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Urban Agriculture Strategy – Terms of Reference
Planner: L. Maitland

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
FROM:	JOHN M. FLEMING MANAGING DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND CITY PLANNER
SUBJECT:	URBAN AGRICULTURE STRATEGY – TERMS OF REFERENCE MEETING ON DECEMBER 12, 2016

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning & City Planner the attached Terms of Reference for the development of an Urban Agriculture Strategy **BE ENDORSED**.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

September 6, 2016 – Urban Agriculture Strategy – Draft Terms of Reference

BACKGROUND

The Urban Agriculture Strategy project was initiated as a result of two resolutions of Council. On September 1, 2015 Municipal Council resolved:

the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with key stakeholders and to report back at a future meeting of the appropriate standing committee, with respect to the feasibility of an overarching urban agriculture policy that will outline the following:

- i) an inventory of parcels of City-owned land that are potential location for urban farming;*
- ii) the role the City of London could play with regard to urban farming on public lands;*
- iii) a clear definition of “urban agriculture”; and,*
- iv) a review of the current license policies and by-laws to ensure that the City plays a role that does not hinder the various aspects of urban agriculture such as land preparation, food growth, food production and food sales. (2015-S12) (2/9/CPSC)*

Related to this matter, Municipal Council further resolved on April 19, 2016:

that the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back at a future meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee with respect to how the City can assist in facilitating community groups utilizing privately owned lands for the purposes of urban agriculture; it being noted that the attached communication was received from Councillor M. van Holst with respect to this matter.

that, for the purposes of urban agriculture, the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back at a future meeting(s) of the appropriate committee with respect to how the City can assist community groups utilizing:

- i) privately-owned property; and/or*
- ii) the property at 31 Firestone Boulevard; it being noted that the attached communication was received from Councillor van Holst with respect to this matter.*

In response to this direction, staff prepared a draft Terms of Reference for an Urban Agriculture Strategy, and on September 13, 2016 Council approved the circulation of a Draft Terms of Reference for an Urban Agriculture Strategy to solicit public review and comment.

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PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held on September 29, 2016 at City Hall to discuss the draft Terms of Reference. Twenty-eight people attended and participated in this public meeting. The participants worked in two groups to provide feedback on the project. In addition, three people provided written comments to the discussion questions that were used to lead the discussion at the public meeting. A summary of the comments follows, and the responses from the meeting participants are provided in Appendix “B.”

COMEMENTS AND FEEDBACK

The majority of the public feedback was gathered through the public meeting held on September 29, 2016, although comments were also received via email from members of the public.

The public meeting included a presentation from City staff. The participants then worked in two groups to discuss the following questions:

- 1. Does the Terms of Reference address everything it needs to?
- 2. What projects would you like to see in the city?
- 3. What barriers are projects facing?
- 4. What would help the visioning conversation?
- 5. Would a steering committee help us?
- 6. Who else should be invited?

The following summarizes the feedback received on these questions.

Question 1 was intended to ensure the breadth of activities and potential urban agriculture projects in the City of London are addressed by the Urban Agriculture Strategy.

Table 1 offered a series of principles that should inform the development of urban agriculture in the city: sovereignty, security, sustainability, diversity and resilience. This approach led to discussions beyond the scope of the urban agriculture strategy including urban- rural connections, broader food systems and food shed work. It also tied in other matters including waste processing/composting, the role of animals in urban agriculture and structures and buildings

Table 2 provided three general inputs regarding gaps in the Terms of Reference. First, that the environmental benefits of urban agriculture needed to be more effectively highlighted. Second, that pollinators need to be referenced, and third, that the connection to climate change and the mitigation role urban agriculture can play should be noted.

The feedback forms provided one additional comment to the discussion, noting that the focus for the strategy should not be on animals in urban agriculture and that the plant-based approach, as reflected in the first draft of the terms of reference, should be maintained.

Question 2 was intended to build on question 1, which was to address the range of projects to be addressed in the Urban Agriculture Strategy, to focus on more specific projects. This provided an opportunity to identify more specific projects to ensure that the terms of reference did not preclude possible projects the community may identify. A wide range of potential projects were brought up at both tables.

