance Urban Agriculture;
- Advocacy for Urban Agriculture policies and funding at the State and Federal level;
- Collection and public dissemination of information related to Urban Agriculture;
- Coordination of support among public agencies and community organizations for gleaning programs that collect and distribute excess produce;

- Exploration of job training and employment opportunities for San Francisco residents related to Urban Agriculture;
- Consultation with the County Agricultural Commissioner and the Director of Public Health on ensuring the safe and lawful operation of Urban Agriculture projects, and the prevention of potential public health risks that may be associated with such activities; and,
- Confirmation that existing Urban Agriculture spaces are utilized fully.

The proposal would require the Mayor and the City Administrator to develop a Strategic Plan for the Urban Agriculture Program in consultation with City departments and community stakeholders by December 31, 2012. The plan would contain baseline data on Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, including an accounting of all City funding and resources, a list of all local Urban Agriculture programs, a count of all active and inactive sites and site coordinators, a count of waiting lists, and a needs assessment of resident, organization, and business needs. The Plan would also include a projected budget for the Urban Agriculture Program and identify potential sources of funding. The Mayor and City Administrator would submit the Plan to the Board of Supervisors for its approval by resolution.

Under the proposal, the Mayor and the City Administrator would also evaluate which City agency or non-profit organization receiving City funding should permanently manage the Urban Agriculture Program. The evaluation would examine the successor agency's fiscal capacity to secure reasonable funding as well as its programmatic capacity to implement the Strategic Plan. The Mayor and the City Administrator would submit the results of this evaluation and their recommendation to the Board of Supervisors by December 31, 2012, along with the Strategic Plan.

By January 1, 2014 and every year thereafter, the Urban Agriculture Program would submit a report to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors summarizing key Urban Agriculture achievements, challenges, and indicators from the previous year, including an official accounting of all City funding for Urban Agriculture and an inventory of local resources and programs relevant to Urban Agriculture in San Francisco. These annual reports would also provide data on progress the City made in the prior year towards meeting each of the Urban Agriculture Program's goals.

The proposal would also make it City policy to ensure that for Fiscal Year 2012-13, there is at least one full-time staff person in City service assigned to support coordination of Urban Agriculture programs among City agencies and community stakeholders.



## Urban Ag Ordinance 120404

malia.cohen, Alisa.Miller, david.chiu,  
Nora Roman to: mayoredwinlee, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener,  
david.campos

06/06/2012 09:54 AM

Dear Supervisors et all:

I am writing to urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

I am a home organic gardener and I've had the pleasure of being involved with rescuing the Alemany Farm from oblivion after SLUG fell apart and that garden (which is right below my home) was abandoned. I am thrilled and hopeful about the new upsurge in interest in urban agriculture and gardening. As a registered nurse and a community activist for health and other important issues, I feel it is very important that we provide organized official support for this legislature, which represents a people's movement toward health and sanity for our sick society.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Nora Roman, RN  
68 Arnold Ave.  
SF, CA 94110



P.O. Box 170160  
San Francisco, CA 94117-0160  
415.621.3260  
www.sfparksalliance.org

June 4, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) urges you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with the important amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agricultural Alliance.

SFPA's mission is to inspire and promote civic engagement and philanthropy to protect, sustain, and enrich San Francisco parks and green open spaces. Our parks and open spaces are critical public resources that enhance urban life. Residents utilize parks and open space for relaxation, recreation, and contemplation of nature, among other uses. More and more, San Franciscans have shown an interest in urban agriculture, and SFPA acknowledges that urban agriculture offers multiple benefits to city dwellers, including increasing their access to fresh and healthy food; providing recreational opportunities; fostering the creation of community; and providing ecological benefits such as the absorption of rainwater and providing habitat for birds and insects.

SFPA supports the urban agriculture legislation proposed, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation. Specially, these amendments are:

- 1) **Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) **Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) **Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) **Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

The San Francisco Parks Alliance encourages you to support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew O'Grady".

