

1 [Administrative Code - Urban Agriculture Program]

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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~~.

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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 participate in urban agriculture activities. In the past  
5 five years, total funding from the City has averaged approximately \$580,000 per year. The  
6 lack of coordination among agencies has led to an overall decline in City resources for urban  
7 agriculture activities relative to the funding level of the 1990s.

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

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

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

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19 **SEC. 53.1. TITLE.**

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

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

23 *"Urban Agriculture" is the growing of food through intensive plant cultivation and animal*  
24 *husbandry. Urban agriculture can occur in many types of places, including, but not limited to, home*

1 gardens, community gardens, market gardens, demonstration gardens, gardens at institutions such as  
2 schools, workplaces, and jails, urban farms, orchards, rooftops, and greenhouses.

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4 **SEC. 53.3. URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.**

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

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

8 (1) Review and help coordinate Urban Agriculture efforts across all City departments  
9 and agencies, including, but not limited to, the Recreation and Park, Public Utilities, Public Works,  
10 Public Health, Environment, Planning, Building Inspection, Food Security Task Force, County  
11 Agricultural Commissioner, Real Estate, Public Library, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services,  
12 City Administrator, Port, Airport, and the San Francisco Unified School District;

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

16 (3) Develop strategic partnerships with community organizations, schools, and others  
17 for the purpose of advancing Urban Agriculture in San Francisco;

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

20 (5) Collect data and metrics related to Urban Agriculture and make that information  
21 available to the public.

22 (c) Strategic Plan. By December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator shall develop  
23 a strategic plan for the Urban Agriculture Program to carry out its duties and to meet the City's stated  
24 Urban Agriculture goals, as contained in Sections 53.3 and 53.4. The strategic plan shall contain  
25 baseline data on Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, including, but not limited to, an accounting of all

1 City funding and resources, a list of all local Urban Agriculture programs, a count of all active and  
2 inactive sites and site coordinators, a count of waiting lists, and a needs assessment of resident,  
3 organization, and business needs. The Mayor and the City Administrator shall submit the strategic  
4 plan to the Board of Supervisors, and make the plan available to the general public, by December 31,  
5 2012.

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

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

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

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

10  
11 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
12           THOMAS J. OWEN  
13           Deputy City Attorney