Table 1

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• City-initiated innovation pilot projects• Bokashi composting techniques• Mobile abattoirs | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobile grocery• A tool library• Foraging – permissions on public |
|---|--|

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- lands

 - Therapy gardens
 - Prominent sites gardened (Reg Cooper Square)
 - Goat-mowing
- Soil remediation to garden derelict sites
 - Biomass heated greenhouses
 - Rain gardens
 - Immigrant integration projects

Table 2

- A hub for Urban Agriculture to serve as library, education site, germination greenhouse, and compost centre, all run as co-op.
 - A guidebook for local projects
 - Zoning guidelines to mandate gardens
 - Victorian (food + flower) gardens
- Churches as community kitchens
 - Container gardens in high-rises
 - Pollinator gardens
 - Free community kitchens
 - Communally owned gardens (beyond the allotment model)
 - Rooftop gardens
 - Winter gardening

Feedback forms

- Rooftop beehives
 - A community food centre
- Urban greenhouses
 - Education programs

Question 3 was intended to address a concern identified in the direction from Council. This was to review City regulations, policies and processes to remove obstacles that might hinder urban agriculture initiatives.

Table 1 spoke to a number of barriers to projects. There were general concerns about the lack of budget, time and convenience preventing participation. Liability was an issue raised (also at table 2) with the example of fruit trees where gleaners were being targeted for trespassing. This enforcement issue came along with comments about backyard chickens, home beehives and boulevard planting being contrary to municipal by-laws.

Table 2 focused primarily on the growing phase of urban agriculture. Comments noted education as a barrier to getting more people involved and a general social dissociation from the source of our food. This included a lack of education by City employees with regards to the treatment of gardens including, city mowing of plants, and the City choosing not to use food landscaping. Gardeners present also noted that theft, non-relaxation of watering bans for gardens, and unclear regulations created challenges. Finally the lack of guaranteed permanence for projects made some feel that investing time in a project may be for naught.

Community centres were also mentioned in discussion at table 2. Community organization discounts were referenced as a relative challenge to individuals’ attempts to process food and offer programs outside of the non-profit model.

Comments received on feedback forms noted the effect previous failures have had on potential future projects. A lack of access and information with regards to community kitchens was seen as a barrier to urban agriculture projects beyond the growing phase. Finally safety in some sites was noted with the suggestion that cameras may provide a safer setting for secluded urban agricultural locations.

Question 4 was intended to assist in the preparation for future meetings, including a comprehensive visioning session, to ensure that the necessary information would be available to make for a meaningful participation session.

Both groups identified the importance of visuals, and approaches including the “dot-mocracy” model to allow for a future conversation. Videos both to spur the discussion and as a record

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(including possible live streaming) were seen as advantageous to the discussion. Asset mapping techniques were also raised as a possible method.

Both tables also noted the value of having youth present. Urban agriculture is seen as long-term, project based and inter-generational, so the importance and presence of young people to the visioning was identified by both groups.

Staff with the appropriate expertise were also desired to make sure technical questions can be answered to help keep visioning on track. Having Council members present so the political impetus and knowledge is developed was also seen as advantageous. Participants at table 2 also noted that having the regulations themselves (zoning, pesticide, etc.) and scientific literature (to define weeds as an example) would ensure that a vision developed was not offside with regulations.

Table 2 had a discussion on setting boundaries in the urban agriculture discussion, naturalized space and ensuring it remains off-limits is one example. Theoretical boundaries including recognizing the timelines required for preparing, planting and harvesting were also noted at the table. Finally there was a consensus at table 2 that animals in the urban area should remain off limits. This was contrary to the consensus at table 1.

A need for descriptions of working models (Santropol Roulant in Montreal, Black Creek Community Farm in Toronto, Detroit urban farming as examples) was cited as a way to spur the visioning conversation.

Question 5 was to determine if a steering committee would be useful in the development of the urban Agriculture Strategy.

