

09-1685

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT
EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS

MOTION

JUL 08 2009

The Municipal Code allows "truck gardening" to take place in various zones. The definition of "truck gardening" is not clear in the code, in terms of what kinds of produce (fruits, vegetables, flowers, nuts, etc) it applies to, nor the quantity of produce that may be grown for consumption on-site or sale off-site.

This ambiguity in the code has led to questions about what can and cannot be grown in these zones, and what can and cannot be grown on-site or sold off-site (at, for example, a farmer's market).

It is in the interest of the city to promote the growth, harvest, on-site consumption and off-site sale of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and other urban gardening products in the city. The growth of these products, and their sale at local farmer's markets and other fresh food access programs, are directly related to the city's efforts to green Los Angeles (by reducing the carbon footprint of food imported from other parts of the country and world), promote nutrition (by providing fresh produce in the city), and foster stronger bonds in the community (by encouraging local participation in farmer's markets and other fresh food access programs), and create local sustainable job opportunities. Clarifying what activities are, and are not, allowed in appropriate zones is important in achieving these goals.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department to prepare a report, in consultation with the City Attorney, relative to the feasibility of allowing for the cultivation of flowers, fruits, nuts, or vegetables defined as the food product of any tree, vine or plant, and that these products be allowed for use on-site or sale off-site.

PRESENTED BY: Eric Garcetti
ERIC GARCETTI
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: Ed P. Reyes

ORIGINAL

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