

Public Submission

City Clerk's Office



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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	John
Last name (required)	Dwight
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeepin
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please continue to support beekeeping by allowing it's continued practice as it is today through the city.

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First name (required)	Jillian
Last name (required)	Logee
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeepin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I wish to express my support for urban beekeeping in Calgary. With the population of bees dwindling, it's important that we do our part to keep pollinators alive and well within the city borders. Beyond that, beekeeping is a great way to contribute to our communities. Many beekeepers in Calgary offer educational support to classrooms, helping our children learn about the important lifecycle of plants and the role pollinators have in keeping agriculture alive. For beekeepers themselves, the hobby is an extremely healthy activity, involving lots of exercise, fresh air, and an opportunity to destress in nature. The benefits of beekeeping to our community are far reaching and continuing to allow for backyard beekeeping is to continue to support nature within our city's boundaries.

Thank you,

Jillian

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First name (required)	Ryan
Last name (required)	Morgan
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Ryan Morgan and I am a new urban beekeeper in the City of Calgary. I am very passionate about maintaining this form of recreation and sustainable urban farming in the City. I have taken the education program and continue to share my knowledge with the community regarding responsible beekeeping in urban environments. Beekeeping is a wonderful activity that provides exciting opportunities for my children and family to get outside and learn about nature. Beekeeping has produced food for my family while bringing friends, family and the community together as a hobby that almost everyone can participate in. In addition, beekeeping has enabled my family to better cope with stress and anxiety, especially during these difficult times. From an economic standpoint, urban beekeeping helps to support local suppliers and encourages the diversification of Alberta's economy.</p> <p>Thank you for reading my concerns and supporting urban beekeeping in the city of Calgary.</p> <p>Sincerely, Ryan Morgan</p>

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Unrestricted

Apr 18, 2021

Public Submission

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First name (required)	Kat
Last name (required)	Svikhnushin
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regular
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>Hello, My family keeps bees in NW Calgary. Bees are an important part of our ecosystem and bees can easily be kept responsibly within the city. I believe that the by-law should be amended to exclude bees; or if bees are to be included then to remove the fees & have the default limit of bee colonies be placed at 4.</p> <p>Thank you for your time & consideration, Kat Svikhnushin</p>

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First name (required)	Michael
Last name (required)	Svikhnushin
What do you want to do? (required)	Request to speak, Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regula
Date of meeting	May 7, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Hello, I don't believe beekeeping needs to be regulated in City of Calgary. If there still a requirement to regulate, I suggest to waive the registration fees and allow up to 4 bee colonies by default (as bees die over winter). As per my attached picture the beekeeping is a family activity and hobby, allowing to raise kids aware of agriculture and importance of nature.



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First name (required) Brian Angus

Last name (required) Goodkey

What do you want to do? (required) Submit a comment

Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters) change to responsible pet ownership bylaws

Date of meeting May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am very concerned that the city has allowed too many freedoms for dog owners, as well as the lack of quiet greenspace for individuals wanting a peaceful experience without harassment from pets and owners. There is literally no where anymore to go to be alone. Also preservation of wildlife areas from dog use have been devastatingly impacted leaving bird habitats in danger. Bylaws are not being enforced and compliance to Bylaws are being completely ignored.

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First name (required)	Sharon
Last name (required)	Bonnett
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Proposed bylaw on bees and chickens
Date of meeting	May 7, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I would like the city of Calgary to allow chickens and bees. I have lived in cities that have allowed chickens and bees and it had build community. Chickens and bees increase food security and help create a more environmentally conscious city.

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First name (required)	Andrew
Last name (required)	Boucher
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please accept my thoughts on the upcoming responsible pet bylaw as it pertains to urban bee keeping. I have safely kept bees in my backyard for six years, and find it helps my mental health, something particularly evident over the course of the pandemic. My favourite part of keeping bees is the opportunity to chat with people traveling the alley behind my house when I'm tending to the bees – these conversations are always positive and promote the role that pollinators like honeybees serve in our city. My neighbours that grow vegetables all compliment my bees to help them with their efforts to grow vegetables in the city. The honey that we harvest is enjoyed by a network of neighbours, coworkers, and friends – all of whom enjoy that urban bees contribute to their lives too.