Matthew O'Grady  
Executive Director

CC: Mayor Ed Lee, Supervisor David Chui, Supervisor Christina Olague, Committee Clerk Alisa Miller, SF Urban Agriculture Alliance



**Ordinance 120404: Urban Agriculture Legislation**

Brie Mazurek to: Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org,  
Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org, Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org

06/01/2012 09:45 AM

Cc: "Alisa.Miller@sfgov.org", "mayoredwinlee@sfgov.org",  
"info@sfuaa.org"

Please respond to Brie Mazurek

June 1, 2011

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

As a supporter of local food and urban farm projects such as Hayes Valley Farm and the Urban Permaculture Guild, I have witnessed the growth and passion of San Francisco's urban agriculture community. I have written about the city's needs for more coordinated urban agriculture efforts in Grist:

<http://grist.org/urban-agriculture/san-franciscos-urban-ag-spansion/> Waiting lists for community gardens exceed 20 years in some neighborhoods. The city should provide the infrastructure to support citizens to grow their own food, utilize and beautify public space, and build community.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Brie Mazurek  
2211 Mission Street, Apt. C  
San Francisco, CA 94110

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**Urban Agriculture Legislation : You have my support!**  
Meredith Buck to: malia.cohen, eric.l.mar, scott.wiener  
Cc: alisa.miller, david.chiu, mayoredwinlee, christina.olague, info

06/01/2012 10:26 AM

Hayes Valley, San Francisco  
May 24, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I, Meredith Buck, urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While I am in support of the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I would urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Meredith Buck

Hayes Valley Farm

<http://www.meredithbuck.com/>

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**Please support the proposed urban agriculture legislation !**

Ashley Meyer to: Malia.Cohen, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener,  
David.Campos

06/01/2012 02:13 PM

Cc: mayoredwinlee, Alisa.Miller, david.chiu, info

Hi there,

As a San Francisco resident (district 9), I would like to ask you to support the proposed urban agricultural legislation, proposed by David Chiu, that would help improve our city's parks, gardens, and farms. San Francisco is known for being a green, nature-friendly city, and we should do everything we can to keep it that way and make it even greener!

Thanks for your consideration!

-ashley

--

Ashley Meyer  
312-753-8843  
ashleybmeyer@gmail.com



the Center for Urban  
Education about Sustainable  
Agriculture

One Ferry Building, Suite 50  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
tel (415) 291-3276  
fax (415) 291-3275  
www.cuesa.org  
info@cuesa.org

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Minh Tsai

**Executive Director**

Dave Stockdale

June 1, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

The Board and staff of the Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture (CUESA) urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While CUESA supports the proposal, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, we urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) *Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.*  
For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) *Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.* This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) *Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.*
- 4) *Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities*

The Board and staff of CUESA hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Dave Stockdale  
Executive Director

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2012 JUN -4 AM 8:47  
JY

6-1-2012

Dear Supervisors:

As a native San Franciscan who has been involved in Urban Agriculture for 8 years as an educator, gardener, and advocate, I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Antonio Roman-Alcalá  
Co-founder, SFUAA  
Farm Programs Manager, Potrero Annex and Terrace Low Income Housing REBUILD  
Ecological Horticulture Instructor, Alemany Farm

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2012 JUN -4 AM 8:47  
BY ML

Argonne Community Garden Member  
Bonnie Kirkland  
109 21<sup>st</sup> Ave #2  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
6/2/12

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2012 JUN -4 AM 8:47  
BY *me*

Dear Supervisors:

I, **Bonnie Kirkland**, urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

*Community Gardens in San Francisco are an incredibly valuable resource for the city and the people. Community Gardens allow a neighborhood and/or many neighborhoods to come together for a common goal. It is a rewarding part of life to be able to grow a vegetable or flower and realize that you helped this beautiful creation to thrive. Children are awed by this process and it empowers them. It is incredibly rewarding to think that a person can feed friends or family from their garden. Gardens allow people to choose to be independent and resourceful with their food source. It is a valuable skill that needs to be shared and passed down to others. Community gardens bring together people of many ages and cultures. These gardens need to be supported so they can thrive and enhance the people and neighborhoods of San Francisco.*