Table 1 focused on the possibility of a steering committee as part of the Urban Agriculture Strategy development process. There was a consensus that a steering committee would be an unnecessary additional bureaucratic layer. It may, the table argued, even prevent participation in some instances. Advisory committees of council are already discussing the issues (ACE and AAC were identified as hosting a conference on urban agriculture) and could play the role of an additional double check although the timing of committee meetings may not be ideal in all instances. This table also proposed an extended timeline with a draft report in June 2017 allowing until 2018 for finalization.

Table 2 did not chose to discuss the steering issue in the same detail though there was concerns about who would be included given the breadth of issues addressed under the urban agriculture banner. One process comment focused on developing a communication strategy to ensure that the process could be easily followed and subsequent steps anticipated.

Question 6 was to identify other groups or participants who could consult in the development of the Urban Agriculture Strategy. A number of the groups highlighted in the discussions were invited to the terms of reference meeting but did not attend.

Table 1 identified the following groups and individuals for invitations to future urban agriculture consultation sessions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Food Coop • David Cook - Western Fair Farmers Market • Hugh Mitchell – Western Fair District • On the Move Organics • Covent Garden Market | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing Chefs • Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU!) • London Food Bank • Jason Gilliland – Western University • Tony Weis – Western University |
|---|---|

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- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middlesex Elgin Oxford Beekeepers • Ecological Farmers of Ontario • London Middlesex Market Garden • Friends of the Civic Garden Complex • First Nations Groups at Western • Ethnic Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith Groups • OMAFRA • London Community Foundation • London Community Gardens • Urban League • Reforest London |
|---|--|

Table 2 argued that the entire city should feel invited. Specific groups and individuals identified for invitations included:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Food Coop • Churches (as owners of certified kitchens) • Brescia – dietetic students • Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU!) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Cook • Farmers Markets • Schools • London Public Library (Byron and Crouch libraries specifically) |
|---|--|

Those who contributed using the provided forms identified the following groups:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education system leaders • Library • Growing chefs Ontario • Housing providers • City horticultural plan • Churches • Environmentalists • Immigrant populations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU!) • Community builders • Brescia • TVDSB (Grade 6 is a good year) • Students • Churches • Bee Canada • Byron Library |
|--|--|

TERMS OF REFERENCE CHANGES

The recommended Terms of Reference provides the process for the City and community to collaboratively develop a future vision for urban agriculture in the City of London. Following public comment, changes have been made to Terms of Reference. Appendix “A” provides a detailed description of the changes made.

The following summarizes changes made to the Terms of Reference in response to the comments received since the draft was circulated for public review and comment.

Food waste, as a part of the urban agriculture process has been added more explicitly through the Terms of Reference. Composting, specifically its odour impacts, are at times a source of opposition for urban agriculture projects.

The Terms of Reference have also been modified to include specific reference to animals in an urban agriculture strategy for the City of London. This is to ensure a discussion on the topic, recognizing that there are those who are both for and against their use in the city and that animals may or may not ultimately be permitted.

The role of urban agriculture as a climate change mitigation strategy has been included. The first

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draft referenced broad environmental benefits of urban agriculture but community members cited the significant role urban agriculture can plan in addressing climate change.

The schedule has been modified to provide additional time. The timeline for the urban agriculture strategy was proposed to be completed in mid-2017. The schedule within the Terms of Reference has been revised to provide for a longer process following community feedback. Visioning including a major community exercise will occur over the fall of 2016 and early 2017, with strategy development through the winter and spring of 2017. The goal would be to have the strategy before Council in the third quarter of 2017.

In order to ensure a broad community discussion, the groups identified will be contacted to invite their participation in the process.

The specific pilot project has been removed from the Terms of Reference. Rather than limit 31 Firestone Boulevard as the only option for a pilot project, the Terms of Reference now includes a task to identify a pilot project or projects that would address growing, processing and distribution of locally produced food. The development of a pilot project will include identified community stakeholders, with the goal to begin a pilot project in 2017.

NEXT STEPS

The City of London’s Advisory Committee on the Environment, Agricultural Advisory Committee and Trees and Forest Advisory Committee teamed up to present a free public conference on urban agriculture in London entitled ‘*London’s Food Future*’. The conference was held Saturday November 19 at the Central Public Library and included speakers from Toronto, Detroit and Guelph in addition to those with local expertise. Registration exceeded 100 people for the day.

