

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
2016 WORK PLAN  
(as at March 2016)**

Project/Initiative	Background	Lead/ Responsible	Proposed Timeline	Proposed Budget	Link to Strategic Plan	Status
Backyard Chickens/small livestock allowed in municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allow citizens to keep hens within city limits as long as they adhere to certain guidelines</li> <li>● Allow chicken owners to sell their eggs</li> <li>● ex. Hens and bees are permitted within city limits in the City of Victoria provided they are properly cared for and maintained. Secure outdoor shelter must be provided to contain hens or other outdoor domesticated animals and protect them from predators. Bee hives must be maintained to prevent swarming and placed far enough away from property lines to prevent them from impacting neighbouring properties (City of Victoria, 2011)</li> <li>● City of Vancouver Backyard Hens Bylaw: In March 2010, policy guidelines were developed for the keeping of backyard chickens (City of Vancouver, 2010). (<a href="http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/backyard-chickens.aspx">http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/backyard-chickens.aspx</a>)</li> <li>● <b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> City staff research backyard chicken feasibility for London, and compare bylaw policies in other mid-large urban centres in Canada.</li> </ul>	Skylar	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The London Plan (Food System) – draft</li> <li>● London and Middlesex Food Policy Council - new</li> <li>● Child and Youth Agenda 2012-2015</li> </ul>	
Developing a plan for Transactional Urban Agriculture (UA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allow UA farmers to sell their produce, as long as they have undergone a site assessment and have a business licence, regulatory food policies Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU)</li> <li>● Can sell to; CSA, Farmer's Market, Roadside, Restaurants, home delivery etc.</li> <li>● Work with MLHU to ensure that the food safety is up to code (including any onsite processing facility)</li> <li>● <b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> City staff compile a report regarding feasibility for London, and compare bylaw policies in other mid-large urban centres in Canada</li> </ul>	Skylar	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The London Plan (Food System) – draft</li> <li>● London and Middlesex Food Policy Council - new</li> <li>● Child and Youth Agenda 2012-2015</li> </ul>	
Work with the London and Middlesex Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have the LMFC present at an AAC meeting</li> <li>● <b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> A member from Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) sit on the LMFC after it is developed</li> </ul>	Whoever would like to sit on AAC	When the LMFC is established		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The London Plan (Food System) – draft</li> </ul>	

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Policy Council (LMFPC)					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>London and Middlesex Food Policy Council - new</li> </ul>	
Advocate for more fruit and nut (more edible) trees on public lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> that fruit trees are planted in parks and boulevards throughout the city to assist with healthy communities and providing alternative food options</li> <li>Work with Trees and Forests Advisory Committee (TFAC) to develop this recommendation</li> </ul>	Skylar + TFAC	Ongoing	~\$500 for guest speaker to present on fruit/nut tree policies in Toronto (combine with TFAC/ACE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban Forest Strategy</li> <li>The London Plan (Natural Heritage and The Green City) – draft</li> <li>Child and Youth Agenda 2012-2015</li> </ul>	
Support for Urban Agriculture related business development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> City staff explore the idea of urban farmland- offer leases to farmers for public property, new zoning designation etc (incubator farms)</li> <li><b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> City staff explore the idea of a new position at city: UA Farm Manager (in charge of maintaining UA programs and farmland, works with LMFPC and Community Gardens across London to run a coordinated effort of urban agriculture (UA)) - ties into Sept 1 2015 Council meeting- Council directed staff to consult with stakeholders and to report back regarding the <a href="#">London Community Garden Program Strategic Plan</a> with respect to the feasibility of an overarching urban agriculture policy)</li> <li><b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> Staff explore allowing for on-site processing in Urban Agricultural farmland</li> <li>City in charge of processing soil testing -The Toronto Site Assessment is a tool developed by Toronto Public Health for city staff to assess potential sites for community and allotment gardens, and to identify and mitigate areas that are contaminated but could be suitable for food production (Toronto Public Health, 2011).</li> </ul>	Suggestions for the report being done to explore UA in London (end of 2016) City of London Staff + AAC	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>London Economic Development Corporation's Industry Focus Areas: - Food Processing</li> <li>Invest more in heritage restoration, brownfield remediation, urban regeneration, and community improvement projects.</li> </ul>	

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<b>POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATION:</b> Develop an Urban Agricultural Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the comprehensive scan from the City of London (Sept 1 2015), in partnership with the London Middlesex Food Policy Council to develop an UA plan for the City of London</li> <li>Include points from the London Plan (Food Systems and Farmland Use sections)</li> <li>(Sept 1 2015) Council directed staff to consult with stakeholders and to report back regarding the <u>London Community Garden Program Strategic Plan</u> with respect to the feasibility of an overarching urban agriculture policy)</li> </ul>	AAC Team	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child and Youth Agenda 2012-2015</li> <li>The London Plan (Food System) – draft</li> <li>London and Middlesex Food Policy Council - new</li> </ul>	
Work with associated entities to develop agribusiness in London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>work with interested parties (ex. London Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) to discuss agribusiness (ex. plant processing, food production, food chains)</li> <li>AAC would like to promote the development and securing of plant processing, food chains and food production</li> </ul>	AAC Team	Ongoing			
Review City of London Land lease agreements for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review City of London standard farmland/agriculture land lease agreements to provide feedback</li> </ul>	Steve	mid 2016			
Urban Agriculture Symposium <i>(added to Work Plan - February 2016)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage the agricultural community and other City Advisory Committees</li> </ul>	Skylar Franke	Early Spring 2016	Estimated \$500.00		

**Resources:** Urban Farming Guidebook- <http://www.refbc.com/sites/default/files/Urban-Farming-Guidebook-2013.pdf>  
<https://www.london.ca/newsroom/Documents/CommunityGarden.pdf>