



# Long Beach Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones

Zoning amendment and UAIZ Program Ordinances

CITY OF  
**LONG BEACH**

# Background

- In 2014, the State of California implemented Assembly Bill 551 (AB 551), the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones (UAIZ) Act
- On April 5, 2016, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors adopted a UAIZ Ordinance that enables incorporated cities to establish their own UAIZ programs
- On May 10, 2016, the City Council requested that staff explore the feasibility of implementing the UAIZ Program in Long Beach
- On June 13, 2017, the City Council requested City Attorney draft an ordinance to establish the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Program and to define land use zones eligible to participate in the UAIZ Program

# What is UAIZ?

- Eligible owners of vacant lots can enter into a contract with the City to use their land for agricultural purposes for 5 years
- The owner's property taxes are reduced based on an assessment of the property value as agricultural land
- Vacant lots are cultivated reducing blight and increasing access to locally grown organic produce

# Zoning Amendment

- Adopt the state definition of urban agriculture, with additional language clarifying that this does not include cultivation of marijuana
- Allow urban agriculture as a matter of right within multi-family, commercial, and light industrial zones
- Require an Administrative Use Permit within single-family, two-family and heavy industrial zones

# Establish the Long Beach UAIZ Program

- Approve the form of the UAIZ contract
- Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, or Director of Development Services to execute UAIZ contracts with eligible vacant lot owners
- The process:
  - Lot owners apply to the program through the Lead Agency
  - Applications are reviewed and then referred to the Assessor's Office and Treasurer-Tax Collector
  - Contracts are approved and recorded with the LA County Registrar-Recorder
  - Recorded contracts are filed with the Lead Agency and Assessor's Office



# Benefits of the Long Beach UAIZ Program

- Helps build more robust local food system and access to locally grown produce
- Creates gathering places for communities and opportunities for gardening education
- Reduces blight and creates opportunity for neighborhood-scale economic development and green jobs
- Provides co-benefits and means of compliance with proposed Vacant Lot Registry
- Provides access to incentives from funding set aside by the County of Los Angeles at minimal administrative cost to the City