Please consider all the benefits to our society by continuing to allow urban bee keeping in Calgary.

ISC:

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Unrestricted

May 3, 2021

Public Submission

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First name (required)	Joseph
Last name (required)	Rypien
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am in favor of Urban Beekeeping in Calgary. Having successfully managed honey bees in Calgary for 6 years I have found they can be raised without negatively impacting neighbors or the environment and in fact can be beneficial to the community at large. I am attaching a one page PDF with observations and facts to more fully explain the impact of Urban Beekeeping.

COMMENTING IN FAVOR OF URBAN BEE KEEPING IN CALGARY

I am submitting comments in favor of continuing to allow keeping honey bees within the City of Calgary. As an urban beekeeper in the City of Calgary for the last 6 years and following the current “Guidelines” that have been in place for a number of years, I have received nothing but positive feedback from neighbors and other community members with respect to keeping honey bees. I have used this opportunity to promote both honey bees and native bees within an urban environment to individuals who are interested, provided information on beekeeping to visitors at the Calgary Stampede and lectured to community groups and to school children. People appreciate and respond positively when presented with the “facts” about both native and honey bees. Many fallacies are circulated by special interest groups on social media. The Calgary and District Beekeepers Association (CDBA) has worked tirelessly with the City to promote responsible urban beekeeping within existing guidelines with education and responding to any concerns that may arise. As a member of the CDBA Swarm Catching Group I have responded to and recovered swarms which can happen from time to time. This is how honey bees reproduce in nature and there is little risk when handled correctly. This relationship between the CDBA and the City of Calgary has worked well over the years. Once again, explaining to the public what is happening in these situations leads to positive reactions in most cases.

A common argument against keeping honey bees concerns safety. Some people are afraid of being stung by bees or have heard sensationalized reports of potentially dangerous “Africanized” bees. Africanized “killer bees” do not exist in Canada. Many individuals cannot distinguish between bees and wasps and are fearful of anything that flies and buzzes. I have found that discussing the differences between bees and wasps and talking about the different types of bees (solitary, annual eusocial bumble bees or perennial eusocial honey bees) generally alleviates most of their concerns. Communicating factual information is important to reducing the public’s safety concerns.

Another common argument opposing urban beekeeping is the idea that honey bees adversely compete with native bees for resources. Recent and ongoing research, some of which are being done right here at the University of Calgary, show that honey bees and native bees generally prefer different floral sources and that there is limited competition between the species. Our native bees have co-evolved with native flowering plants so prefer those sources. Honey bees, non-native to the Americas, prefer large expanses of non-native plant species. Also, native bees generally forage over a few hundred to a thousand meters whereas honey bees forage up to four or five kilometers looking for large nectar and pollen sources. Home gardens are mostly inhabited by native bees and very few honey bees show interest in the small number of flowers that a typical Calgary yard can hold. An exception is when fruit trees are blooming. At these times of short lived abundance native bees and honey bees can be observed to harmoniously co-exist and share these resources. Gardeners reap the benefit with higher fruit yields. Just like in agriculture, these short periods of prolific blooms cannot be fully pollinated by the naturally short ranging native solitary and annual eusocial bees. Additionally, during periods of “dearth” when flowering plants may be sparse, honey bees are supplementally fed or they may starve thereby alleviating competition with native bees. Far more damaging to native bees than urban beekeeping comes from the use of pesticides and the loss of habitat and yet we continue to spray for dandelions and mow roadsides thereby destroying food sources and nesting sites for native bees. A well-manicured lawn is not bee friendly.

