

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

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Impact Information

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Summary: The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council supports the concept of an Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Ordinance (UAIZ), with conditions, as it would provide locally sourced food, encourage the use of vacant properties, and incentivize property owners with reduced taxes.

With this ordinance comes a great responsibility, for both the City of Los Angeles and property owners not currently outlined in the draft ordinance contract. Farming in dense urban neighborhoods such as Silver Lake will require respecting a high population of residents and business owners not found in rural conditions.

In order to protect the welfare and safety of residents, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council recommends that the following conditions be added to the ordinance contract:

1. Farming in urban areas to be organic, non-GMO, and without the use of chemical pesticides to avoid pollution of ground water and soil quality, as well as potential health risks to surrounding neighbors.
2. The city to include standards for fertilizers and pesticides that must be adhered to so as to avoid harm to air quality, and prevent unwanted odors in neighborhoods.
3. If "truck farming" is allowed, then commercial vehicles entering and exiting the rezoned property must not disturb neighbors within 500 feet and be limited to business hours in residential neighborhoods.
4. If the property owner plans to "truck farm," then the site's soil quality must be tested to ensure that goods going to market are safe. Owners must adhere to the same safety standards as commercial farmers.

We appreciate your consideration of these recommendations.