City staff were present to invite additional feedback on the Urban Agriculture Strategy. Feedback was sought throughout the day at the City booth where the public was able to provide input on what urban agriculture activities they’d like to see. The final conference session of the day featured a presentation on the Urban Agriculture Strategy development process, and included both general question and answers as well as a further opportunity for attendees to discuss their vision for the urban agriculture in the City. This input, in addition to what has been received through the Terms of Reference development process will be incorporated into the discussions at the February 2017 visioning session.

To assist in the development of the Urban Agriculture Strategy, the City has retained Evergreen. Evergreen is a national charity dedicated to making cities flourish, and works with communities do create better urban environments. Evergreen will act as the ‘backbone facilitator’ and partner by providing expertise and support to the City in the development of the Urban Agriculture Strategy.

The Evergreen project team brings a wealth of experience working in the community and municipal food policy. They will be co-leading community engagement sessions, conducting significant background research, drafting the strategy and developing a final strategy for City use.

The project teams consists of:

Lauren Baker, PhD, who brings over 20 years of experience working on food system issues to her role with the Global Alliance for the Future of Food. Her expertise ranges from research on maize agrobiodiversity in Mexico to negotiating and developing municipal food policy and programs. Most recently, Lauren was a Food Policy Specialist with the Toronto Food Policy Council, leading a citizen advisory group embedded within the City of Toronto’s Public Health Division. Lauren teaches at the University of Toronto and is a research associate with Ryerson

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University’s Centre for Studies in Food Security.
 Jo Flatt is a Senior Project Manager, and leads several initiatives as part of the Evergreen team, including the Mid-Sized City Building Program, intended to enhance the social, economic and environmental prosperity of Ontario’s mid-sized cities and the laneway initiative to promote the develop of laneway suites in Toronto.

Ashlee Cooper was a founding board member and farm manager of FoodCycles, one of Toronto’s first community-based urban farms. She’s also spent time as a boutique garlic farmer, permaculture designer, program facilitator, and environmental event planner. As a Project Manager with Evergreen, Ashlee has developed and delivered multiple urban agriculture programs throughout the Greater Toronto Area.

VISIONING SESSION

As the next step in developing the Urban Agriculture Strategy, a public visioning session is being planned for the weekend of February 4 and 5, 2017. This session will give the community the opportunity to establish the goals and the vision as the first step in developing the Strategy. In addition to the general public, participants in development of the Terms of Reference and the stakeholders identified through the process to date will be invited to participate.

CONCLUSION

The proposed draft Terms of Reference sets out a process for developing an Urban Agriculture Strategy for the City of London. Through the proposed process, the definition of urban agriculture, roles and responsibilities for the City, stakeholders and others, and opportunities for increased local food production will be established. The development of the Urban Agriculture Strategy will assist in the broader goal of Building a Sustainable City, in accordance with the London Plan and the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan for the City of London.

PREPARED BY:	SUBMITTED BY:
LEIF MAITLAND PLANNER I, LONG RANGE PLANNING AND RESEARCH	GREGG BARRETT, AICP MANAGER, LONG RANGE PLANNING AND RESEARCH
RECOMMENDED BY:	
JOHN M. FLEMING, MCIP, RPP MANAGING DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND CITY PLANNER	

November 29, 2016
 LM/GB

- Appendix “A”: Changes Made to Urban Agriculture Strategy Draft Terms of Reference
- Appendix “B”: Public Comments Received regarding Urban Agriculture Strategy Draft Terms of Reference
- Schedule “A”: Urban Agriculture Strategy Terms of Reference

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Appendix “A”

Changes Made to Urban Agriculture Strategy Draft Terms of Reference

Page 1

In the third sentence replace “three pillars” with “stages”; remove “and” and add “, through to food waste” at the end of the sentence.

In the fourth sentence replaces “pillars of agriculture” with “parts of the agricultural process”

In the sixth sentence add “of London” to the end of the sentence.

Page 2

In the second sentence remove “and” and add “and food waste” before activities.

Add a new sentence between the third and fourth sentences to read: “In developing the strategy a discussion regarding the role of animals in urban agriculture is an important part of the conversation.”

Remove the final paragraph.