The majority of urban beekeepers in Calgary have taken a course, are responsible and have a high regard for safety in their approach to bee keeping. They take time to help educate the public about bees and beekeeping and I encourage The City of Calgary to base any beekeeping policy on factual information and informed discussion with knowledgeable individuals. Let’s truly make Calgary a Bee Friendly City.

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First name (required)	Hans
Last name (required)	Verwijs
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw - Standing Policy Committee on Community an
Date of meeting	May 5, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please note that I support the continuation of beekeeping by the citizens of Calgary..

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First name (required)	Daniel
Last name (required)	Plenzik
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We are in support of this bylaw because it allows our fellow bee keepers doing their part to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our garden and producing that honey everyone loves so much. With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more than ever.

We are aware that the Calgary District Beekeeper Association is also very active in educating the public about the importance of honey bees through events at the Calgary Stampede, Aggie Days and school presentations. If the proposed bylaw is turned down, there is a real risk that beekeeping will be banned in Calgary and we become a part of a global problem than a solution.

Our ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why we are making a submission to council

ISC: 1/1

Unrestricted May 4, 2021

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First name (required)	Rima
Last name (required)	Tarraf
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Standing Policy Committee
Date of meeting	
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support this bylaw because it allows beekeepers to continue keeping their bees, pollinating their gardens and producing honey to share with their communities .

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First name (required)	Randy
Last name (required)	Beaton
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Standing Policy Committee
Date of meeting	0021-05-12

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to express my support to continue beekeeping in the City of Calgary. I understand the bylaw (not publicly posted yet) will have beekeepers registered. I do not have an issue with registration.

I have been successfully keeping bees within the city for 10 years. This hobby generates active interest from my neighbours and their children. I get frequent requests for the younger one to come visit my bees and see the 'honey machine' (the extractor). Suiting up a young child and opening up the hive with them seems to fill them with such wonder and awe. In spite of the fact a few of them prefer jam to honey.

As part of my beekeeping hobby I have been able to share my interest with a wide spectrum of Calgarians and visitors to the city. The Calgary Stampede, Aggie Days, and public presentations have been a large part of this hobby. It would be a shame to not be able to continue with this in the future and in my opinion, a big loss to community building and the vitality of living in a city such as Calgary if beekeeping was not supported.

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May 4, 2021



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First name (required)	Lydia
Last name (required)	Ducharme
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please keep bee keeping in the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw. Thanks.

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First name (required) Raymond

Last name (required) Ducharme

What do you want to do? (required) Submit a comment

Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters) Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin

Date of meeting May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters) Please keep bee keeping in the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw.

ISC: 1/1

Unrestricted May 4, 2021

Public Submission

City Clerk's Office



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First name (required)	Brendon
Last name (required)	Jones
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please find this comment as support for urban bee keeping. Urban bee keeping is a positive for the environment, provides enjoyment for homeowners and neighbours (who receive honey) and is important for personal mental and physical health for many people.

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First name (required) Raymond

Last name (required) Ducharme

What do you want to do? (required) Submit a comment

Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters) Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regular

Date of meeting May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters) Please keep bee keeping in the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw. Thanks.

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First name (required)	Lydia
Last name (required)	Ducharme
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regular
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please keep the bee keeping in the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw. Thanks.

Public Submission

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First name (required)	Hayley
Last name (required)	Todesco
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

I would like to submit a comment in support of Beekeeping in Calgary. This hobby connects people to nature and environmental stewardship in an often socially-distanced way that has been a huge boon to my mental health this past year. I gave free honey to all of my neighbours this past year which helped build a sense of community as I had just moved into the neighborhood that same year. At the outskirts of the city, my bees pollinate nearby canola crops due to the huge distance foraging honeybees cover, helping Alberta's farmers.

I studied books and took courses on Beekeeping for more than three years before I started my own hive. This is the case with many beekeepers, with knowledge and safety tips being passed down in a responsible way. Aside from a few outliers who fill their backyards with hives and act irresponsible, the majority of beekeepers are careful and diligent with their hives.