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Kirkland  
Argonne Community Garden Research/Resource

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**SF Urban Agriculture Legislation 2012 - GRA supports it**  
Jeanette Arpagaus to: Scott.Wiener, Eric.L.Mar, Malia.Cohen  
Cc: mayoredwinlee, david.chiu, Alisa.Miller, info

06/03/2012 05:19 PM

Green Roof Alliance

June 3, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

The Green Roof Alliance urges you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While we support the proposal, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, we urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

We hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Arpagaus

Co Founder, Green Roof Alliance

info@greenroofalliance.com

arpagaus@aol.com

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**Land Use Agenda Item 2: 120191 [Building Code - Definition of Efficiency Unit] - Please refer to Planning Commission**

Paul Wermer to: Eric.L.Mar, malia.cohen, Scott.Wiener

06/04/2012 08:29 AM

Cc: Alisa.Miller, mark.farrell, "Christina Olague"

**Please respond to paul**

Subject: 120191 [Building Code - Definition of Efficiency Unit]

Dear Supervisor Mar, Supervisor Cohen and Supervisor Wiener:

Please refer this legislation to the Planning Commission to assess broader land use issues associated with the proposed legislation.

It is unclear what urgent need precludes seeking broader assessment of how this proposed legislation might have unintended consequences. Unit size has significant impacts in areas other than Building Codes, yet only the BIC has considered this legislation.

After brief inspection, I note two major points of concern (there are probably many more, which is why a Planning Department review followed by a Planning Commission hearing is needed):

1. This legislation reduces unit size, in the absence of considering compensatory common or open space, and without considering the increased demands on public amenities that very small units create. In light of the proposal in the Student Housing legislation to reduce open space requirements associated with very small units to 1/3 the present mandated open space, this is cause for concern. It has the potential to have adverse impacts on low income seniors, low-income single parents, and people with special needs.

2. This legislation restricts occupancy to 2 persons, meaning that efficiencies could no longer be occupied by a couple with an infant or small child, let alone a 2 child household. This further reduces the housing opportunities for low-income or homeless families, and could lead to the breakup of families.

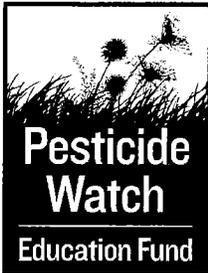
As it stands the legislation, the BIC review, and the letters do not show any evidence that the potential for unintended consequences has been adequately considered.

Please do not forward this to the full Board of Supervisors for action until a more thorough assessment has been completed.

Sincerely yours,  
Paul

Paul Wermer  
2309 California St  
San Francisco, CA 94115

415 929 1680



369 Broadway, Suite 200  
San Francisco, CA 94133

415-622-0036 (ph)  
415-622-0016 (fx)

info@pesticidewatch.org  
www.pesticidewatch.org

May 31, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of Pesticide Watch Education Fund (PWEF), a local non-profit grassroots organization which promotes healthy food access and pesticide reform, I would like to urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with some important amendments. We understand that the new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

As an organization that works directly with community members to better engage in and understand the City's policies and regulations around urban agriculture and pesticide use, we would find it ideal to have a specific person to which direct urban agriculture questions. More coordinated support from City agencies would be a great support for San Francisco residents and organizations which are working towards a more local and healthy food system.

While PWEF supports the proposal, we would like to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, PWEF urges you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

We hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Dana Perls  
Northern California Community Organizer, Pesticide Watch Education Fund

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee

Free Farm Stand/Free Farm  
projects of the No Penny Opera

May 31, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to support the proposed urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) with some amendments included in a letter and report from Robert Joyce. At the end of my letter I have summarized his recommendations which I think are good ones and that I support. I do not at this time have any wisdom to know if the proposed Office of Urban Agriculture should be run by the city or a non-profit.

