

Urban Goat Keeping

January 28, 2020

City Council Study Session

City Staff Representatives:

Michelle Tyree – Community Services Supervisor

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Purpose

Request

- To consider and discuss a potential code amendment to allow goat keeping as an accessory use on residential properties.

Strategic Focus Area

- Recognizable and Well-Planned Community



Background

- Petition Request
 - Resident in City Core
 - Requesting permission to keep two goats on the property
- Preliminary Discussion
 - Part of the Land Use Code Update
 - Concerns about potential impacts on a city-wide basis
 - Staff presenting additional information for consideration and direction

Urban Agriculture Trend

- Single-Use Zoning vs. Mixed-Use Zoning
- Benefits of Urban Agriculture
- Previous Urban Agriculture Code Amendment (Chickens and Bees)
- Addressing Negative Impacts



Code Amendment

Municipal Code

- Animal Regulations
 - Type
 - Breed
 - Quantity
 - Care
 - License

Land Use and Development Code

- Use & Development Regulations
 - Structures
 - Land Use
 - Permit

Community Comparison

Prohibited

(Not Addressed)

- Commerce City
- Fort Lupton
- Northglenn
- Thornton
- Westminster
- Aurora

Permitted

- Arvada
- Colorado Springs
- Denver
- Fort Collins
- Golden
- Lafayette
- Wheatridge

Regulations

- Some cities allow in all zones, but others are specific to the zone type
- 2-4 goat limit (varying by entity)
- Some limit by breed type and some by weight; most do not allow intact males
- Structure and land use regulations have significant variation
- Waste and care is addressed by all
- 5 require a permit, 2 do not
- Slaughter is permitted by half with specific regulations

Municipal Code/Animal Welfare/Considerations

- Section 6-4-10 Definitions - Livestock
- Section 6-4-900 Urban agriculture and small animal husbandry
- If approved how will goats be counted against Section 6-4-440 Accumulation of animals
- If approved will residents be required to have a license after having residential inspections and provide proof of vaccinations?
- Disposal of remnants and manure – Only 1 disposal provider in the city limits allows for remnants and manure disposal for residential customers
- Sheep and Goat Diseases which can be transmitted to Humans – Zoonotic Diseases
- Adams County Animal Shelter – has limited capacity, at-large goats will be placed in dog kennels
- City of Fort Collins Section 4-121 Keeping of Goats

Staff Request

- Should staff proceed with amendments to the Municipal and Land Use and Development Codes to permit goat keeping as an accessory use in residential zone districts?
- If yes, staff welcomes any additional feedback or direction regarding the nature of the code amendment and any specific concerns of the council.