

14-1378

Motion

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

The *Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act*, AB 551 (Ting), encourages the development of vacant, unproductive land for growing food.

AB 551 allows cities, with approval from the county board of supervisors, to designate Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones. Within these zones, property owners who allow their land to be used for agriculture purposes for a minimum of five years can receive a property tax adjustment; their land would be reassessed at the average statewide irrigated agriculture lands rate.


The property tax adjustment is intended to incentivize landowners who are not utilizing their property to make it available for urban agriculture. Parcels would be eligible for the incentive if they are between 0.10 and 3 acres in size, dedicated to agriculture or animal husbandry, free of dwellings not intended for agriculture or educational purposes, and located within a zone that allows for agricultural use.

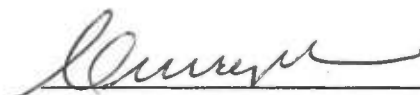
In addition to encouraging productive uses for vacant land, the implementation of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones in the city would also increase access to fruits and vegetables in areas that currently lack fresh foods. More than 40% of low-income adults in Los Angeles County are food insecure and more than 60% of adults are obese or overweight, according to the Los Angeles Food Policy Council's October 2013 Los Angeles Food System Snapshot.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council instruct the Department of City Planning and the Department of Building and Safety, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance establishing Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones, and which includes the following:

1. Designate the boundaries of one or more Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones within the city and clarify zoning where food growing operations are allowed.
2. Develop a process by which the City can determine property owners' eligibility and by which property owners can apply for the incentive.
3. Develop an enforcement mechanism to ensure property owners are following local, county, and state regulations for Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones.
4. Coordinate with the County of Los Angeles the approval, establishment, and implementation of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones as required by AB 551 (Ting), the *Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act*.

PRESENTED BY:


 FELIPE FUENTES
 Councilmember, 7th District


 CURREN PRICE
 Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY:




 OCT - 8 2014

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