

**City Council – Action Request Form**

**Date:** June 14, 2022

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**To:** Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

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**From:** Aaron King, Assistant City Manager  
Angela I. Carmon, City Attorney  
Chris Murphy, Director of Planning & Development Services

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**Council Action Requested:**  
Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 Of The City Code Entitled “Animals And Fowl” To Revise The Requirements For The Keeping Of Chickens Or Other Fowl And Pigeons

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**Strategic Focus Area:** Livable Neighborhoods

**Strategic Objective:** No

**Strategic Plan Action Item:** No

**Key Work Item:** No



**Summary of Information:**

At the May 10, 2022 Community Development/Housing/General Government (CD/H/GG) Committee, staff presented an Information Item that provided benchmarking data on how the City’s rules for keeping of chickens compared to other NC peer cities. Setbacks and adjacent property owner consent were two areas that appeared to be somewhat inconsistent with peer NC cities. The standard setback in Winston-Salem is 100’ unless all adjacent neighbors consent to a reduced setback that can be as close as 25’. Many of our peers have a setback requirement that ranges from 10’-50’. As such, staff was directed to research and draft an amendment to the City Code that would bring our regulations more in line with our peers. The proposed revisions:

- Establish the maximum number of chickens that can be kept on a property dependent on the size of the property.
- Reduces the setback from 100’ to 20’ and eliminates the requirement for adjacent property owner consent.
- Removes the requirement to obtain a Zoning Permit from Planning & Development Services.

Staff believes the proposed revisions will bring the City’s standards for the keeping of chickens in line with our peer NC cities and will offer a more streamlined regulatory approach by doing so.

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**Committee Action:**

<b>Committee</b>	CDHGG 8/9/22	<b>Action</b>	Approval
<b>For</b>	Unanimous	<b>Against</b>	

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**Remarks:**

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