



Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments

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To: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
From: Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI)
Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG)
Date: November 2, 2015
RE: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission Agenda and Correspondence

5th Meeting of the Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission

November 4, 2015 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Fargo City Commission Chambers

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| 10:30 am | 1. Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Approve Order & Contents of the Overall Agendab. Review & Action on Minutes from September 9, 2015 (Attachment 1) |
| 10:35 am | 2. Urban Agriculture Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Ugly Food of the North: Urban Agriculture (Attachment 2a & 2b) – Megan Myrdalb. Urban Agriculture Community Interest Survey (Attachment 3) – Megan Myrdal |
| 10:45 am | 3. Urban Chickens <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Urban Chickens Education (Attachment 4) – Megan Myrdalb. Urban Chickens Blueprint (Attachment 5) – Whitney Oxendahlc. Public Inputd. Commission Discussion |
| 11:30 am | 4. 2016 Communications Plan – Megan Myrdal |
| 11:35 am | 5. Online Community Input (Attachment 6) – Kim Lipetzky |
| 11:40 am | 6. Public Comment Opportunity – Commissioner Rasmussen |
| 11:45 am | 7. Commission & Steering Committee Roundtable |
| 11:50 am | 8. 2016 Commission Chair Appointment (Attachment 7) – Adam Altenburg |
| 11:55 am | 9. Commission Action Steps
Next Meeting – January 13, 2016 |
| 12:00 pm | 10. Adjournment |

Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission meetings are taped and rebroadcast on cable channel TV Fargo 56 each Friday at 11:00 am.

People with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and need special accommodations should contact Kate Wurtzler at Metro COG at 701.232.3242 x0. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

Meeting minutes are available on the City of Fargo Let's Eat Local website at www.letseatlocal.org and Metro COG's website at www.fmmetrocog.org.

A PLANNING ORGANIZATION SERVING

FARGO, WEST FARGO, CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA AND MOORHEAD, DILWORTH, CLAY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Attachment 1

**4th Meeting of the
Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
September 9th, 2015
Fargo Commission Chambers**

Members Present:

Heidi Durand, Moorhead City Council, Chair
Arland Rasmussen, Cass County Commission
Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commission
Jim Aasness, Dilworth City Council
Mike Williams, Fargo City Commission
Jessica Arneson, At-Large Member
Andrea Baumgardner, At-Large Member
Jon Evert, At-Large Member
Janet Paul, At-Large Member
Dana Rieth, At-Large Member

Members Absent:

Jenny Mongeau, Clay County Commission

Others Present:

Megan Myrdal, Project Coordinator
Kim Lipetzky, Fargo Cass Public Health
Gina Nolte, Clay County Public Health/PartnerSHIP4Health
Rita Ussatis, North Dakota State University Extension
Aby Gold, Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative
Whitney Oxendahl, Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative
Adam Altenburg, Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments

Chair Durand called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

1(a). Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda

A motion to approve the order and contents of the overall agenda was made by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Thorstad. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

1(b). Review and Action on Minutes from July 8, 2015

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Aasness and seconded by Mr. Evert. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

2(a). Fargo-Moorhead Metro Area Community Garden Information

Ms. Myrdal explained that at the prior Commission meeting in July 2015, there was a request to review available data, including surveys and studies, related to resident interest in community gardens. Ms. Myrdal explained that at the prior meeting, information was reviewed on the Steering Committee's urban agricultural prioritization surveys in which Commissioners and 117 community members had completed surveys to assess what their interest was in regard to various urban agriculture areas. Ms. Myrdal stated that community gardens had been ranked the highest topic to be addressed by both Commission members and the community.

Ms. Myrdal informed the Commission that three available studies had been located that included some measure of previous community garden interest in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area.

Ms. Myrdal stated that the one study was the Active in Moorhead (AIM) Partnership survey completed in 2009. Ms. Myrdal explained that the intent of the study was to determine which types of activities would motivate citizens to become more active. Ms. Myrdal stated that approximately one-fifth of respondents (21.6 percent) stated that community gardening would be a recreational activity that would encourage them to become more active.

Ms. Myrdal explained that a second study to address community gardens was Phase One of the Moorhead River Corridor Study which was completed in 2013. Ms. Myrdal stated that the study asked respondents what types of specific activities they would like to see along the river corridor. Ms. Myrdal explained that there were mixed comments related to vegetation and the focus should be on promoting native species versus community gardening-type activities along the river corridor.

Ms. Myrdal informed the Commission that a third study which addressed community gardening was the Go2030 Comprehensive Plan for the City of Fargo. Ms. Myrdal explained that the plan contained information on healthy food and access to healthy food and one of the recommendations that came from that plan was to establish permanent farmers' markets and community garden locations throughout neighborhoods in Fargo.

Ms. Myrdal stated that in conversations with West Fargo, Dilworth, Cass County, and Clay County, there was no currently available data assessing residents' interest in community gardens. Ms. Myrdal explained that of the studies mentioned, none were designed to be a direct measure of gauging specific interest in community gardens.

Mr. Evert stated that he was surprised to learn that the jurisdictions had not previously faced the issue of community gardens before and that it looks to be a new issue to civic leaders. Mr. Evert stated that it would be beneficial to be assertive in engaging with community members and civic leaders to start conversations on evaluating the desire for community gardens and other urban agriculture issues.

2(b). Community Garden Blueprint

Ms. Oxendahl stated that the prior Commission meeting in July 2015, the Steering Committee had walked the Commission through the draft blueprint on community gardens. Ms. Oxendahl explained that the Commission had requested that the Steering Committee go back and check in with additional jurisdictions to see what their expectations were with regard to involvement by city parks departments in community gardening. Ms. Oxendahl informed the Commission that an additional appendix had been added to the community garden blueprint which addresses garden management in regional jurisdictions. Ms. Oxendahl stated that she had contacted Bismarck, ND, Grand Forks, ND, Rochester, MN, and Sioux Falls, SD.

Ms. Oxendahl explained that in Bismarck, the Parks and Recreation Department provides land use, water and hoses, and spring and fall tilling, along with composting dumpsters for two community garden locations. Ms. Oxendahl stated that in Grand Forks, they have an office on-site at their community garden and that the Park District provides spring and fall tilling, water and hoses, and composting, as well as landscaping around the garden's perimeter. Ms. Oxendahl explained that in Rochester, the Parks and Recreation Department administers two community garden sites and that the department provides the land, tilling in the spring, and mowing in the fall – but do not provide water to any of the sites. Ms. Oxendahl informed the Commission that in Sioux Falls, community gardening is a cooperative effort between the Minnehaha County Master Gardeners Club, South Dakota State University Extension, and the Parks Department, with the Parks Department providing the land and the Gardeners Club and Extension providing the tilling, water, and maintenance. Ms.

Oxendahl stated that in conversations with each of the jurisdictions, specific budgets were not normally allocated and that each was seeing a need or open to expanding community gardening activities.

Chair Durand asked whether Bismarck or Grand Forks had given an indication of how much of their general maintenance budget had been set aside for community gardening activities. Ms. Oxendahl answered that the officials she spoke to were uncertain how much community garden activities were costing them but that officials in Grand Forks has indicated that plot fees were able to cover tilling, water, and maintenance. Chair Durand stated that she found it interesting that elected officials in those municipalities would not want to know that information.

Ms. Myrdal informed the Commission that members of the Steering Committee had recently met with officials from Clay County to discuss the community garden blueprint and how the blueprint might be used to inform ordinance changes to recognize community gardening activities within the county. Ms. Myrdal stated that a timeline has already been established to guide that process from 2015 into 2016.

A motion to approve the Community Garden Blueprint was made by Ms. Arneson and seconded by Mr. Aasness. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

3(a). Urban Bees Education

Ms. Myrdal stated that urban beekeeping, also known as hobby beekeeping or backyard beekeeping, is the practice of keeping bee colonies in urban areas. Ms. Myrdal stated that there are a number of reasons communities are choosing to permit bees in urban areas for both economic and environmental reasons.

Ms. Myrdal explained that one of the obvious benefits of urban beekeeping is honey, with residents having a desire to produce their own honey as well as the ability to sell honey to local markets.

Ms. Myrdal stated that an issue that has been receiving greater attention is allowing for urban beekeeping for environmental reasons. Ms. Myrdal explained that bees are pollinators and are the most important insect that transfer pollen to flowers and in-between plants. Ms. Myrdal stated that many crops grown in the Midwest are pollinated by bees including apples, cucumbers, raspberries, squash, and watermelon to name a few.

Ms. Myrdal explained that many urban areas contain a greater biodiversity of plants compared to farmland areas which are characterized by large swaths of single crops, often referred to as monocropping. Ms. Myrdal stated that bees are often better able to thrive in urban areas because of greater biodiversity.

Ms. Myrdal informed the Commission that there is a global concern about the loss in honey bee populations. Ms. Myrdal stated that the number of managed honey bee colonies in the United States has decreased from six million in the 1940's to approximately 2.5 million today. Ms. Myrdal explained that a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a 2014 report which declared that today is a critical time to support honey bee populations since these populations have been in decline for decades. Ms. Myrdal stated that the reason for this sharp decline is not entirely known, although many suspect that colony collapse disorder (CCD) to be the reason, caused a combination of environmental stressors including bacteria, parasites, viruses, agriculture practices, pesticide use, and poor nutrition.

Ms. Myrdal explained that most of the crops that bees pollinate are our most nutritious foods, including fruits, vegetables, and nuts. Ms. Myrdal stated that supporting a healthy bee population is essential to maintaining a local and global food supply, with bee pollination responsible for more than

\$15 billion in increased crop value each year. Ms. Myrdal stated that one mouthful in three in our diets benefits directly or indirectly from honey bee pollination.

Ms. Myrdal explained that one of the greatest concerns with inviting bees into an urban environment is the fear of stinging. Ms. Myrdal shared a resource with the Commission from the Garden Task Force of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) that addresses some of the common concerns that citizens have including different kinds of bees, allergic versus non-allergic reactions, and safety tips on how to reduce risk – including adequate public education.

