

1 [Administrative Code – Urban Agriculture Program]

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3 **Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Sections 53.1**
4 **through 53.4, to: 1) establish an Urban Agriculture Program to oversee and coordinate**
5 **all of the City's Urban Agriculture activities; and, 2) adopt goals for the City related to**
6 **Urban Agriculture.**

7 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
8 deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.
9 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;
10 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

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11 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

12 Section 1. **Findings.** The Board of Supervisors finds and declares as follows:

13 1. Urban agriculture provides multiple benefits to San Franciscans. It connects City
14 residents to the broader food system, provides green space and recreation, can save public
15 agencies money, provides ecological benefits and green infrastructure, builds community, and
16 offers food access, public health, and economic development potential.

17 2. San Franciscans have consistently demonstrated a demand for more space in
18 which they can grow food. While private land offers some possibilities, public land is more
19 likely to meet the demand. Land audits have surveyed potential sites and revealed that there
20 is public land suitable for urban agriculture.

21 3. Access to land, materials, and supportive infrastructure are the top needs for people
22 and groups interested in increasing food production within the City. Land access is critical for
23 many residents living in apartments and other dense areas without access to open space for
24 growing food. Access to materials would make it easier for urban gardeners and farmers to

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1 acquire basic resources such as mulch, compost, and tools. To prosper, those growing and
2 selling produce in the City also require supportive infrastructure, such as access to water,
3 distribution channels, facilities for processing and serving food, and educational opportunities
4 for aspiring gardeners.

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

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

13 6. The City has taken important steps forward with the Executive Directive on Healthy
14 and Sustainable Food in 2009 and the passage of the Urban Agriculture Zoning Ordinance in
15 2011. However, much more remains to be done.

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

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20 **SEC. 53.1. TITLE.**

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

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

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1 "Urban Agriculture" is the growing of food through intensive plant cultivation and animal
2 husbandry. Urban agriculture can occur in many types of places, including, but not limited to, home
3 gardens, community gardens, market gardens, demonstration gardens, gardens at institutions such as
4 schools, workplaces, and jails, urban farms, orchards, rooftops, and greenhouses.

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6 **SEC. 53.3. URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.**

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

9 (b) **Duties.** The Urban Agriculture Program shall:

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

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

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

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

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

1 (c) **Strategic Plan.** By December 31, 2012, the Mayor and the City Administrator shall develop
2 a strategic plan for the Urban Agriculture Program to carry out its duties and to meet the City's stated
3 Urban Agriculture goals, as contained in Sections 53.3 and 53.4. The strategic plan shall contain
4 baseline data on Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, including, but not limited to, an accounting of all
5 City funding and resources, a list of all local Urban Agriculture programs, a count of all active and
6 inactive sites and site coordinators, a count of waiting lists, and a needs assessment of resident,
7 organization, and business needs. The Mayor and the City Administrator shall submit the strategic
8 plan to the Board of Supervisors, and make the plan available to the general public, by December 31,
9 2012.

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

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

1 **SEC. 53.4. URBAN AGRICULTURE GOALS.**

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

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

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

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

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

12 (5) To develop new Urban Agriculture projects on public land where residents demonstrate
13 desire for the projects, with at least 10 new locations for Urban Agriculture completed by January 1,
14 2014;

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

18 (7) To develop sufficient Urban Agriculture resources such that by January 1, 2014, San
19 Francisco residents seeking a community garden plot have to wait no more than a year for access to a
20 plot.

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

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

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13 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
14 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

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16 By: _____
17 THOMAS J. OWEN
18 Deputy City Attorney

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