I started the Free Farm Stand in 2008 and the Free Farm in 2010 with a number of other non-profits . It is located on private land at Gough and Eddy and recently the land is being sold for development. I believe my voice and over 30 years of experience involved with urban gardening and hunger issues (running soup kitchens and food pantries) will also give you all a valuable perspective in considering this legislation.

Besides agreeing with the recommendations by Robert Joyce whom I have met and talked to considering this matter, I have one of my own personal concerns that I think the legislation should address and that I think it is weak on. That is the issue of what is now being called "Food Justice" and "Food Sovereignty". I have always just thought I was working on making sure people don't go hungry and that everyone should have access to local organic produce, especially those who have low incomes and tight budgets.

In San Francisco, 1 in 5 adults struggles to feed their family ([http://www.sffoodbank.org/about\\_hunger/local\\_study.html](http://www.sffoodbank.org/about_hunger/local_study.html)-- A look at hunger in San Francisco: neighborhood profiles of hunger and food pantries). Through the process of being disconnected from our food and our communities we have become disempowered and often disenfranchised We believe that between the Free Farm and the Free Farm Stand we take steps towards rebuilding communities by bringing people back into the commons for the Free Farm Stand, creating space for communities to talk, learn, and work together at the Free Farm, and of course, to engage people in the process of growing their own food. Our project teaches people that they can be a part of the solution. Together, we take steps to fight hunger.

So any legislation that encourages urban agriculture should also strongly address the issue of hunger and poverty in our city. That an effort should be made to make sure that people without much money have access to resources for free to grow their own food if necessary. In other words, the neighborhood garden resource centers should be free. That the city should encourage the creation of not only more community gardens, but also farms that feed people in need like ours does. For example, I have been involved in the creation of a new park in my neighborhood at 17<sup>th</sup> and Folsom on a PUC owned parking lot that the city is buying. This would be a great opportunity to create a non-profit farm there that is run by volunteer neighbors and is modeled after Alemany Farm which gives away it's produce to its low income neighbors. However, I see no effort by the city to encourage this kind of enterprise. Another great example is Growing Home Garden that shows how gardens can be healing for homeless people and also people with mental and emotional issues. Urban Agriculture legislation needs to address that as well.

Sincerely,

Tree  
Project Coordinator

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO

2012 MAY 31 AM 10:38

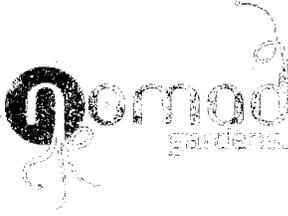
Excerpt from REPORT FROM AN URBAN FARMER  
May 31, 2012

...To sustain these projects and to create more like it, a fully funded Office of Urban Agriculture with dedicated staff members is appropriate. I recommend that this new Office be staffed as following:

One full-time staff member and one half-time staff member to oversee the Program. They will staff "a "one-stop shop" for Urban Agriculture that would provide information, programming, and technical assistance to all San Francisco residents, businesses, and organizations wishing to engage in Urban Agriculture" that is described in the proposed legislation.

Four half-time staff members, to act as Resource Coordinators at four Resource Centers to be located on existing urban agriculture sites that are on public land, "that provide residents with resources such as compost, seeds, and tools" as described in the proposed legislation...

The goals outlined in both the SPUR report and the proposed legislation are admirable. However, I question whether some of those goals are appropriate at this time, and for this legislation. How was the goal of ten new urban agriculture projects reached? Are new sites the appropriate focus when there is so little publicly-funded support and staff for existing projects? I would welcome more rooftop gardens, but is an audit of public buildings (listed as the first goal in the proposed legislation) the best use of limited resources at this point? Fundamentally, I question the wisdom of legislating goals and timelines in the absence of any funding or staffing parameters.



RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2012 MAY 31 AM 8:52  
MLL

30 May 2012

Dear Supervisors:

We of NOMAD gardens encourage you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

Our garden in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood would benefit greatly from better coordinated city agencies, including the Planning and Building Departments, Public Utilities Commission, Department of Public Works and Parks Alliance, to name a few. We would be able to spend less time on duplicating information for each permit application and instead be able to spend more time getting our garden up and running.

While we support the proposal, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, we urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities.

We hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Houston  
Founder

Katie Crepeau  
Project Director

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



## Proposed Urban Agriculture Legislation

robert joyce to: Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org, Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org,  
Scott.Weiner@sfgov.org

05/31/2012 08:16 AM

"Christina.Olague@sfgov.org", "david.chiu@sfgov.org",  
Cc: "John.Avalos@sfgov.org", "mayoredwinlee@sfgov.org",  
"Alisa.Miller@sfgov.org"

**Please respond to robert joyce**

Good Morning Supervisors -

I urge you to support the proposed legislation to create an Urban Agriculture Program (Ordinance 120404), and to include amendments that ensure proper funding and staffing levels for an independent Office of Urban Agriculture. Please find attached and inline a brief report that I hope you will find useful.

Sincerely,

Rob Joyce

Resident, San Francisco District 5

REPORT FROM AN URBAN FARMER

May 31, 2012

My name is Rob Joyce, and I am an urban farmer. Urban agriculture projects in San Francisco have been a primary focus for me during the last 28 months, first at Hayes Valley Farm, and more recently at Please Touch Community Garden, with my interest and activity including projects across the City. As the Board of Supervisors begins considering key urban agriculture legislation, I believe my experience creating, coordinating, and implementing these types of projects enables me to provide a helpful perspective.

First, I would like to applaud Supervisor David Chiu for introducing legislation to establish a program and goals for urban agriculture in our city. And I would like to express my gratitude to SPUR and Eli Zigas for the April 2012 report "Public Harvest: Expanding the Use of Public Land for Urban Agriculture in San Francisco." I am also grateful for all the people within San Francisco City government who have provided assistance and resources for urban agriculture. There is tremendous opportunity to create more resilient structures and support for urban agriculture in our city, and to leverage resources for increased positive effect. It is important that this opportunity not be squandered.

San Francisco directs very little of its public funding to urban agriculture. The SPUR report presents a chart called "How Much Does San Francisco Spend on Urban Agriculture?" on page 18. It indicates that an average of \$580,923 was spent annually over a five year period from 2006-2011, and that funding has been increasing. Yet \$234,764 - over 30% of what is shown as Capital/One-Time Expense during that period - is a grant from the Recreation and Park Department for a quarter-acre site that has not been activated or improved at all. To include this as money "spent" by the Recreation and Park Department on urban agriculture may be misleading.

Within San Francisco City government, there are no paid staff members with urban agriculture as their primary responsibility. The SPUR report claims on page 16 that "the combined partial staff time of numerous individuals in city agencies and city-funded

nonprofits equals approximately 3.5 full-time employees." Without seeing the various duties which have been cobbled together to reach this 3.5 employee figure, it is hard to make an accurate assessment. Spending by the Department of the Environment represents over 30% of what is shown in the report as Ongoing Expenses (characterized on page 19 as primarily staff time, maintenance and programming) from 2006-2011. Yet none of the 87 staff members listed on the SF Environment website have urban agriculture in their job title, nor is there an urban agriculture program. The SPUR report indicates that urban agriculture grants are being awarded by this department, but there is no mention of specifics on the department website.

My concern is that the conclusions presented in the SPUR report may be interpreted to mean that simply reorganizing existing funding and personnel within existing organizations can adequately support an effective urban agriculture program. The proposed legislation states that "by December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator shall evaluate which entity within the City or which non-profit organization partially funded by the City should permanently manage the coordination of Urban Agriculture activities and house the Urban Agriculture Program." Existing departments like Recreation and Park and SF Environment do great work, but they have not taken the opportunity to lead and to expand urban agriculture efforts effectively on the ground. Without a demonstrated propensity or desire to create an urban agriculture program proactively, why should the stewardship of such a program be foisted upon them?