3(b). Urban Bees Blueprint

Ms. Oxendahl informed the Commission of common issues addressed in local ordinances on urban bees including: number of hives permitted, permit and fee process, hive restrictions, location on the lot, equipment requirements, flyway barriers, sources of fresh water, setback distances, minimum lot size, rooftop considerations, nuisance clause, re-queening aggressive colonies, permitting, educational requirements, penalties, and whether honey or other products may be bought or sold. Ms. Oxendahl stated that none of the jurisdictions in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area address beekeeping, though that since the issue is not addressed in Fargo and Moorhead, bees would not be allowed in those jurisdictions.

Ms. Oxendahl explained the framework for evaluating urban bees including health, economic, and social domains. Ms. Oxendahl explained that health benefits of urban bees include increased access to a nutritious food source, while a concern was allergies to bee stings. Ms. Oxendahl stated that environmental benefits include more fruitful gardens due to increased bee pollination, increased biodiversity, and increased support for dwindling honeybee populations. Ms. Oxendahl explained that economic benefits include furnishing individuals and families with honey, wax, and other useful products, as well as the potential to sell products, while concerns include costs of permitting fees, cost prohibitiveness of equipment for low-income families, and jurisdictional cost of monitoring and addressing issues. Ms. Oxendahl stated that social benefits include increased awareness of the food cycle and connection to agriculture as well as providing a positive family activity, while concerns include the fear of getting stung and nuisances that include occasional stinging when bees feel threatened, swarming, and bees gravitating towards shallow bodies of water.

Ms. Oxendahl provided information from the blueprint on common urban beekeeping concerns including stinging, cost for low-income families, and bees gravitating toward bodies of water. Ms. Oxendahl stated that a handout from the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) accompanying the agenda packet addresses common misconceptions about bee stings and that yellow jackets are the most aggressive and prone to stinging, while honey bees are least likely to attack. Ms. Oxendahl followed-up by stating that a majority of individuals are allergic to yellow jackets, not honey bees. Ms. Oxendahl provided information on solutions for bee sting concerns including public education and requiring a six-foot flyway barrier at hive exits to reduce bee contact with humans. Ms. Oxendahl stated that including funding and management from non-profits to cover startup costs could help low-income families overcome initial cost barriers. Ms. Oxendahl explained that most ordinances require urban beekeepers to provide a water source for their colonies during the non-dormant period to minimize the nuisance to surrounding property owners.

Ms. Oxendahl informed the Commission that two regional jurisdictions currently allow urban bees: Duluth, MN and Grand Forks, ND – while urban bees are not permitted in Bismarck, ND. Ms. Oxendahl stated that urban beekeeping is also allowed in Lincoln, NE and in agricultural districts in Sioux Falls, SD – but not allowed in Mankato, MN or Rochester, MN. Ms. Oxendahl concluded with information on example ordinances from Boston, MA, Duluth, MN, Minneapolis, MN, Salt Lake City, UT, and Littleton, CO.

Mr. Rasmussen asked if honey bees attract other types of bees or stinging insects. Ms. Oxendahl stated that they shouldn't as long as the apiary grounds are cleaned as that may be more likely to attract other bees and stinging insects. Mr. Rasmussen asked what happens if an individual is not maintaining their apiary and who would be responsible for enforcing those types of inspections. Ms. Oxendahl stated that it would depend on the language of the ordinance, with the possibility of animal control or public health departments responsible for inspections. Mr. Rasmussen stated that this may be an issue as West Fargo, Fargo, and Clay County do not have animal control departments and that police may become tied up enforcing urban animal issues. Mr. Rasmussen stated that enforcement entities need to be identified prior to any jurisdiction adopting language allowing urban bees. Chair Durand agreed with this assertion that each jurisdiction would need to determine what option would work best for them.

Mr. Evert asked a clarifying question on whether re-queening can actually modify the behavior of bees of an aggressive colony. Ms. Oxendahl stated that re-queening with a more docile queen will affect and tame the behavior of the rest of the bees of a colony.

Ms. Arneson asked how many bees are in a typical colony. The Steering Committee was unsure of the typical number of bees per colony. Ms. Arneson asked if there was a trend in the number of hives allowed per yard. Ms. Oxendahl stated that the number of hives allowed varies per city but that the number usually doesn't surpass five hives per yard.

Mr. Evert asked whether most bee stings were the result of intrusion or of bees feeling threatened. Ms. Oxendahl answered that this is true. Mr. Evert posited that people's fear may be the reason for many bee stings if they are trying to slap them away instead of ignoring them. Chair Durand and Ms. Myrdal both stated that education will be a huge component of any urban bees ordinance or policy.

Ms. Arneson iterated that she liked the idea of an educational requirement and asked if an entity would be available to help with that. Ms. Gold stated that there are experts that study various pollinators at area universities and that several extension specialists that may be able to assist with education but that a formal system of education or a master beekeeper program does not currently exist in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. Ms. Gold stated that this may be something to consider when determining the educational component included in an ordinance. Ms. Gold stated that online educational beekeeping programs or programs from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area could prove beneficial. Ms. Gold also explained that beekeepers in the area may also be willing to share their knowledge but would probably not be able to provide a formal education program. Chair Durand posited whether it would be possible to have beekeeping program specialists from Minneapolis-St. Paul provide training programs in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area once or twice a year. Ms. Gold stated that an organization called the Back Yard Beekeepers Association also provides ordinance education and could potentially be a good resource.

Chari Durand expressed that she had a concern with a table in the blueprint that referenced the educational handout accompanying the agenda packet but that the handout was not actually included in the blueprint. Ms. Myrdal stated that the handout addressing common misconceptions about bee stings could be added as an appendix to the blueprint.

Mr. Thorstad asked if buy-in from neighboring property owners was an issue addressed in the urban bees blueprint and, if not, how it could potentially be addressed. Ms. Oxendahl stated that she had not seen any ordinance address buy-in from neighbors for urban bees but that it has been an issue addressed in other urban animal policies. Mr. Rasmussen stated that this could be a potential issue between jurisdictional boundaries, especially between Fargo and West Fargo where the boundaries abut, if one jurisdiction were to allow urban bees and one jurisdiction were not to allow urban bees.

Chair Durand asked whether the blueprint included any information on the lot width or lot depth to determine the number of hives a jurisdiction would allow on a property. Ms. Oxendahl stated that there are lot requirements in each of the ordinances that she reviewed and that the number of hives is usually determined by lot area. Chair Durand posited that there may be circumstances in which small lot size may prohibit a hive on a property. Ms. Gold stated that some of the densest cities in the world have the highest level of urban beekeeping, with cities able to utilize rooftop beekeeping. Chair Durand stated that she had concerns that there may be backlash from individuals that may push to make urban bees a prohibitive activity and that utilizing lot size might allow Moorhead to ease into a pilot urban bees program.

Mr. Evert asked a clarifying question on whether hives for honeybees attract more wasps, hornets, or other types of pollinators. Ms. Oxendahl stated that they shouldn't as long as the apiary grounds are kept clean.

Ms. Arneson asked whether there was any correlating data that showed that urban beekeeping led to an increased number of stings in an area. The Steering Committee was unsure whether there was any data available that showed any type of correlation between urban beekeeping and increased stinging incidents. Chair Durand stated this would be excellent information to have available when discussing urban bees with jurisdictions. Ms. Myrdal explained that most stinging incidents do not come from honey-producing bees but from other pollinators.

Mr. Williams stated that many of the questions that had been raised throughout the discussion were pertinent and that much of the information in the urban bees blueprint, including the example ordinances, would be a great resource for jurisdictions in moving forward with the issue.

Chair Durand asked the Commission whether there were any other concerns with the document and whether any additional information was needed. Ms. Rieth asked a clarifying question about the blueprint referencing a state beekeeping code for North Dakota and whether a similar state code existed for Minnesota and whether it had any provisions which needed to be addressed in the blueprint. Ms. Myrdal stated that she was unsure what Minnesota had in terms of state codes for urban beekeeping and whether it had any application to the blueprint and the jurisdictions referenced. Chair Durand asked the Commission if they would like to see the state codes for both North Dakota and Minnesota added to the blueprint as an appendix. Ms. Myrdal stated the Steering Committee would add state statutes for North Dakota and Minnesota as appendices to the blueprint.

A motion to approve the Urban Bees Blueprint with the changes suggested by the Commission was made by Mr. Evert and seconded by Ms. Arneson. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

4. 2015-2016 Sustainability Plan

Ms. Myrdal informed the Commission that in July 2015, members of the Steering Committee attended a training session through the Center for Public Health Systems Science at Washington University. Ms. Myrdal explained that the program works with coalitions and initiatives across the United States to help form more sustainable policies and enhanced capacity for sustainability through time. Ms. Myrdal stated that attending the training was part of the requirements expressed by the North Dakota Department of Health in its grant to the Steering Committee for the development of the Commission.

Ms. Myrdal explained that as part of the program, members of the Steering Committee had completed a sustainability assessment report to determine which domains were important for sustainability for the Cass Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI) and the Commission. Ms. Myrdal stated that based on this report, the Steering Committee had identified four domains/objectives to be addressed as part of the CCFSI: funding, communications, program evaluation, and other projects/initiatives. Ms. Myrdal

explained that this became the basis of the 2015-2016 Sustainability Plan for the CCFSI and the Commission and that this plan may help in the development of more formal work plans in the future.

Ms. Myrdal explained that the objective for funding included identifying and securing funding for a staff person by September 2016. Ms. Myrdal stated that the objective for communications included developing and implementing a communication plan on benefits and accomplishments of program efforts of the CCFSI and the Commission. Ms. Myrdal explained that the program evaluation domain included research and updating key indicators from the 2013 Metropolitan Food Systems Plan on an annual basis. Ms. Myrdal stated that other projects and initiatives included the continuation of the development of blueprints.