Page 3

Add a new sentence between the third and fourth sentences to read: “Decreased food transportation requirements can also help in the reduction of climate change.”

Page 4

From bullet two remove “both regulatory and operational support” and replace “strategy’s final goals” with “strategy”.

In bullet three add “municipal” in front of “by-laws” and replace the remainder of the sentence following “by-laws” with “and programs with respect to their role in an urban agriculture strategy for the City”

In bullet four replace “to” with “that may”

Page 9

Replace “schedule begins with approval” with “process began with circulation”

Page 10

Remove the first sentence.

Replace “A second” with “One”

Add a new sentence to the end of the first paragraph to read “Further opportunities including at least one major visioning exercise with the broader community will take place over the fall of 2016 and early 2017.”

Replace the second paragraph with:

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Developing an urban agriculture strategy will rely on the vision from Step One, developing the approaches necessary to close gaps and establishing the roles of stakeholders in the Strategy.

From the first paragraph in the second column remove “January” and replace with “Spring”.

From the first paragraph in the second column remove “in Spring 2017” from the end.

Page 13

To the list of stakeholders add “Local farmers markets” and School board, teachers and students”.

Remove “involved in Food Systems initiatives” from the end of bullet 7.

Page 15

Change the title to “Pilot Project”

Replace the existing text with the following:

Through the process of developing the strategy potential pilot projects should be identified. As part of preparing for implementation of the strategy pilot projects offer an opportunity to begin the work of enhancing urban agriculture in London. A pilot project can address any part of the urban agriculture cycle from, growing, through processing to distribution.

The selected project should address community desires for increased local food availability. A selected project should address identified gaps as determined through research into the broader Urban Agriculture Strategy preparation. A selected project should have defined community partners and begin in 2017.

Background work will be necessary to initiate a selected pilot project. Spin-off meetings should be held once a pilot project is identified and include all necessary stakeholders from the outset. A parallel process should be conducted to ensure both the broader strategy development and the pilot start-up can operate concurrently.

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Appendix “B”

Public Comments Received regarding Urban Agriculture Strategy Draft Terms of Reference

1. Does the Terms of Reference address everything it needs to?

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- 1) Sovereignty – right to grow food
- 2) Security
- 3) Sustainability
- 4) Diversity
- 5) Resilience
- Article 89 – Boston
- “Edmonton Fresh” – M. Temme submission
- Article 18 (or 89) – Boston
- Waste processing – add to complete the cycle
- Role of animals – clarify whether or not they are included
- Discussion on soil development – add old sites (e.g. Cavendish Park)
- Investigation of small business opportunities
- Sustainability – eco-friendly approach
- Non-urban lands should be included
 - Opportunity & accessible
- Concept of carbon-farming (storing of carbon)
- Macro-level (e.g. California situation with drought)
 - Food security
 - Winnipeg (president’s choice food)
- Opportunities/explore b/w urban & rural boundaries
- Kids that grow food eat more vegetables (fact)
- Add health
- Add food literacy – where does food come from?
 - Tie into promoting
 - Consumption
- Conversion of buildings – aquaculture
 - Adaptive re-use
 - Greenhouses
- Draft report June 2017 then reveal over summer 2018 for final

Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Environmental benefits highlighted – pollination, etc.
- Climate change mitigation
- Lawns are food desserts for pollinators

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- could be improved to teach people how to grow gardens to attract bees
- What is the connection between London Food Policy Council & collaborative – food in region
- Ecological implications
- Food Policy- Food Security and Regional Food Access
- Food Waste needs to be addressed
- Plan based – yes
- What about bee hives?
- Composting

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2. What projects would you like to see in the city?