Diverting City funding to a non-profit organization presents problems as well. The NPO's that are fiscal sponsors of existing programs are already typically absorbing 15% of funding as administrative fees, and I question whether an appropriate return for this cost is being provided. I am concerned about additional layers of bureaucracy and administration that could delay and detract from actual timely implementation, and could be barriers to transparency. Additional concerns can be illustrated by San Francisco's experience with SLUG, which provides plenty of cautionary tales.

In reality, the vibrant urban agriculture projects that have provided so much benefit to our City have been created in large part by the leadership, coordination, and labor of volunteers. The fact that these efforts are largely of a volunteer nature offers one indication about why there is not better coordination between the various successful volunteer-led projects. When a person donates 10-20 hours per week at a project for which they have a personal passion, it is understandably hard to find an additional 3-5 hours to coordinate with other projects throughout the City.

I would like to emphasize that great urban agriculture projects have been implemented throughout San Francisco, but that the successes to this point have come largely from the selfless work of volunteers, with very little in the way of focussed efforts from the public sector. To sustain these projects and to create more like it, a fully funded Office of Urban Agriculture with dedicated staff members is appropriate. I recommend that this new Office be staffed as following:

One full-time staff member and one half-time staff member to oversee the Program. They will staff "a one-stop shop. for Urban Agriculture that would provide information, programming, and technical assistance to all San Francisco residents, businesses, and

organizations wishing to engage in Urban Agriculture" that is described in the proposed legislation.

Four half-time staff members, to act as Resource Coordinators at four Resource Centers to be located on existing urban agriculture sites that are on public land, "that provide residents with resources such as compost, seeds, and tools" as described in the proposed legislation.

Together, these positions total 3.5 full-time positions, the same staffing level the SPUR report claims are currently being publicly funded.

The goals outlined in both the SPUR report and the proposed legislation are admirable. However, I question whether some of those goals are appropriate at this time, and for this legislation. How was the goal of ten new urban agriculture projects reached? Are new sites the appropriate focus when there is so little publicly-funded support and staff for existing projects? I would welcome more rooftop gardens, but is an audit of public buildings (listed as the first goal in the proposed legislation) the best use of limited resources at this point? Fundamentally, I question the wisdom of legislating goals and timelines in the absence of any funding or staffing parameters.

I support the urban agriculture legislation that Supervisor Chiu has introduced. I welcome a cohesive program to support urban agriculture and the many benefits it provides for our city - healthy food, community, habitat creation, storm water runoff mitigation, recreation, education, blight reduction, and the positive transformation of urban space. I know that within the urban agriculture community, people have a wide range of opinions, ideas, and experiences. I hope many of these community members come forward to share their views, and that together we can help shape truly effective legislation that provides for a fully funded, fully staffed, effective urban agriculture program for the City of San Francisco.

Thank you for your consideration.



ReportFromAnUrbanFarmer5-31-12.pdf



## Urban Agriculture Program : Support Proposed Amendments

Nelle Ward to: Malia.Cohen, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener  
Cc: Alisa.Miller, david.chiu, mayoredwinlee, info

05/30/2012 09:28 AM

May 25th, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of 18th and Rhode Island, a local permaculture cite affiliated with the Urban Permaculture Institute, I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

Not only would the proposed legislation provide our growing community at 18th and Rhode Island with the opportunity to develop partnerships with schools, relevant youth outreach educational programs, and other organizations pursuing urban agriculture in the city, but it would also provide resources for sharing information and tools, while creating accountability through which to direct specific proposals related to funding and development of potential new cites and programs. The creation of the program alone will spur momentum in the expansion of the urban agriculture community, enabling the city of San Francisco to maintain its position at the forefront of sustainable development efforts, ultimately encouraging prospects of an even greener workforce and economy.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Nelle Ward