Ms. Myrdal provided additional information on the 2015-2016 Sustainability Plan including issue identification process, programming elements, structure of the Commission, proposed budget, and information on Commission and Steering Committee members.

Ms. Baumgardner stated that she is happy to see that funding was recognized as an important domain in the plan. Mr. Williams iterated that sustainable funding is very important and that it was good to see the Steering Committee recognize that grants are just one of many potential funding sources and not necessarily the primary source for funding in the future.

A motion to approve the 2015-2016 Sustainability Plan was made by Mr. Rasmussen and seconded by Ms. Baumgardner. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

5. Community Orchards Grant Opportunity

Ms. Lipetzky informed the Commission that, from time to time, funding becomes available for issues such as food access, urban agriculture, farming, and other related topics. Ms. Lipetzky stated that the Steering Committee would share these grant opportunities with the Commission and that one such available opportunity that recently became available was a North Dakota Department of Agriculture community orchards grant. Ms. Lipetzky explained that this grant would be available for communities, schools, and other organizations and that grant amounts ranged from \$500 to \$10,000. Ms. Lipetzky stated that money could be used for trees, fruit-bearing shrubs, planting supplies, soil, irrigation, fencing supplies, and related items. Ms. Lipetzky stated that grant applications were due October 23 and that Commission members were urged to contact the Steering Committee if they knew of anyone who may have interest in applying.

Mr. Williams asked if the community orchards grant opportunity had been shared with City of Fargo planning and engineering officials for potential flood buy-out/flood wall locations along the Red River. Ms. Lipetzky stated that she was in communication with Nicole Crutchfield with the City of Fargo Planning Department.

6. Online Community Input

Ms. Lipetzky explained that community members who may not be able to attend Commission meetings are able to submit public comments through the City of Fargo Let's Eat Local website. Ms. Lipetzky stated that one public comment had been received between July and August 2015 and that the commenter from Fargo would like to see cottage food laws modified to allow direct sales from home kitchens. Ms. Lipetzky explained that she had spoken with an environmental health official from Fargo Cass Public Health and found that it is a contentious issue throughout the United States. Ms. Lipetzky stated that some states, including Florida and California, have passed laws to allow foods prepared in homes to be sold directly to consumers with certain restrictions. Ms. Lipetzky explained that a future blueprint under consideration looks at the urban agriculture issue of sales and that it is possible that cottage food laws could be researched at that time.

Mr. Evert stated that homemade jams and other items are currently seen at farmers markets and asked whether cottage food laws apply to such items or not. Ms. Lipetzky stated that certain homemade items are allowed as long as they are properly labeled that they were not prepared in a commercial kitchen. Ms. Myrdal stated that there is very specific list of what items are allowed to be prepared in a home kitchen versus what items must be prepared in a commercial kitchen. Mr. Evert asked what home-prepared items the community input request may be referring to. Ms. Lipetzky stated that she could see rules applying to an individual who may want to sell bread directly from their home instead of going through a farmers market. Ms. Lipetzky explained she had researched the cottage food laws in Florida and one of the stipulations of selling directly out of home was a cap of \$15,000 per year without a license.

Mr. Rasmussen stated that an issue several years back was whether churches were able to prepare hotdish items for various functions and asked if cottage food laws were to be changed, would there be any types of inspections and, if so, would public health departments be asking for increased staff. Ms. Lipetzky stated that in speaking with their environmental health official with Fargo Cass Public Health, they would be taking a closer look at the issue when and if it becomes a bigger issue for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. Ms. Nolte stated that this issue could be addressed in the urban agriculture blueprint on sales.

Mr. Thorstad stated that there has been a proliferation of food trucks in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area and whether they are subject to inspections. Ms. Lipetzky explained that food trucks are licensed and inspected periodically. Ms. Lipetzky stated that an issue that may need to be looked at is locations where food trucks are able to sell food and potentially how close they may set up to schools.

Mr. Williams stated that a lot of local food at the church he attends, especially apples, goes to waste. Mr. Williams explained that they have been discussing how to give apples and other food away, potentially to local food banks, or using apples to prepare applesauce that could be donated. Mr. Williams asked whether this would be an activity that would be allowable in a church kitchen. Ms. Arneson explained that the Great Plains Food Bank recommends that churches and other community groups donate any raw produce directly to people to take to their homes. Ms. Arneson stated that another possibility would be for churches or community groups to invite would-be recipients to events where items such as applesauce or spaghetti sauce could be given away. Ms. Arneson explained that food pantries cannot accept food prepared in a non-commercial kitchen. Ms. Baumgardner stated that some church kitchens are commercially licensed. Ms. Myrdal added that some food policy councils in the United States have done assessments of their communities of all the commercial kitchens that are available to make citizens aware of where they may access those types of facilities to prepare food that could be donated. Mr. Williams asked whether such an assessment has been done for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan. Ms. Lipetzky stated that the Steering Committee could help develop a list of commercial kitchens in the area.

7. Public Comment Opportunity

Chair Durand informed the Commission that time would be allotted for public comments.

Chuck Fleming, Local Foods Coordinator for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) State Rural Development Office of North Dakota, informed the Commission that the state is currently working on a master plan for local foods in North Dakota. Mr. Fleming explained that he is tasked with making recommendations on various food systems elements which will need to be addressed in the plan. Mr. Fleming stated that he was interested to see what types of issues the Commission is addressing in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. Mr. Fleming expressed that he would like input

from the Commission not only on general information on food policy councils/commissions but also areas which should be addressed in a state master plan for local foods. Mr. Fleming stated that any advice would be beneficial in the development of a state food council/commission or the development of more local or regional food councils/commissions. Mr. Fleming briefly shared with the Commission different elements he had identified as part of the master local foods plan including: producer development, products, marketing plan, financing, a save our farmstead (SOF) program, processing facilities, a technical assistance program for producers, food safety, soil health, beginning producer resource manual, insurance, and local food councils/commissions.

Mara Solberg of Solberg Farms and Prairie Roots Food Co-op informed the Commission that a group called the American Beekeeping Federation has information and additional ideas as it pertains to urban bees. Ms. Solberg explained that most bees will sting only if they are disturbed for a reason and that they should not be seen as a major concern. Ms. Solberg posited whether the Commission would be interested in a program to plant raspberry bushes in and around the community, the reason being that they are hearty, low-maintenance, and would help promote local eating. Ms. Solberg explained that the new Red River Market in downtown Fargo has been hugely beneficial for the community.

8. Commission and Steering Committee Roundtable

Chair Durand asked for the Commission and the Steering Committee to share any additional updates.

Mr. Williams asked Mr. Fleming how he felt his previous work with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture tied in with his current work with the USDA. Mr. Fleming explained that in 2010, he had outlined a vision for local foods to the state Agriculture Commissioner. Mr. Fleming stated that one of the recommendations in the state master plan for local foods that tied into his previous work would be for the governor to sign memoranda of understanding with various agencies for potential state funding of food systems initiatives in the future.

Ms. Nolte responded to a previous concern of Mr. Rasmussen about abutting jurisdictions possibly adopting different positions on urban agriculture. Ms. Nolte explained that it was the Steering Committee's hope that the blueprints being developed for urban agriculture would provide a baseline for each of the jurisdictions so that potential issues would be minimized.

Ms. Gold stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Myrdal in developing a Facebook page for the CCFSI with links to various resources, including the Minnesota Food Charter. Ms. Gold explained that this type of charter could be something for North Dakota to consider in the future and could be one of the recommendations of the state master plan for local foods.

Ms. Oxendahl invited Commission members who had not already done so to come to the Red River Market, held Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in front of US Bank Plaza through the end of October. Ms. Myrdal invited Commission members to check out a new group, Ugly Food of the North, which seeks to further the conversation about food waste on a local, regional, and national level.

9. Commission Action Steps

Ms. Myrdal explained that two events were coming up in North Dakota and Minnesota related to food systems: the Creating a Hunger Free Community Summit would be held in Bismarck, ND on September 17th and 18th; and the Food Access Summit would be held in Duluth, MN November 8th through the 10th. Ms. Myrdal stated that both events would be good opportunities to network with other people working on similar food systems issues. Ms. Myrdal stated that the next Commission meeting would be November 4th.

Chair Durand adjourned the meeting at 11:54 AM.

Ugly Food of the North: Urban Agriculture Online Survey



Ugly Food of the North: Urban Agriculture

We greatly appreciate your feedback and participation in our community conversation. Please feel free to share all thoughts and perspectives regarding urban agriculture in the Fargo-Moorhead metro area.

* Required

Name

First and last please!

Email

We promise we won't spam you

Where do you live? *

Attachment 2a

What aspects of urban agriculture are you interested in?

Please check all answers that apply.

- Aquaponics and aquaculture
- Beekeeping
- Boulevard gardens
- Chicken and other small livestock keeping
- Community gardens
- Community supported agriculture (CSAs)
- Composting
- Farmers markets
- Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses
- Rooftop gardens
- School gardens
- Other:

What thoughts do you have regarding urban agriculture in Fargo-Moorhead and the surrounding area?

We want ideas, hopes, dreams, concerns, fears - all the things.

Submit

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

Attachment 2b

Ugly Food of the North Urban Agriculture Survey Results

<i>Where do you live?</i>	<i>What aspects of urban agriculture are you interested in?</i>	<i>What thoughts do you have regarding urban agriculture in Fargo-Moorhead and the surrounding area?</i>
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Fargo	Farmers markets	
Fargo	Boulevard gardens, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	What are the regulations?
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, farmers' markets	We need to do a comprehensive planning process that looks toward the future where the Red River Valley supplies most of our food needs AND the municipalities support the growing of food in and around its borders. We need a city food scrap composting program.
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	What are the regulations?
Other	Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Composting, Rooftop gardens	
Other	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	Honeybees and beehives in the city
Other	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I think it would be beneficial to see in the community and beneficial for our environment.

