

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 ~~striketrough normal~~.

10

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 / / /

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 enhance existing job training programs  
9 and provide new job training and employment opportunities for all San Francisco residents,  
10 including low income individuals and youth, and can create employment opportunities and  
11 incentives for employers to hire San Francisco residents for food-growing programs; Explore  
12 how Urban Agriculture can provide job training and employment opportunities for San  
13 Francisco residents;

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

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

19 (c) **Strategic Plan.** By December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator, in  
20 consultation with relevant City departments and community stakeholders, shall develop a strategic plan  
21 for the Urban Agriculture Program to carry out its duties and to meet the City's stated Urban  
22 Agriculture goals, as contained in Sections 53.3 and 53.4. The strategic plan shall contain baseline  
23 data on Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, including, but not limited to, an accounting of all City  
24 funding and resources, a list of all local Urban Agriculture programs, a count of all active and inactive  
25 sites and site coordinators, a count of waiting lists, and a needs assessment of resident, organization,

1 and business needs. The strategic plan shall also include a projected budget for the Urban Agriculture  
2 Program and identify potential sources of funding. The Mayor and the City Administrator shall submit  
3 the strategic plan to the Board of Supervisors for its approval by resolution, and make the plan  
4 available to the general public, by December 31, 2012. The strategic plan may set new target dates for  
5 the City to reach the Urban Agriculture Goals set in Section 53.4, and those new dates shall be deemed  
6 ratified by the Board's approval of the strategic plan.

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

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

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

24  
25 **SEC. 53.4. URBAN AGRICULTURE GOALS.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (7) To analyze and develop, by January 1, 2013, a strategy to reduce the wait list for  
17 San Francisco residents seeking access to a community garden plot to one year. To develop  
18 sufficient Urban Agriculture resources such that by January 1, 2014, San Francisco residents  
19 seeking a community garden plot have to wait no more than a year for access to a plot.

20  
21 Section 3. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the  
22 date of passage.

23  
24 / / /

25 / / /

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.

7  
8  
9 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
10 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

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