Volunteer Manager at 18th and Rhode Island

Andrew Gentile  
771 Guerrero Street, Apt 6  
San Francisco, CA 94110

May 27, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

Along with a group of other volunteers, I am converting an unused private lot in the Glen Park neighborhood into a garden. It will provide produce to the low-income, immigrant family who owns the property as well as neighbors and others in the community of volunteers. As pedestrians, transit users and bicyclists, we had to expend nearly a thousand dollars in vehicle rentals over a period of 6 weeks to procure the manure and mulch that would serve as the material for the raised beds that would sit atop the very poor and non-fertile onsite soils. I would encourage the final legislation to include:

- **The availability of city-generated finished compost to gardeners and urban farmers.** We have been diligently filling our green bins for years, but none of it ever comes back to us!
- **A city-funded or subsidized delivery service for compost (generated from green bins), manure (from Mar Vista stables near Fort Funston, who is happy to see their material taken away), and mulch (from Bayview Greenwaste) to any location within the City and County of San Francisco.** Many urban farmers have very low incomes and the movement of such materials can often be cost prohibitive for those who have the most time and best skills and education use those materials.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Andrew Gentile  
Permaculture Designer, urban gardener

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**support for urban agriculture legislation**

LittleCity Gardens to: Malia.Cohen, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener  
Cc: Alisa.Miller, mayoredwinlee, John Avalos, David.Chiu

05/27/2012 08:42 PM

Little City Gardens

5/26/12

Dear Supervisors:

Little City Gardens urges you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While we are in support of the proposal, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, we urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.

2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.

3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.

4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

We hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Galloway and Brooke Budner

Co-owners, Little City Gardens

--

<http://www.littlecitygardens.com>

May 25, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. I appreciate that the new urban agriculture program proposed will coordinate efforts among agencies on measurable targets with timelines, increase accountability, and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

I am a Public Health professional and backyard gardener. I have recently begun volunteering and learning at Alemany Farm, The Free Farm, and other sites where San Franciscans proudly display their unwavering commitment to food justice and local, organic food. San Francisco can become a world leader in Urban Agriculture, starting with adopting this legislation, and thereby a world leader in building a resilient, healthy community. Corporate control of the majority of the food that people have access to in the city is leading to obesity, diabetes, and serious health problems for many community members. Please support the legislation and proposed amendments to protect people's rights to healthy food and support those already on the ground doing this important work.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**
- 4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Kendra Shanley

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



Support the urban agriculture legislation

Adriana Johnson

to:

Scott.Wiener, Eric.L.Mar

05/25/2012 01:12 AM

Cc:

Alisa.Miller, david.chiu, mayoredwinlee, info

Hide Details

From: Adriana Johnson <adriana.johnson@gmail.com>

To: Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org, Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org,

Cc: Alisa.Miller@sfgov.org, david.chiu@sfgov.org, mayoredwinlee@sfgov.org,  
info@sfuaa.org

May 24, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.

**3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**

**4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Adriana Johnson

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



In support of urban agriculture.

Johanna Silver

to:

Malia.Cohen, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener, Alisa.Miller, david.chiu, mayoredwinlee  
05/24/2012 01:09 PM

Hide Details

From: Johanna Silver <johanna.silver@gmail.com> Sort List...

To: Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org, Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org, Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org,  
Alisa.Miller@sfgov.org, david.chiu@sfgov.org, mayoredwinlee@sfgov.org,

May 24, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

I, **Johanna Silver**, you to support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

While I support the proposal I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1) **Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded.** For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
  
- 2) **Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program.** This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
  
- 3) **Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.**

**4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities**

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Sincerely,

Johanna Silver

Proud resident of San Francisco

Associate garden editor at Sunset Magazine

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



May 24, 2012

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of Bay Localize, a local environmental justice and community development organization, it is my pleasure to urge your support the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

As an organization whose mission is to build resilient communities where people can provide for more of their own vital needs locally, we believe that more coordinated support for urban agriculture from city agencies would greatly support Bay Area neighborhood gardens and farms.