Fargo	Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I think urban agriculture adds so much to communities. It brings all people together. I also think it's really important to get children started in school gardens, home gardens and all other aspects of urban agriculture to expand the movement.
Fargo	Beekeeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses	Knowing where your food comes from is so important. I hope Fargo moves forward in supporting residents growing and raising their own food.
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	As a small space gardener, I want to share knowledge and personal experience with others who are considering a small space garden. It's vital that we as a community "grow our own" and teach future generations to do the same.
Fargo	Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Fargo	Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens, interested in all but involved in checked items	That each citizen who wants is able to find a garden placej to grow food. That there can be a thriving economic market for locally grown and raised agricultural products. for neighborhoods to meet and vote to reconsider allowing food to be grown by owners. that apartment complexes would plan garden spaces for their residents who wish to grow food; would plant apple trees to be harvested for use by residents or donated to those organizations helping those seeking free apples.
Fargo	Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens, interested in all but involved in checked items	That each citizen who wants is able to find a garden placej to grow food. That there can be a thriving economic market for locally grown and raised agricultural products. for neighborhoods to meet and vote to reconsider allowing food to be grown by owners. that apartment complexes would plan garden spaces for their residents who wish to grow food; would plant apple trees to be harvested for use by residents or donated to those organizations helping those seeking free apples.

Moorhead	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens	Just established a nice garden in my backyard. Would love to have bees in my yard. I have 25 years experience with running an educationally oriented CSA and would be willing to farm or mentor a farmer for an urban based CSA that was also focused as a destination for learning for children and/or work for developmentally disabled. Also have experience with high tunnels and greenhouses.
Moorhead	Boulevard gardens, Community gardens, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens	
Other	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	Honeybees and beehives in the city
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens, rain gardens	need bees and chicken in Moorhead. emphasize food AND ecology (native habitat) focus on water stewardship willing to help out with all the above
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I would like to see a lot more gardens in homeowners' yards. What if we institute some kind of program in which people with yards who are willing to let people garden them are paired with people without garden space who wish to garden? Yeah?
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, verticle aeroponic gardening	I just moved to an apartment in Moorhead a year ago from a 29 acre home with 30 chickens and a big garden. I was mourning the thought of not being able to garden. I did my research and found a vertical aeroponic tower garden that has worked GREAT for us. It even has grow lights so I have brought both of mine indoors and will be able to continue growing my own fresh veggies year round. I love them. No bending or weeding...I call it Diva Gardening :) The company even has a program to get them into Boys and Girls clubs, day cares, and schools, around the nation in order to promote healthy eating in youth. Being new to the area, I don't know who to contact about this opportunity but would even be willing to help those organizations seek grant funds if needed. If anyone knows how I might share this info, I'd appreciate it.
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Composting, Farmers markets, School gardens	I am hoping that Moorhead will be proactive in addressing ordinances that will allow much of the urban agriculture mentioned above. Moorhead could easily become a leader in the area.
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, Avacado Dome	I hope that residents of our communities feel empowered and encourage by the cities to participant in any of the above areas of urban agriculture. If you support urban ag you are supporting self empowerment and independence to feed ones self.

Moorhead	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Composting, Farmers markets, School gardens	I am hoping that Moorhead will be proactive in addressing ordinances that will allow much of the urban agriculture mentioned above. Moorhead could easily become a leader in the area.
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, Geodesic fruit domes. Go local!	I want people to look past cultural 'standards' of what our yards should look like, and realize the important role that urban gardening can play in our food systems. We can grow and raise all of the food that we need in our own yards with enough to share with those in need.
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, Food Dome	
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Farmers markets	
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I think its a fantastic idea and should be allowed in the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo area. I live in an apartment with no deck, so I would love a place to have a garden.
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	As a student and resident of the EcoHouse at Concordia College, I am especially interested in backyard chickens. We proposed to get laying chickens as a project for residents, but due to city code, we were unable to. I also work at a farm outside of town and would love to see our CSA have more members in the FM area.
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, Permaculture	I hope to see policy that is more supportive of urban agriculture in the future! I see this an integral part of building a healthy community. As a student at Concordia, I hope to see encouragement and support of education projects in this regard as well.
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I am currently a student at MSUM. We are trying to set up our hydroponics system but needing the funds. I think if the government and city focused such matters as agricultural and more importantly, small community based agriculture, we could make a difference. So fund colleges and schools! I think the most passionate and eager learners in america are students and because of that, we should be focusing the attention of development.

Fargo	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Moorhead	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, School gardens	keeping the movement going to show people (and officials) that urban food production is natural, sustainable and good for all
Fargo	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Boulevard gardens, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	A year-round greenhouse/botanical garden for Fargo-Moorhead would be a dream.
Moorhead	Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I want a giant farmer's market, one that has vegetables, local meats and dairy, honey, pastries, plants... in short, everything that I would want to get from a supermarket. I want a farmer's market that is the center of the community. For living in the middle of America's breadbasket, the Fargo-Moorhead farmer's markets have been the smallest of any other community I've lived in.
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I am currently a student at MSUM. We are trying to set up our hydroponics system but needing the funds. I think if the government and city focused such matters as agricultural and more importantly, small community based agriculture, we could make a difference. So fund colleges and schools! I think the most passionate and eager learners in america are students and because of that, we should be focusing the attention of development.
Fargo	Boulevard gardens, Farmers markets, Rooftop gardens	
Fargo	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	How is NDSU involved in urban agriculture?
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens, Public environmental and food education	Recently returned to Fargo-Moorhead. Hoping to connect with HPR to try to start a local/community foods/environment article series. Excited to connect with lots of people who who have so much knowledge and connections and who might be great resources for building public education!
Fargo	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens	Unclear/nonexistent regulations across metro for urban ag. Lack of priority for city leaders. Providing model regulations for adoption may help the city planning departments out since they are not experts in urban ag and are inundated by other planning needs.

Fargo	Beekeeping, Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Rooftop gardens	Increasing and embracing urban agriculture could be an excellent opportunity for the economy and for F-M community as a whole. People are increasingly interested in where their food comes from and how it's grown - F-M should embrace the opportunity to support these desires and keep things local!
Fargo	Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	
Moorhead	Boulevard gardens, Community gardens, Farmers markets, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	I would love to see bigger and better Farmers Markets
Moorhead	Aquaponics and aquaculture, Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Greenhouses, high tunnels and hoop houses, Vermicomposting	
Moorhead	Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets	I look forward to learning more about what the possibilities are, and why these options would be helpful in a broader way (help feed hungry people? Help reduce waste? Help save money? Help support organic farming?) Thanks for your efforts on the topic!
Moorhead	Boulevard gardens, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Community supported agriculture (CSAs), Composting, Farmers markets, Rooftop gardens, School gardens	Kill can make me die (and very likely my children) so I'm not a fan of keeping concentrated hives in residential areas. Which sucks, because aside from the dying aspect I love everything else about bees.
Fargo	Beekeeping, Chicken and other small livestock keeping, Community gardens, Composting, Farmers markets, School gardens	

Attachment 3

To: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
From: Megan Myrdal, Project Coordinator
Date: October 30, 2015
Re: *Urban Agriculture Community Interest Survey*

BACKGROUND: In June and July of 2015, the Cass Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI) conducted a small survey with residents of Cass and Clay counties to gauge interest on various aspects of urban agriculture. Community members were asked to provide their thoughts on the most important areas to address within urban agriculture in the two communities, including a prioritization of the specific aspects within each topic.

The following is the list of urban agriculture modes, and the specific aspects within each topic:

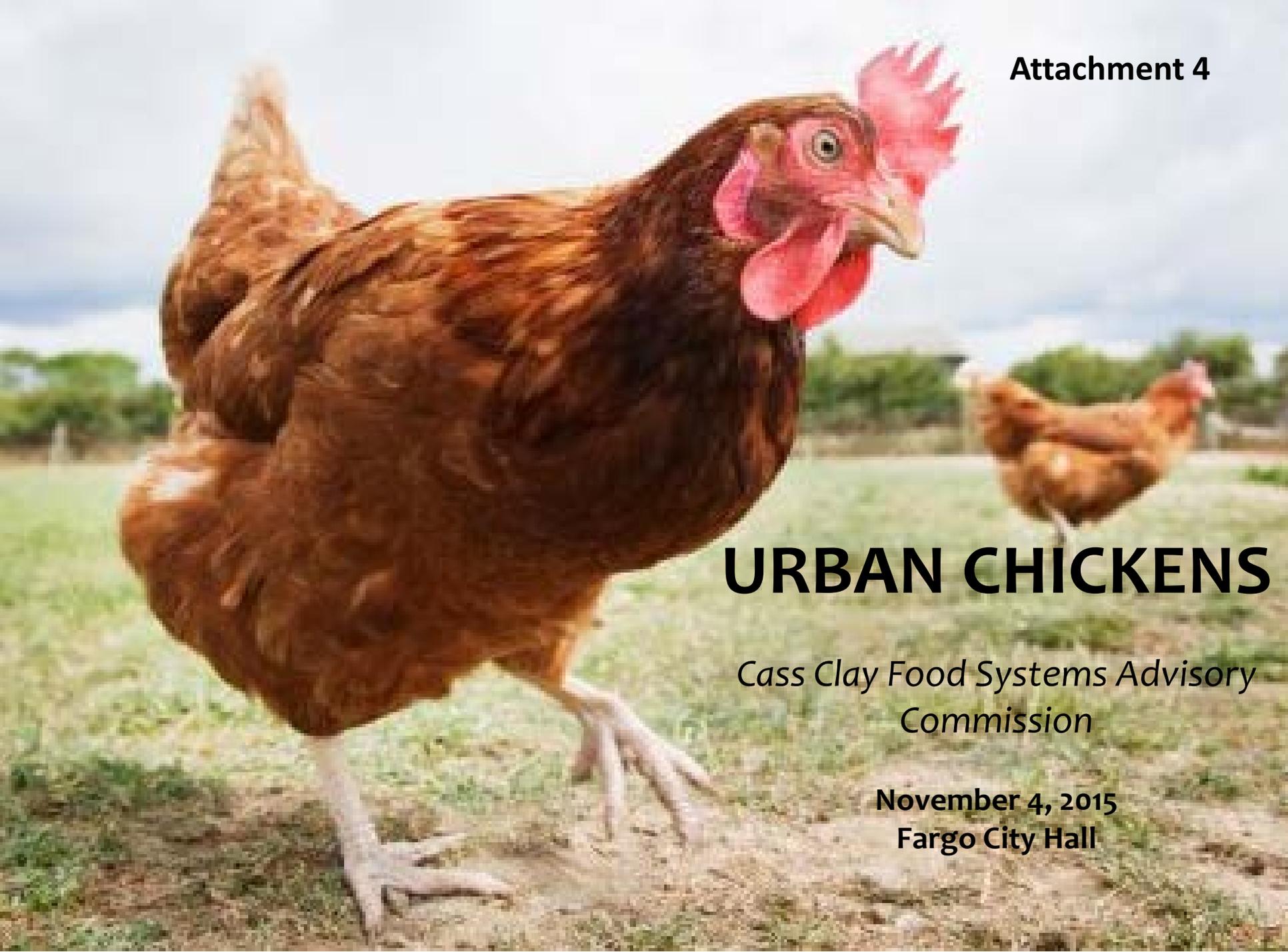
- Urban Animal Keeping
 - Chickens, Bees, Goats, Pigs, Rabbit & Ducks
- Urban Growing
 - Community, Residential, Apartment, School, Rooftop, Market, Parkland, & Boulevard Gardens
- Farming Practices
 - Composting
 - Greenhouses, Hoop houses & High tunnels
 - Hydroponics, Aquaculture & Aquaponics
 - Rainwater harvesting
 - Soil safety
- Sales
 - Farmers Markets, Farm Stands, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) & Direct Out-of-Garden Sales
- Food Safety/Processing