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- City take on innovative projects on a larger scale
 - Eg. Leaves
- Create compost – valuable products/by-products from waste
- Bokashi composting - compost → soil in 2 weeks
- Mobile abattoir – mobile grocery
- Tool sharing library – eg. Apple cider press
 - Maybe community centre as base
- use vast empty properties for gardens
- “re-localization” – add to Terms of Reference
- Foraging – Reforest London plant on public lands
- Lack of coordination & different philosophies in City Departments – put in Terms of Reference
- Therapeutic gardening for seniors – collaboration with Dearness Home – mental health
- Tie onto health, mental health, other special agencies/funding/granting
- Active & Green communities needs to be tied in
- Reg Cooper S. – Richmond Street @ Windermere – could have terraces for gardens
- Goats for keeping natural grasses kept
- NOT just groups & communities – also individuals
- Co-generation project – integrate recreation
- Hutton House clients could farm lands near Cherryhill
- Soil contamination – bulk purchasing of services to test soils & remediate
- Development land – property standards By-laws require mowing of land which destroys pollinator habitat
- Compost furnace (biomass) – use heat to heat greenhouse
 - Sell compost
- Rain garden project (LID)– Glen Cairn
 - Stormwater management
 - UTRAC/LCF supporting
 - Sherwood weeping tiles
- Opportunity to integrate refugees into project

Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- An Urban Agriculture Hub
 - Co-op – growth through to delivery
 - Shared resources
 - Go to for City (1-City-Wide)
 - shares “banner”
 - sharing information
 - works with schools
 - 10 acres
 - preservation technique educators
 - Prep greenhouses for germination
 - Composting, full cycle
 - Cross directional funding
 - LPH lands
- Final Guidebook regarding Urban Ag ‘A how-to’
- Timelines 2-3 to start 5 years to “hit stride”
- Need confirmation for projects
- Penalties for backing out
- bonusing for garden space (southside located)
- Victorian gardens to maintain aesthetics

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- Need to accommodate for longer start time to get garden up and running
- Church open spaces for food
- pollination attracting gardens
- maintaining traditions, Inter-generational programing, healing + education
- Container gardening for highrises
- Rooftops gardens as mandatory
- Site plan, gardens for tenants + condos
- Neighbourhood – level increase accessibility (seed library in Byron)
- Free Community Centre spaces
- Community Kitchens – affordability
- Beyond allotment, increase flexibility of rental
- Communal neighbourhood owned gardens
- Education on Urban Agriculture – beyond converted
- Support for lawn conversion
- High rise gardens
- Private property used for food growth beyond homeowner (Urban Farmer T.O.)
- Food waste – ensure everything is used
- all year gardening

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Toronto beehives on the roof of the Royal York Hotel, CBC headquarters, etc. would like to see beehives on the top of buildings as in Toronto. Toronto is #1 in restoring be colonies. Reference- Bee Canada. I have created a six-act play “Don’t Clip our Wings” – Part of is teaches people how to grow a garden to attract bees. I would like the play produced on a DVD and present the DVD at associations, schools and universities.
- Co-op
- Broad educational aspect to encourage and understand urban agriculture
- Good process components
- Simple information found easily supporting resources
- Asset map – what currently exists
- Accessible kitchens for anyone
- Restaurants allowed and supported
- Urban greenhouses
- Intergenerational education program
- Hub
- Education programs, non-niche and niche
- CFCs like the Stop/the Local

3. What barriers are projects facing?

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Patter language of ideas (idea bank)
- Communications have room for improvement
 - Within City Service Areas
- By-laws that forbid raising of animals in UGB
- Urban chickens – Guelph, Edmonton, Doon-Kitchener
- City owned land that has fruit trees – signage w/ “no trespassing”
 - Access
 - Gleaming – picking fruit
- Legal & liability related to access
- Chickens – process at least half of our green waste
- Chickens – attitude of members of Council negative
- By-laws – against planting in Boulevard

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- Budget
- Backyard beehives – change regulations/Provincial legislation/regulations
- Community engagement – weighting of public input
- Convenience & time

Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Community Gardens – used to be more streamlined – just responsibility. Should be enough (see 165 Egerton backyard garden)
- Community orgs get discount
- Education – support for new cooks, gardens
- Hope’s garden – Dragon’s Den
- Food safety for vegetables exist for a reason, cannot remove all regulations
- Food landscaping in City spaces
- Theft from community gardens
- NEEDS TO BE SEEN as a NEED for education
- Disassociation from food source
- Guerrilla Gardens –ensuring they aren’t killed
- summer garden maintenance
- Community Centre – do not feel open
- permanence (properties sold can = gardens removed)
- watering gardens in drought – loosening during drought
- greenhouse size limits