While we support the proposal, we also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, we urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

- 1.) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For it to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance, and the development of resource centers.
- 2.) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure that more San Franciscans are invested in the new program, a wider range of voices are heard, and help provide accountability.
- 3.) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding, and input from community groups.
- 4.) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities

We hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above.

Thank you for supporting equitable, resilient communities in San Francisco!

Aaron Lehmer  
Campaigns Director, Bay Localize

CC: Supervisor David Chiu, Mayor Ed Lee



**Support for Ordinance 120404**

Sean Gibson to: Malia.Cohen, Eric.L.Mar, Scott.Wiener  
Cc: david.chiu, mayoredwinlee, Alisa.Miller, info

05/23/2012 08:21 PM

Dear Supervisors:

I write to request your support of the urban agriculture legislation introduced in April (Ordinance 120404) along with a few important amendments. The new urban agriculture program proposed in the legislation will coordinate efforts among agencies on specific, measurable targets with timelines; increase accountability by placing responsibility for coordination and reaching the goals with a specific person and agency; and begin a strategic planning process and evaluation that will help make better use of existing city resources that support city gardeners and farmers.

My interest in this legislation stems from my current volunteer involvement with the urban agriculture community and my intent to establish a commercial urban farm along the central waterfront. The economics of urban farming are tight and the streamlining of services and improved access to resources will help eliminate barriers to market entry and foster a local farming industry.

While I support the proposal, I also wish to see the amendments put forward by the San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance included in the final legislation.

Specifically, I urge you to support the following changes to the proposal:

1) Ensure that the new urban agriculture program is adequately funded. For the new program to succeed, at least one staff person must be dedicated full-time to coordinating the already existing efforts happening in agencies and neighborhoods across the city. More broadly, additional urban agriculture funding is needed for educational programming, site maintenance and the development of resource centers.

2) Incorporate an oversight body, such as an advisory board or citizen's advisory committee, for the new program. This will help ensure accountability and that a wider range of perspectives are represented.

3) Require that the evaluation and strategic plan for the urban agriculture program include a budget, identified funding and input from community groups.

4) Explicitly include mention that the new program should explore how urban agriculture can provide job training and/or employment opportunities.

I hope you will support the proposal with the amendments outlined above and look forward to attending the hearing on Monday, June 4 at 1:00 PM in City Hall Room 263.

Sincerely,

Sean M Gibson

President

The Gus Factor Inc.

875 Indiana Street, # 515

San Francisco, CA 94107

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco 94102-4689  
Tel. No. 554-5184  
Fax No. 554-5163  
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Park Department  
Ed Harrington, General Manager, Public Utilities Commission  
Mohammed Nuru, Director, Department of Public Works  
Barbara A. Garcia, Director, Department of Public Health  
Melanie Nutter, Director, Department of the Environment  
John Rahaim, Director, Planning Department  
Vivian Day, Director, Department of Building Inspection  
John Updike, Department of Real Estate  
Luis Herrera, City Librarian, Public Library  
Joaquin Torres, Director, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services  
Naomi Kelly, City Administrator  
Monique Moyer, Executive Director, Port  
John L. Martin, Director, Airport  
Carlos Garcia, Superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District

FROM: Alisa Miller, Clerk, Land Use and Economic Development Committee  
Board of Supervisors

DATE: May 2, 2012

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Economic Development Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Chiu on April 24, 2012, which is being forwarded to your department for informational purposes.

**File No. 120404**

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Sections 53.1 through 53.4 to: 1) establish an Urban Agriculture Program to oversee and coordinate all of the City's Urban Agriculture activities; and 2) adopt goals for the City related to Urban Agriculture.

If you have any reports or comments to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

c: AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department