This online survey was shared on the CCFSI website. Commissioners and steering committee members were asked to share the survey through email and social media accounts. One hundred seventeen (117) responses were recorded.

Through the survey, it was determined that residents in Cass and Clay counties ranked **urban growing** as the top priority, followed by **farming practices, urban animals, food safety**, and finally, **sales**. The results of this survey have been used to prioritize the development of blueprints by the Commission.

Various aspects of urban agriculture are emerging as areas of interest in the jurisdictions across Cass and Clay counties. While the initial survey conducted by the Initiative formed a base understanding of urban agriculture priorities in the F-M metro area, it is the recommendation of the Steering Committee that a more comprehensive and representative survey be developed and distributed in the F-M metro area. Additionally, as the first survey was only available in an online format, it is the recommendation that an online and print option be available to better allow F-M metro area residents the opportunity to provide input on urban agriculture. F-M Metro COG staff, in coordination with the Steering Committee and Advisory Commission will develop a survey to gauge interest in various forms of urban agriculture.

Requested Action: Approve the development of a comprehensive community interest survey to gauge interest in urban agriculture in the F-M metro area.

A photograph of a brown chicken in a field. The chicken is the central focus, shown in profile facing right. It has a large, upright red comb and a smaller red wattle. Its feathers are a rich, dark brown color. In the background, another similar chicken is visible, slightly out of focus. The setting is an open field with green grass and a line of trees in the distance under a cloudy sky.

URBAN CHICKENS

*Cass Clay Food Systems Advisory
Commission*

**November 4, 2015
Fargo City Hall**

Desire for Backyard Chickens

- Raising one's own food/access to nutritious food
 - One hen provides 3-4 eggs per week
 - “The pets that make you breakfast”
- Companionship
- A way to teach children about nature, agriculture, and how to responsibly care for an animal
- Food waste reduction

Breeds of Chickens

- Many breeds are adaptable for a backyard setting
 - Mellow temperament
 - Good egg laying (longer term production)
 - Climate tolerance



Daily Care & Diets

- Chickens need to be fed and water changed daily
 - Omnivores – grains, fruits, vegetables, as well as insects
 - Eat fruit and vegetable scraps from the kitchen
 - Garden scraps
 - Feed requirements can increase in the winter & decrease in the summer heat
- Need continual access to clean, fresh water
- Need to be let out of coop each morning & put in coop at dusk
- Pick up eggs twice a day

Egg Production

- Begin laying around 6 months
- Can continue for 5-10 years
 - Peak production occurs in the first 2 years
- Require 12-14 hours of light each day to continue laying eggs

Housing (Coops) & Runs



Keeping Chickens Healthy

- Chickens raised in backyard settings generally stay healthy and are not easily susceptible to diseases.
 - Know your birds.
 - **Sanitation** is key!
 - **Manure** must be **managed**.
 - Coop cleaning
 - Pasturing the chickens/movable shelters
 - Composting
 - Note: Composting standards can be addressed in an ordinance

Addressing Common Concerns:

Concern: Roosters are loud. Allowing chickens in an urban setting will be a nuisance.

Addressed: A hen is a female (egg layer) while a rooster is a male (non-egg layer). Nearly all urban places that allow backyard chickens ban roosters. Hens “talking” at their loudest speak at the same decibel level as human conversation (about 60 decibels). This is also personality-based; some hens are more “talkative” than others. Roosters crow at about the same decibel level as a barking dog (90 decibels).

Addressing Common Concerns

Concern: Birds carry diseases (particular concern is salmonella). Will people get sick from backyard chickens.

Addressed: *Salmonella* is a type of germ that naturally lives in the intestines of poultry and many other animals. Live poultry may have *Salmonella* germs in their droppings and on their bodies (feathers, feet, and beaks) even when they appear healthy and clean. People become infected with *Salmonella* when they put their hands or other things that have been in contact with feces in or around their mouth.

CDC Guidelines to Reduce *Salmonella* Infections from Live Poultry

DO

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water
- If you collect eggs from the hens, thoroughly cook them
- Clean any equipment or materials associated with raising or caring for live poultry

DON'T

- Let children younger than 5 years of age, older adults, or people with weak immune systems handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.
- Eat or drink in the area where the birds live or roam.
- Let live poultry inside the house
 - In recent outbreaks of *Salmonella* infections linked to contact with live poultry, ill people reported bringing live poultry into their homes.

Source: CDC, Keeping Backyard Poultry.

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry/>

Addressing Common Concerns

Concern: Will allowing urban chickens attract unwanted pests?

Addressed: Fly control is one of the largest problems. Flies and other pests lay their eggs in droppings because they like moisture. Waste should be removed at least every 4- to 5-days, and proper bedding care and moisture control are important to prevent pest breeding.

Addressing Common Concerns

Concern: What about predators like rats, raccoons, and hawks?

Addressed: Chickens should not attract urban predators more than a cat or dog. With the exception of hawks, most predators are nocturnal while chickens are active during the day. Enclosing chickens at night should prevent predators from accessing the chickens.

Addressing Common Concerns:

- **Concern:** People don't realize that chickens lay eggs for only a few years of their lives. They are put on Craigslist when they don't lay anymore. They're dumped frequently.
- **Addressed:** Laying hens do outlive their ability to produce eggs. Ideas:
 - Slaughtering options in the region: Lakes Processing in Detroit Lakes, Manock Meats in Great Bend and several Amish communities
 - Local producers may be willing to take abandoned hens for slaughter
 - Some chose to keep their birds as companion pets, regardless of egg production

Conclusion

- People desire to keep backyard chickens for *a number of reasons*.
- Many communities across the country & in our region have changed ordinances to allow for a certain number of backyard hens with defined *guidelines and restrictions*.
- Education is key to understanding all the necessities of keeping *healthy* backyard chickens & maintaining a practice that's *compatible* with an urban setting.

Attachment 5

To: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
From: Whitney Oxendahl, Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI) Steering Committee
Date: October 30, 2015
Re: *Urban Chickens Blueprint*

As part of the initial efforts by the Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI) Steering Committee, a series of blueprints will be created that address current possible gaps and needs with regard to food system issues in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. Moving forward, these documents are intended to provide much of the information and guidance on key food system issues relevant to the area.

In the past year, the City of Fargo has had several discussions on the issue of urban chickens. Because of these discussions, the Steering Committee has prepared the following blueprint on urban chickens for review by the Commission.

Urban Chickens

This issue brief will provide background information related to urban chickens, and address the common concerns and benefits from a health, environment, social, and economic standpoint. The brief will also address how each concern can be remedied through ordinance language and education. Appendices have been provided to share how regional jurisdictions are addressing backyard chickens as well as example policy language from other jurisdictions.

Background

Hundreds of cities across the U.S. and at least 20 communities in Minnesota, including Fergus Falls, have permitted urban chicken keeping. People have a desire for urban chickens for a number of reasons, including companionship, teaching children about agriculture, and the ability to raise one's own food (one hen provides on average 3-4 eggs per week). After setting up the coop and the initial learning curve, urban chicken farmers say a small flock can be as easy to raise as a dog.

The following are common issues addressed in local ordinances:

- Number of birds permitted per household
- Permit and fee process
- Regulation of roosters
- Enclosure/containment restrictions
- Distance of coop from other homes/property line (setback)
- Location on the lot (e.g. backyard)
- Nuisance clause
- Requiring written consent by neighbors
- Storing chicken feed in rat-proof containers
- Slaughtering restrictions
- Number of chickens based on property size
- Restrictions of chickens in multi-family areas
- Zoning
- Violation or penalty
- If eggs can be bought/sold or only consumed by owner

Table 1. Summary of chicken keeping approval in local jurisdictions (as of March 2015)

Moorhead	Dilworth	Clay County	Fargo	West Fargo	Cass County
Prohibited	Prohibited	Permitted as accessory use*	Permitted with conditions**	Prohibited	Permitted***

* For Residential Parcels: Minimum parcel size of two acres. A maximum of one animal unit per fenced acre of usable area (one chicken=0.01 animal unit). Fences should be located at least 10 ft from adjoining property lines. All manure shall be properly disposed of. Note: feedlots have different standards

**Fowl cannot run at large. The enclosures must be at least 75 ft away from neighboring dwellings, unless written consent is signed by the neighbor. If an animal is deemed a nuisance, either by odor, noise, attracting vermin or danger to the health of neighbors, it must be kept at least 200 feet from neighboring dwellings. Resident must abate any nuisance within 10 days of notice. Permitted as an accessory use in the Agricultural district only.

