

Council File 12-0785

August 24, 2015

Dear Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Received 8/24/15

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E.C. B...
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City Hall Office
AUG 24 2015

We trust you have seen reviewed the documents in Council File 12-0785 read numerous opposition letters to the draft ordinance now before PLUM that proposes (unlike any other City) to allow backyard beekeeping as a new accessory use in all residential zones which includes Opposition Motion and Detailed Response by a Professional Urban Beekeeper on the proposed ordinance.

NOW, WE ASK FOR YOU TO **LISTEN** AND RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO ENSURE THAT MAXIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES ARE CODIFIED TO PROTECT URBAN BEES, BEEKEEPERS, AND IMPACTED RESIDENTS.

The **INEFFECTIVE** draft ordinance is an obvious push under the guise of unsubstantiated "sustainability" effort that amounts to no more than unsafe beekeeping hobbies that belong in Rural Settings. **BEE SAFE IS ON THE PUBLIC RECORD AS INFORMING YOU THIS A LIFE AND DEATH ISSUE FOR THE ANAPHALACTIC CHILDREN AND THOUSANDS OF OTHERS WHO DOCUMENT THIS CONDITION AND LIVE IN CONCENTRATED SINGLE FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. BY NOT SUPPORTING AMENDMENTS THAT REGULATE A "BY RIGHT" R ZONING USE, YOU ARE PUTTING OUR CHILDREN, ELDERLY AND CLINICALLY ALLERGIC RESIDENTS IN INCREASED PROXIMATE DANGER WITHIN 5 FEET OF OWN HOMES!**

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I. POSITION STATEMENT OF GROWING NETWORK:

1. LA DOES NOT NEED MORE BEES.
2. LA is not an Agricultural Zone nor does any study reveal a need for HONEYbees.
3. No evidence exists according to City Reports of a need for bees because there are ALREADY 10 HIVES PER SQUARE MILE...or 4,000 feral hives that can easily pollinate the needed plants within LA'S 400 QUARE MILES. **The City reports 7,000 calls per year and bee removers report tremendous growth.*

II. MINIMUM ACTION REQUESTED BY PLANNING AND LAND USE

1. Create a **BEE SAFE** Zone with distance limits of at least 2,000 feet from any school, day care center, City park, church, or senior housing. (Bees fly 2,000' in only 2 minutes – distance needed)
2. Create a public City registration system for all beekeepers and their property address.
3. Require basic training, insurance, and safety features including on-site water & food supplies.
4. Create "Opt Out" procedure similar to the Mural Ordinance for communities and adjacent residents.
5. Address the "Africanized Bees" situation, feral vs. domestic hives and re-queening procedures.
6. **POSTPONE** any action until a proper report is prepared by staff and proper time is give for true community input **AND/OR** initiate a **TRIAL PERIOD AND AREA**

Please help the City Council **POTECT OUR CHILDREN, ELDERLY AND RESIDENTS FROM THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO KEEP BEES AND THOSE WHO ARE ADJACENT AND AFFECTED BY BEEKEEPING ACTIVITIES.**

We **DON'T** want a Councilmembers who declares on public record that he has to vote for "For Blueberries" or "Buzzkill." Your committee deserves to have educated informed members, not just those who easily swayed by popular trends.

signed,
A groWING... # of Community Council Districts, Presidents, and Residents