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- We need a rep from Bee Canada to teach how to develop a garden to attract bees
- Safety – a camera should be in each garden
- Is it broadly of interest? How do we raise profile of benefits and reason to be connected to local food production
- By-laws re: permissible activities
- Knowledge of average Londoner
- Rate of participation
- Raw food > consumable
- Failed efforts
- Many players not working at cross purposes
- Aesthetics
- Community kitchens available – no cost, low-cost > database?
- Distribution
- Public not understanding city by-laws
- Parks maintenance, not educated = mowing
- Watering regulations
- Pesticides

4. What would help the visioning conversation?

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Include youth – schools, going out to them
 - Hockey/sports arenas
 - Tim Horton’s
- Include food = local food
- Visuals – options
 - Visual survey
 - Food theme
 - Dot democracy – food stickers

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- City farmer info
 - Slide presentation – compiles
- YouTube video topics – project based
- Focus on the conversation – facilitation sessions
- Food council – strategies/tools to get input
- Livestream
- Balance with topic based vs open topic
- Staff/council members

Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- urban beekeeping check out Edmonton
- Scientific definition for weeds
- pesticide regulations
- info on Black Creek farm (Everdale)
- Food secure Canada (Mid-October) – London should send someone
- Just plants
- No interference in natural spaces
- Working with Grade 6’s outdoor education awareness building
- locations for greenhouses
- understanding gardeners timeline

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Videos
- Is there a specific time to re-evaluate? Checkpoints?
- Measurable goals
- How far is vision?
- Start with end in mind
- Seek models that work to inform – community food centres - Detroit – Black Creek community farm
- Santropol Roulant
- Done within local food economy framework

5. **Would a steering committee help us?**

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Who? How? Establish
- Selection process?
- Role?
- No – may be too limiting
 - Layer of bureaucracy
 - Too formal process
 - Shuts out some active participants
 - Advisory Committees’ role
 - ALE
 - AAC
 - TFAC
 - EEPAC
- Support for working group (informal) of the food council/city
- Timing of project doesn’t always tie in w/ advisory CTE meetings
- Preference to a “loose” structure
 - Opportunity for open to submitting comments through advisory committees and to City staff
- * collate tonight’s feedback by the 2 groups, comparison of ideas*

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Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Communications strategy – like Poverty for London
- ask for trusted to find network hubs trusted (knowledge, ability, builders, starters)

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- A hub
- Who do you look to as an expert?
 - negotiation, agriculture, community builders, project starters, educators

6. Who else should be invited?

Table 1 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- London Food Coop
- David Cook Western Fair Farmers Market
 - Booth for Urban Ag.
 - Hugh Mitchell
- On the Move Organics
- Covent Garden Market
- Mail Chimp – opt in → Dianne Szoller’s list subscribe to Urban Ag. List
- Growing chefs – education
- YOU
- London Food Bank
- Jason Gilliland, Tony Weis
- Middlesex Elgin Oxford Beekeepers
- Ecological Farmers of Ontario
- London Middlesex Market Garden
- Friends of the Civic Garden Complex
- First Nations – Western
- Ethnic Groups
- Faith Groups
- OMAFRA
- London Community Foundation
- London Community Gardens
- Urban League
- Reforest London
- Reports: don’t use full page photos & colour block b/c expensive to print

Table 2 - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Schools – children
- Erin (?) Much at school board
- Byron library - PL generally – Crouch library
- School boards – issues accessing space by community
- Churches – after free certified kitchens
- Brescia – dietetic students
- YOU!
- Dave Cook – Markets
- Whole City – should be involved at some point
- Tendai

Feedback Forms - Community Meeting September 29, 2016

- Rep from Bee Canada, School Boards, Byron Library
- TVDSB grade 6, good year

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- YOU!
- Students
- Churches
- Immigrant Population
- Education system leaders
- Library
- Growing chefs Ontario
- Housing providers
- City horticultural plan
- Churches
- Environmentalists
- Immigrant populations
- YOU!
- Combine community cooking
- Community builders
- Brescia

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Schedule A
Urban Agriculture Strategy Terms of Reference