



MEMORANDUM

City of Angels City Council

Date: June 4, 2024
To: City Council
From: Amy Augustine, City Planner
Re: **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ON ANIMAL KEEPING**

Recommendation: Discuss and direct staff on Draft Chicken/Fowl Animal Keeping standards. Direct staff to take a draft code amendment based on Council’s recommendations to the Planning Commission pursuant to Angels Municipal Code Section 17.90.030(C) and return a formal code amendment to the City Council for final consideration.

Background:

The City of Angels adopted Ordinance 511 on September 21, 2021. This ordinance introduced the concept of small and large Animal Keeping on small residential lots. The small lot animal-keeping provisions of Ordinance 511 were introduced as a temporary provision to facilitate chicken-keeping during the pandemic. In fact, the staff report for Ordinance 511 focused on a single issue: small-lot animal keeping. The staff recommendation calls for adopting the overall ordinance and:

2. Direct staff to prepare an animal keeping ordinance for the city (emphasis added)

The 2021 staff report further states that requirements for a conditional use permit for small-lot animal-keeping per Ordinance 511 also should be temporary:

“Based on the preceding, Staff recommends passing Ordinance 511 with proposed requirements to secure a conditional use permit for animal-keeping on small residential lots. A code revision allowing limited animal-keeping as a permitted use can be made after the city considers and evaluates standards for animal keeping on small residential lots in a separate ordinance.”

In response to public input April 16, 2024; on May 7, 2024, the City Council discussed amendments to small-lot animal keeping focusing specifically on chickens, and fowl generally. Staff was directed to incorporate:

- Allowing 12-15 chickens per parcel
- Requiring chickens to be kept in adequately sized coops
- Requiring at least 10-foot setbacks from property lines for coops
- Prohibiting roosters
- Maintaining fowl in a clean and healthy environment

Strategic Plan Alignment

Conservation and Open Space. *Protect the health and safety of people and property in the city from natural and man-made hazards.* Animal-keeping ultimately comes down to maintaining animals in a manner that does not create a public nuisance (i.e., health hazard) and neighborhood disruptions.

Discussion

Based on public input and staff direction from Council, the attached Draft Code revisions (**Attachment B**) are provided for input and further direction.

Financial Impact

The code revisions will require contracted consultant time and staff time plus legal noticing costs. Insufficient staff exists to properly manage a licensing/ administrative use permit pathway.

Attachments

Attachment A – 9/21/21 Ordinance 511 Staff Report

Attachment B – Proposed Code Revisions