Bees and the honey they produce bring communities together. In a world filled with processed sugars and corn syrups, supporting the production of the only sweetener that is naturally produced, local, probiotic, and good for the environment is definitely also something worth supporting. Having beekeepers in the city keeps all calgarians with access to fresh local honey.

ISC:

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Unrestricted

May 5, 2021



Please continue to support beekeeping in Calgary!

Public Submission

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First name (required)	Heather
Last name (required)	Ramshaw
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard hens in Calgary
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Allowing backyard chickens would give Calgarians the opportunity to connect deeply with the food system. This is an important piece of food security and the health of individuals and our communities. Chickens also reduce food waste and provide fertilizers for healthier gardens and urban ecosystems. Please vote for resilient local food systems!

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First name (required)	Kimberly
Last name (required)	Cichon
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Chicken By law
Date of meeting	May 7, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

In support of urban small farm animals:
 1. Hens produce food for the family and reduce food waste.
 2. Hens are fun and they make great pets.
 3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.

Public Submission

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First name (required)	Cynthia
Last name (required)	Bernard
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Backyard chickens

Date of meeting

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I absolutely support backyard chickens in Calgary! They are great for food production, education, companionship and are a wonderful natural option for pest control in yards and gardens. Subject to current bylaws regarding noise and smell, there's really no reason not to allow chickens. For a city who wants to be so green, why are we so behind on this?

ISC:

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Unrestricted

May 6, 2021

Public Submission

City Clerk's Office



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First name (required)	Shannan
Last name (required)	Winters
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Bylaw-Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I want to express my support of this new bylaw. I am a new urban beekeeper and strive to bring a positive experience and relationship with the bees to my community and neighbours, family and friends. It is amazing to see how the bees forage among the gardens and I have learned so much through courses, experience and mentoring. I hope that Calgarians can continue to take part in this activity as it brings purpose to my garden, allows me to connect with nature and learn how to improve my practice.

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First name (required)	Gunter
Last name (required)	Sammet
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standing Policy Committee on Community an
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>Dear Standing Policy Committee: I wanted to let you know that I support beekeeping within Calgary city limits.</p> <p>I also would be in favor of other animals considered livestock given that they are similar size as dogs (chicken, goats, etc.) and don't make more noise than dogs. They also shouldn't be an odor nuisance.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Gunter Sammet</p>

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May 5, 2021

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First name (required)	Gry
Last name (required)	White
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I'm commenting on the responsible pet bylaw regarding beekeeping. I want the committee and council know that beekeeping in the city is a beneficial activity for the beekeepers and the general public. I think that beekeeping should be allowed as laid out in the Calgary and District Beekeepers Association's Urban Beekeeping Guidelines.

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First name (required)	Francesca
Last name (required)	Christie
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Backyard livestock
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hens produce food for the family and reduce food waste. 2. Hens are fun and they make great pets. 3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.
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First name (required)	Melissa
Last name (required)	McGuffin
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard hens in Calgary
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>I am in support of legalizing backyard hens for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hens produce food for the family and reduce food waste. I feel we should have the right produce our own food, and that raising our own chickens would give us more control over how our food is raised and harvested. 2. Hens are fun and they make great pets. 3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.

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May 6, 2021

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First name (required)	Michelle
Last name (required)	McGuffin
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	urban livestock
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I fully support urban chickens and bees for the following reasons:

1. Hens and bees provide local, higher nutrient food sources for family, friends and community while reducing food waste.
2. Hens eat garden pests, reducing the need for pesticides or other forms of pest management.
3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids and community to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.
4. Hens create valuable compost for fertilizing local gardens and green spaces.
5. Bees increase the pollination of local flora, thereby increasing the food and seed production of local gardeners, while minimizing the need for outsourcing produce and seed stock (\$ and environmental concerns of transport supporting monoculture practices etc).

Thank you for providing food security, companionship, and environmental education/

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May 6, 2021



stewardship to my fellow Calgarians.