Attachment 5a

***Requires a 250 foot buffer zone and individual townships may have their own zoning regulations.

Table 2. Framework for evaluating urban chicken keeping

DOMAIN	BENEFIT	CONCERN
Health	Increases access to nutritious food source	Disease risk ¹
Environment	Keeps yard clean by eating bugs, pests, and weeds Chicken droppings can be composted and used as fertilizer, as long as safe composting practices are used Reduces food waste going into the garbage by feeding it to chickens instead Sustainable way to raise food in an urban environment (i.e. less energy used for transportation)	Attraction of unwanted pests or predators
Economic	Possible financial relief for low-income families Potential for individuals to sell backyard chicken eggs (if permitted) Reduces kitchen waste in municipal trash collection system	Cost of permitting fee, setting up a coop and the equipment may be cost prohibitive for low-income families Jurisdiction cost of monitoring and addressing issues Disposal of dead birds can be expensive for individuals if the only disposal option is a vet's office
Social	Can be regarded as pets and allows for positive social, cognitive, physical and emotional connection Increases awareness of the food cycle and connection to agriculture Can bring neighbors together Provides companionship Provides a positive family activity	Possibility of noise nuisance If not properly cared for, possibility of odor or not visually appealing Can be difficult to keep in winter

¹ Human Health Concerns about Raising Poultry. Illinois Dept of Public Health. Accessed 2015 January 21. <http://www.idph.state.il.us/health/infect/Poultry.htm>

Attachment 5a

Table 3. Common urban chicken keeping concerns addressed

CONCERN	MORE INFORMATION	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
Disease	<p>Contracting a communicable disease, like the flu or respiratory illness is negligible for urban poultry farming because of the size of the flock. This is a larger concern in industrial farming.</p> <p>Bacteria, like <i>Salmonella</i>, can be found in poultry droppings.</p>	<p>The hazards of bacterial infections can be mitigated by education regarding how to handle and care for poultry, including washing hands after returning indoors, and how to properly compost droppings for fertilizer. This can easily be addressed by educating urban chicken farmers with printed materials or offering classes.</p>
Attracting pests	<p>Flies and other pests lay their eggs in droppings because they like moisture.</p>	<p>Pests can be minimized through proper bedding care, and the chickens help by eating pests.</p>
Attracting predators	<p>Chickens should not attract urban predators any more than a cat or dog.</p>	<p>With the exception of hawks, most predators are nocturnal while chickens are diurnal (active during the day). Enclosing the chickens at night should prevent predators from accessing the chickens.</p>
Cost for low-income families		<p>Part of the Metropolitan Food Systems Plan is addressing issues of food access, possible barrier reduction could include funding and management from outside sources, like a non-profit, to cover the startup costs.</p>
Disposal		<p>Other communities have offered these options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City provides dead animal pick-up free of charge 2. Buried on property at least two feet down 3. Closed securely in a plastic bag and placed in the municipal trash
Noise	<p>Hens “talking” at their loudest, speak at the same decibel level as human conversation (about 60 decibels). This is also personality-based; some hens are more talkative than others. Roosters crow at about the same decibel level as a barking dog (90 decibels).</p>	<p>A majority of urban ordinances ban roosters, because of their loud crowing.</p>
Smell	<p>Chicken manure is high in nitrogen, which can lead to an ammonia smell if not properly cared for.</p>	<p>Adding carbon material, like dried leaves and straw, to the bedding will get rid of the smell; it is all about carbon to nitrogen ratio. Odor can be remedied through quality bedding.</p>

Attachment 5a

Winter keeping		Proper education can reduce the impact of winter poultry farming: make sure to keep combs warm and use a heat lamp when the temperature gets below 20 degrees.
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Resource

If you have questions, please contact Kim Lipetzky with the Fargo Cass Public Health Office at 701-241-8195 or klipetzky@cityoffargo.com.

Appendix A: Backyard Chicken Keeping in Regional Jurisdictions

Bismarck, ND

Urban chicken keeping is not permitted.

Duluth, MN

Allows for backyard chickens with common restrictions (must have a license, no more than five hens, no roosters, no slaughtering, coop requirements, fenced yard, etc.).

Grand Forks, ND

Urban chicken keeping is not permitted.

Lincoln, NE

Allows for backyard chickens with common restrictions (must have a permit, number of chickens based upon property and shelter size, no roosters, sanitation requirements, etc.).

Mankato, MN

In 2010, the city passed a temporary ordinance allowing urban chicken keeping, but no one applied in the two-year period. (The ordinance expired as of 2012.) If there was more interest from residents, it is likely that their city council would pass another ordinance allowing urban chicken keeping.

Rochester, MN

Allows for backyard chickens with common restrictions (must have a permit, no more than three hens, no roosters, coop requirements, sanitation requirements, etc.).

Sioux Falls, SD

Urban chicken keeping is permitted with common restrictions (must have license, no more than six hens, no roosters, nuisance clause, etc.).

Appendix: Example Ordinances

Ann Arbor, MI (population 117,025)

Chapter 107 (Animals) - 9:42. Keeping of Chickens

(1) Any person who keeps chickens in the City of Ann Arbor shall obtain a permit from the City prior to acquiring the chickens. No permit shall be issued to a person, by the City, and no chickens shall be allowed to be kept unless the owners of all residentially zoned adjacent properties (as defined below in subsection 3 (j)) consent in writing to the permit and this consent is presented along with an application for a permit. Written statements waiving the distance requirement in subsection (3) below shall also be submitted at the time of application and become a part of the permit if issued. Application shall be made to the City Clerk and the fee for the permit shall be as determined by Council resolution.

Permits expire and become invalid five (5) years after the date of issuance. A person who wishes to continue keeping chickens shall have obtained a new permit on or before the expiration date of the previous permit. Application for a new permit shall be pursuant to the procedures and requirements that are applicable at the time the person applies for a new permit.

(2) Notwithstanding the issuance of a permit by the City, private restrictions on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over a permit. Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws, and covenant deeds. A permit issued to a person whose property is subject to private restrictions that prohibit the keeping of chickens is void. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

(3) A person who keeps or houses chickens on his or her property shall comply with all of the following requirements:

- a. Have been issued the permit required under subsection (1) of this section.

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- b. Keep no more than four (4) chickens.
 - c. The principal use of the person's property is for a single-family dwelling or two-family dwelling.
 - d. No person shall keep any rooster.
 - e. No person shall slaughter any chickens.
 - f. The chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure at all times. Fenced enclosures are subject to all provisions of Chapter 104 (Fences).
 - g. A person shall not keep chickens in any location on the property other than in the backyard. For purposes of this section, "backyard" means that portion of a lot enclosed by the property's rear lot line and the side lot lines to the points where the side lot lines intersect with an imaginary line established by the property's rear lot line and the side lot lines to the points where the side lot lines intersect with an imaginary line established by the rear of the single-family or two family structure and extending to the side lot lines.
 - h. No covered enclosure or fenced enclosure shall be located closer than ten (10) feet to any property line of an adjacent property;
 - i. All enclosures for the keeping of chickens shall be so constructed or repaired as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the enclosure. A covered enclosure or fenced enclosure shall not be located closer than forty (40) feet to any residential structure on an adjacent property provided, however, this requirement can be waived as follows:
 - (i) If the principal use of applicant's property is for a single-family dwelling, to obtain such a waiver the applicant shall present at the time of applying for a permit the written statements of all adjacent landowners that there is no objection to the issuance of the permit.
 - (ii) If the principal use of the applicant's property is for a two-family dwelling, to obtain such a waiver the applicant shall present at the time of applying for a permit the written statements of all adjacent landowners and of the occupants of the other dwelling stating that there is no objection to the issuance of the permit.
 - j. For purposes of this section, adjacent property means all parcels of property that the applicant's property comes into contact with at one or more points, except for parcels that are legally adjacent to but are in fact separated from the applicant's property by a public or private street.
 - k. All enclosures for the keeping of chickens shall be so constructed or repaired as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the enclosure.
 - l. All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens that are likely to attract or to become infested with or infected by rats, mice, or other rodents shall be protected so as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents from gaining access to or coming into contact with them.
 - m. If the above requirements are not complied with, the City may revoke any permit granted under this section and/or initiate prosecution for a civil infraction violation.
- (4) A person who has been issued a permit shall submit it for examination upon demand by any police officer or code enforcement officer.

Boston, MA (population 645,966)

SECTION 89-9. Accessory Keeping of Hens.

- 1. Use Regulations. See Underlying Zoning for applicable use regulations.
 - (a) For all areas covered under the Base Code, see Article 8 – Use No. 76.
 - (b) For all other areas not covered under the Base Code, see Use Regulation Table in specific Article.
 - (c) Where the Accessory Keeping of Animals is a Conditional Use in the applicable Underlying Zoning, the Board of Appeal shall not grant a Conditional Use Permit for the Accessory Keeping of Hens unless the following conditions are met.
 - (d) The maximum number of adult Hens in all Districts and Subdistricts not covered under the Base Code shall be six (6) per Lot.
 - (e) The maximum number of non-egg-laying replacement Chicks or Pullets in all Districts and Subdistricts not covered under the Base Code shall be six (6) per Lot.
 - (f) Roosters are expressly Forbidden.
 - (g) The on-site slaughtering of Hens is prohibited.
- 2. Dimensional Regulations.
 - (a) Maximum Height.
 - i. Coop. Enclosed Coop space shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height.
 - ii. Run. Runs shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height.

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(b) Size.

- i. Coop. Coop space must allow a minimum of two (2) square feet per Hen and one (1) nest box per three (3) Hens within, and shall not exceed a maximum size of eight (8) feet by six (6) feet.
- ii. Run. Runs must allow a minimum of four (4) square feet per Hen, but in no case shall occupy more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the rear yard.

