



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0873, **Version:** 1

Adopt resolution approving the form of the UAIZ contract, and authorizing City Manager, or designee, or Director of Development Services to execute such UAIZ contracts with each owner of property that is eligible for the UAIZ Program under Chapter 8.77 of the Long Beach Municipal Code; and

Pursuant to your request on June 13, 2017, the attached Ordinance has been prepared and is submitted for your consideration. If adopted, the Ordinance would implement a City of Long Beach "Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Program" to promote urban agriculture and increase access to healthy food items in the City.

The proposed program established by this Ordinance is consistent with recently enacted provisions of the California Government Code and the County of Los Angeles Planning and Zoning Code. The Ordinance would allow property owners to voluntarily enter into an agreement with the City to use vacant or unimproved property for small scale agricultural purposes and be subject to a reduced property tax assessment in accordance with certain provisions of the State's Revenue and Taxation Code.

Urban Agricultural uses that could be permitted by this ordinance could include small scale cultivation of crops, the raising of certain types of livestock, bees, dairy producing animals or poultry and would also allow the sale of produce through field retail stands or other farm stands. In addition to adding Chapter 8. 77 to the Municipal Code, the ordinance also makes minor changes to the Zoning Regulations of City to facilitate urban agricultural activities. The proposed changes to the City's Zoning Regulations (Title 21) were approved by the Planning commission on June 1, 2017.

The first attached resolution approves the form of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone (UAIZ) contract and authorizes the City Manager or designee, or the Director of Development Services, to execute such UAIZ contracts with each owner of property that is eligible for the UAIZ Program under Chapter 8.77 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

The second attached resolution directs the Director of Development Services to submit a request to the California Coastal Commission to certify an implementing amendment to the Certified Local Coastal Program.

In accordance with the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, a Categorical Exemption was prepared for the project (CE-17-081), finding that this project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption per Section 15035 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

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CHARLES PARKIN
CITY ATTORNEY