(c) Setbacks.

- i. Subject to Article 10 (Accessory Uses), Coops and Runs shall be set back five (5) feet from all property lines in all Districts and Subdistricts unless there is a solid, opaque barrier such as a wall of fence along the property line.
- ii. Coops and Runs shall not be located in the front yard or in a side yard that abuts a street in all residential and commercial Districts and Subdistricts.
- iii. Coops and Runs shall not be within a fifteen (15) foot buffer of habitable structures on adjacent properties in all residential Districts and Subdistricts unless prior permission is granted in writing by the neighboring property owner(s).

(d) Materials.

- i. All Coops shall be made of washable and sanitizable material such as fiberglass reinforced plastic.
- ii. All Runs shall have a securely built frame, preferably wooden; shall be covered in wire mesh material such as hardware cloth; and designed to be predator proof.

(e) Screening.

- i. Any portion of the Coop or Run directly visible from a street at any distance shall be screened by either a fence that is constructed to be at least sixty percent (60%) opaque or a landscaped buffer of at least four (4) feet in height.

(f) Free Ranging.

- i. Free-ranging of adult egg-laying Hens shall be supervised and is allowed exclusively in fenced yards with consent of all residents and property owners who have legal access to the premises.

Fergus Falls, MN (population 13,351)

(F) Keeping of Chickens.

(1) Chickens permitted. It is unlawful for any person to own, control, keep, maintain or harbor chickens on any premises within the City unless issued a permit to do so as provided in this section. No permit shall be issued for the keeping or harboring of more than four (4) female chickens or hens on any premises. The keeping or harboring of male chickens or roosters is prohibited.

(2) Definitions. For the purpose of this paragraph, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

“CHICKEN” means a female chicken or hen.

“AT LARGE” means a chicken out of its chicken run, off the premises or not under the custody and control of the owner.

“CHICKEN COOP” means a structure for housing chickens made of wood or other similar materials that provides shelter from the elements.

“CHICKEN RUN” means an enclosed outside yard for keeping chickens.

“PERSON” means the resident, property owner, custodian, or keeper or of any chicken.

“PREMISES” means any platted lot or group of contiguous lots, parcels or tracts of land and is located within the city.

(3) Permit. No person shall maintain a chicken coop and/or chicken run unless granted a permit by the Animal Control Officer. The Animal Control Officer is authorized to issue a maximum of 12 permits annually for the keeping of chickens. The permit shall be subject to all the terms and conditions of this section and any additional conditions deemed necessary by the Animal Control Officer to protect the public health, safety and welfare. The necessary permit application may be obtained from the City Administrator’s office. Included with the completed application must be a scaled diagram that indicates the location of any chicken coop and/or chicken run, and the approximate size and distance from adjoining structures and property lines, the number and species of chickens to be maintained at the premises, and a statement that the applicant/permittee will at all times keep the chickens in accordance with this ordinance and all the conditions prescribed by the Animal Control Officer, or modification thereof, and failure to obey such conditions will constitute a violation of the provisions of this section and grounds for cancellation of the permit. The applicant shall include written consents/approval of the keeping of chickens on their premises from all abutting property owners, or shall provide proof of the certified mailing of a notice, and copies of said notice(s) to all abutting property owner(s) which advises the abutting property owner(s) the applicant is applying for a permit from the City of Fergus Falls for the keeping of chickens on their premises, the abutting property owner may object to the applicant’s

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permit application, any objection must be received by the Animal Control Officer within 10 days of the mailing date of said notice, and failure to provide written objections to the Animal Control Officer within 10 days of the mailing of said notice will authorize the Animal Control Officer to issue a permit for the keeping of chickens to the applicant at their premises. Upon receipt of a permit application, the Animal Control Officer shall determine if the application is complete and contains the required consents/approvals and/or proof of the certified mailing of the required notices. If the application is complete and includes written consents/approval from all abutting property owners, the Animal Control Officer shall issue a permit for the keeping of chickens to the applicant. If the application is complete and includes proof of mailing certified notices to abutting property owner(s) as required by this section, the Animal Control Officer shall issue a permit to the applicant 10 days after receipt of the completed application, unless the Animal Control Officer receives a written objection from an abutting property owner objecting to the applicant's application for the keeping of chickens, in which case no permit shall be issued. No permit shall be issued for an incomplete application or for the keeping of chickens on any rental premises. A permit for the keeping of chickens may be revoked or suspended by the Animal Control Officer for any violation of this section following written notice. The applicant / permittee may appeal the revocation or suspension of their permit by requesting in writing a hearing before the city council within seven (7) days of the notice of revocation or suspension. The request for hearing must be either postmarked or received in the city administrator's office within seven (7) days of the date of the notice. The city council shall hold a hearing on the applicant/permittee's request for hearing within thirty (30) days of the request for hearing. An annual fee will be set by resolution.

(4) Confinement. Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains, or harbors chickens must keep them confined at all times in a chicken coop and chicken run and may not allow the chickens to run at large. Any chicken coop and chicken run shall be at least twenty-five (25) feet from any residential structure or any other structures on any adjacent premises.

(5) Chicken Coops and Chicken Runs.

(a) All chicken coops and chicken runs must be located within the rear yard subject to a twenty (20) foot setback from any adjacent premises and be at least twenty-five (25) feet from any residential structure or dwelling or any other structures or dwellings on any adjacent premises. All chicken coops must be a minimum of four (4) square feet per chicken in size, must not exceed ten (10) square feet per chicken in size and must not exceed six (6) feet in total height. Attached fenced-in chicken runs must not exceed 20 square feet per chicken and fencing must not exceed six (6) feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and may allow chickens contact with the ground. Chicken feed must be kept in metal predator proof containers. Chicken manure may be placed in yard compost piles.

(b) Chicken coops must either be:

(i) Elevated with a clear open space of at least twenty-four (24) inches between the ground surface and framing/floor of the coop; or,

(ii) The coop floor, foundation and footings must be constructed using rodent resistant construction.

(c) Chicken coops are not allowed to be located in any part of a home and/or garage.

(d) Chickens must be secured in a chicken coop from sunset to sunrise each day.

(6) Conditions and Inspections. No person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains, or harbors chickens shall permit the premises, whether the chickens are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop or chicken run authorized by permit under this section may be inspected at any reasonable time by the Animal Control Officer, Law Enforcement Officer or other agent of the City. A person who has been issued a permit shall submit it for examination upon demand by the Animal Control Officer, Law Enforcement Officer or other agent of the City. Slaughter and breeding of chickens on any premises within the City is prohibited.

(7) Private Restrictions and Covenants on Property. Notwithstanding the issuance of a permit by the City, private restrictions and/or covenants on the use of property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over a permit. Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by-laws, covenant declarations and deed restrictions. A permit issued to a person whose premises are subject to private restrictions and/or covenants that prohibit the keeping of chickens is void. The interpretation and enforcement of the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.

(8) Refusal to Grant or Renew Permit. The Animal Control Officer may refuse to grant or renew a permit to keep or maintain chickens for failure to comply with the provisions of this section, submitting an inaccurate or incomplete application, if the conditions of the permit are not met, if a nuisance condition is created, or if the public health and safety would be unreasonably endangered by the granting or renewing of such permit.

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(9) Removal of chicken coop and chicken run. Any chicken coop or chicken run constructed or maintained on any premises shall be immediately removed from said premises after the expiration of the permit or shall be removed within thirty (30) days upon ceasing to use the chicken coop and/or chicken run for the keeping of chickens.

(10) Residential Agricultural District. This ordinance does not apply to premises located in a residential agricultural district as that area is defined in this Code.

(11) Prohibited. The keeping of chickens, male or female, is prohibited in R-3, R-4 and R-5 Multiple-Family and Multiple-Residence Districts and all Business and Industrial Districts (B-1 through B-6 and I-1 through I-3) as those areas are defined in this Code.

(12) Violations a Misdemeanor. Any person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors chickens in the City of Fergus Falls without obtaining or maintaining a current permit or after a permit has been suspended or revoked by Council action shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Minneapolis, MN (population 400,070)

70.10. - Permit required.

(a) No person shall anywhere in the city keep, harbor, or maintain care, custody, or control over any small animal or any fowl such as a chicken, turkey, duck, or pigeon, without obtaining a permit issued by Minneapolis Animal Care and Control.

(b) Minneapolis Animal Care and Control may grant permit pursuant to this section after the applicant has sought the written consent of at least eighty (80) percent of the occupants of the several descriptions of real estate situated within one hundred (100) feet of the applicant's real estate. Such written consent shall be required on the initial application and as often thereafter as Minneapolis Animal Care and Control deems necessary.

(c) No permit shall be granted to keep any animal, fowl, or pigeon within a dwelling unit or part thereof, nor on any real estate which contains three (3) or more dwelling units.

(d) This section shall not apply to dogs, cats, ferrets, or rabbits nor to veterinarians or licensed pet shops or licensed kennels.

(e) Application for permit. Any person desiring a permit under this chapter shall make written application to Minneapolis Animal Care and Control. Approval of application is subject to conditions prescribed by Minneapolis Animal Care and Control. Failure to adhere to conditions is cause for cancellation of the permit and/or result in an administrative fine.

(f) Duration of permit. All permits issued shall expire on January 31 of the following year after its issuance unless sooner revoked. The application fee for such permit shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) which shall be paid at the time of application. The annual renewal fee thereafter for such permit shall be forty dollars (\$40.00). Minneapolis Animal Care and Control will inspect the premises annually or as deemed necessary.

(g) Five-year permit. The fee for a five-year permit will be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). All five-year permits issued shall expire on January 31 of the year following the fifth year after its issuance unless sooner revoked. Minneapolis Animal Care and Control will inspect the premises annually or as deemed necessary.

(h) Refusal to grant permit. Minneapolis Animal Care and Control may refuse a permit to keep or maintain animals or fowl hereunder for failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter, and shall refuse a permit if such animals or fowl should not be kept upon the premises described in the application for the permit. If any such permit is refused, the fee paid with the application shall be retained by Minneapolis Animal Care and Control.

(i) Enforcement. Minneapolis Animal Care and Control shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

Park River, ND (population 1,390)

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO CONTROL OF ANIMALS AND POULTRY

Animals and poultry not to be raised or kept in certain areas, penalty. No person or persons shall raise or keep any domestic animals or poultry, or both, of the species of horses, mules, asses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, geese, chickens, ducks, turkeys, peacocks, guinea hens, or similar livestock or fowl within the city limits of the City of Park River, except as follows:

1. Up to 8 hen chickens (no roosters) will be allowed with a license.

2. Initial license must be approved by 75% of the property owners within 200 feet of the coop.

3. Applicant shall pay an initial license fee of \$25.00 and annual fee of \$5.00.

4. In the event a complaint has been filed with the City of Park River prior to renewal of said license within the past calendar year, the Building Inspector will determine if the license renewal is issued. If no complaints have been filed, the renewal shall be considered extended for all additional year provided payment is received.

Attachment 5a

5. Slaughtering of chickens on the premises is prohibited.
6. A separate coop and run is required to house the chickens. Coop must be located in the rear and be setback at least five feet from the property lines.
7. All premises on which hens are kept or maintained shall be an enclosed fence and be kept clean from filth, garbage, and any substances which attract rodents. The coop and its surrounding area must be cleaned to control odor so as not to be detectable on another property.
8. All grain and food stored for the use of the hens on premises with a chicken license shall be kept in a rodent proof container.
9. All applicants must notify the owner of the property if the applicant is not the owner.
10. A complaint against any person owning, keeping or harboring chickens may be filed with the City of Park River Building Inspector. If an investigation from the Building Inspector reveals that the use of chickens is in violation of this section or any other section of this Code the City Building Inspector shall have authority to require the owner or user of the property to fix, abate, or alleviate the problem. If the problem is not satisfactorily abated or alleviated the City Building Inspector shall have authority to revoke the license.

Salt Lake City, UT (population 191,180)

8.08.010: DOMESTIC FOWL AND LIVESTOCK; PERMIT REQUIRED:

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this section, it is unlawful for any person to keep within the city any chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, pigeons or other similar domestic fowl, or more than two (2) rabbits, or other similar animals, without first making application for and obtaining a permit from the office of animal services to do so. The fee for such permit shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per animal, but shall not exceed forty dollars (\$40.00) per year.

B. Notwithstanding Subsection A of this section, chickens may be kept in any area zoned as a residential district under Chapter 21A.24 of this code or its successor, subject to the requirements of Section 8.08.065 of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Amending Section 8.08.060. That Section 8.08.060 of the *Salt Lake City Code*, shall be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows:

8.08.060: HOUSING AND FEEDING OF ANIMALS; LOCATION RESTRICTIONS:

It is unlawful to house, keep, run or feed any of the above mentioned animals within fifty feet (50') of any structure used for human habitation except as provided in Section 8.08.065 of this chapter.

SECTION 3. Enacting Section 8.08.065. That Section 8.08.065 of the *Salt Lake City Code* shall be, and hereby is, enacted to authorize the keeping of chickens in residential districts, subject to certain requirements, as follows:

8.08.065: KEEPING CHICKENS:

A. Subject to the requirements of this section and any other applicable provision of this chapter, fifteen (15) hen chickens (and no roosters) may be kept on a lot or parcel of land in a residential district for the sole purpose of producing eggs. The principal use on the lot or parcel shall be a one-family dwelling, a two-family dwelling, or a multi-family dwelling. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a person who complies with the requirements of Section 8.08.030 of this title may keep chickens as provided in such section.

B. Chickens shall be confined within a secure outdoor enclosed area.

1. The enclosed area shall include a covered, ventilated, and predator-resistant chicken coop.

a. The coop shall have a minimum floor area of at least two (2) square feet per chicken.

b. If chickens are not allowed to roam within an enclosed area outside the coop, the coop shall have a minimum floor area of six (6) square feet per chicken.

2. The coop shall be located in a rear yard at least twenty-five (25) feet from any dwelling located on an adjacent lot.

a. The coop and enclosed area shall be maintained in a neat and sanitary condition and shall be maintained as provided in Section 8.08.070 of this chapter.

b. No chicken shall be permitted to roam outside the coop or enclosed area.

3. Chicken feed shall be stored and dispensed in rodent-proof and predator-proof containers.

C. Chickens shall not be kept on a residential lot or parcel unless the person keeping chickens first obtains a permit as provided in Section 8.08.010 of this chapter.

1. The permittee shall acknowledge the rules set forth in this section and shall, as a condition of permit issuance, agree in writing to comply with such rules.

2. The permit shall be good for one (1) year and may be renewed annually.

D. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any chicken in a residential district in a manner contrary to the provisions of this section.

Attachment 5a

SECTION 4. **Amending Section 8.08.080.** That Section 8.08.080 of the *Salt Lake City Code*, shall be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows:

8.08.080: TRESPASS BY FOWL OR DOMESTIC ANIMALS:

It is unlawful for the owner or any person in charge of domestic fowl, such as turkeys, ducks, geese, chickens or other similar domestic fowls, or domestic animals such as dogs or cats, to permit such fowls or domestic animals to trespass upon the premises of another. It is unlawful for any person to house, keep, run or feed any such fowls within fifty feet (50') of any house used for human habitation except as provided in Section 8.08.065 of this chapter.

Attachment 6

To: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
From: Kim Lipetzky, Fargo Cass Public Health
Date: October 30, 2015
Re: *Online Community Input*

In order to keep the Food Systems Advisory Commission apprised of various issues and inquiries raised by the community, the Cass-Clay Food Systems Initiative (CCFSI) Steering Committee will keep a record of questions and comments received on behalf of the public and will review them with Commission members on a continuing basis. These will include public comments received through the City of Fargo *Let's Eat Local* website (www.letseatlocal.org) and other venues.

Attachment 6a includes questions and comments regarding food systems issues submitted to the City of Fargo and Fargo Cass Public Health from September to October 2015. Names have been redacted to ensure the privacy of each of the individuals.

Requested Action: None

Attachment 6a

Online Public Input

1. Hello, My name is _____ and I am a student at NDSU studying Dietetics and Psychology. There is an emerging food desert in down town Fargo and I would like to propose a possible solution, a student run small grocery store. The plan would be to operate the store as an extension of NDSU dining services, much like the numerous coffee shops run by the school. I am currently looking for support for this idea. If there is any advice that you can give or resources hat you can provide, I would be very grateful. I believe that this would be an excellent opportunity for NDSU students to give back to a community that has make such a lasting impact on us. Thank you for your time.
2. I am quite interested in winter vegetable production and other local production opportunities. I do own land 20 miles south of Fargo and see a serious move in food markets that might make investments in urban ag interesting and/or adjusting our production away from industrial ag. How do I connect?

Attachment 7

To: Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission
From: Adam Altenburg, Metro COG
Date: November 2, 2015
Re: *Appoint 2016 Cass-Clay Food Systems Advisory Commission Chair*

Earlier this year, the Commission approved the following rotation schedule to determine the provision of Chair and alternate, with the Commission Chair being rotated annually amongst jurisdiction members:

Current Cass-Clay Food Systems Chair Rotation

Year(s)	Chair Representative from:	Alternate from:
2015, 2021	City of Moorhead	Cass County
2016, 2022	Cass County	City of West Fargo
2017, 2023	City of West Fargo	Clay County
2018, 2024	Clay County	City of Dilworth
2019, 2025	City of Dilworth	City of Fargo
2020, 2026	City of Fargo	City of Moorhead

According to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) establishing the Commission, it is permissible for the Commission Chair to serve a bi-annual term. Members of the Commission have consulted the JPA and have recommended to the Steering Committee to reappoint Chair Heidi Durand to serve as Chair and Cass County Commissioner Arland Rasmussen as alternate for 2016. Should the Commission approve, the new rotation schedule would be as follows:

New Cass-Clay Food Systems Chair Rotation

Year(s)	Chair Representative from:	Alternate from:
2016, 2022	City of Moorhead	Cass County
2017, 2023	Cass County	City of West Fargo
2018, 2024	City of West Fargo	Clay County
2019, 2025	Clay County	City of Dilworth
2020, 2026	City of Dilworth	City of Fargo
2021, 2027	City of Fargo	City of Moorhead

Requested Action:

Approve the reappointment of the Heidi Durand as Commission Chair and Arland Rasmussen as alternate for 2016

Attachment 7a

ARTICLE VII: MEMBER VOTING

- 7.1 Quorum. A quorum of any meeting of the Commission shall consist of a majority of voting members. In the absence of a quorum, any meeting may be adjourned from time to time by a vote of a majority present, but no other business may be transacted.
- 7.2 Voting Member. The Commission shall consist of Members appointed by the following governing bodies; and At-large Members appointed by the Commission:
- a) City of Fargo – one (1) Member of the City Commission;
 - b) City of Moorhead – one (1) Member of the City Council;
 - c) City of West Fargo – one (1) Member of the City Commission;
 - d) City of Dilworth – one (1) Member of the City Council;
 - e) Cass County – one (1) Member of the County Commission;
 - f) Clay County – one (1) Member of the County Commission;
 - g) At-large Members – five (5) At-large Members recommended by the Steering Committee and agreed upon by a majority of Commission Members; and each such person shall serve a two (2) year term;
 - h) Chair – one (1) Chair appointed bi-annually by a majority vote of the Commission; and such person shall serve a two (2) year term –OR– one (1) rotated annually amongst current Members.

All motions will be noted by a voice vote with one (1) vote per voting member. All motions shall be decided by a simple majority vote of voting members present.

- 7.3 Ex-officio Membership. Ex-officio (non-voting) membership shall be granted to the Fargo Cass Public Health, Clay County Public Health, the Steering Committee, and Metro COG.