



removing barriers to growing food in London's urban areas

Urban Agriculture in London, Ontario



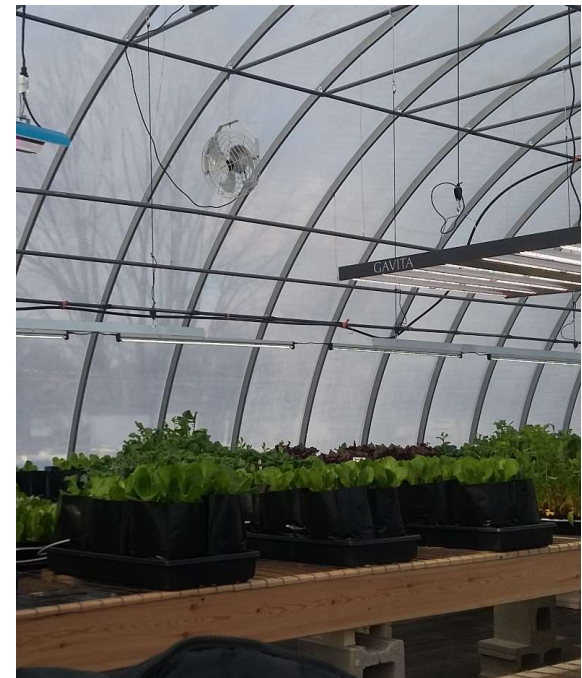
LONDON

URBAN AGRICULTURE STRATEGY

November 2017



..urban agriculture is the practice of growing, processing, sharing and distributing food...



Urban Agriculture in London

A number of ideas were repeated throughout the community consultation – ideas that connect with all aspects of this strategy and that could be applied towards implementation and moving urban agriculture forward in London.





GROWING

Urban Farms

Urban "Foodscaping"

Urban Livestock



PROCESSING

Community Kitchens

Resource Sharing

Mobile Assets



DISTRIBUTION

Farmers' Markets

Local Food Procurement

Direct Food Sales



FOOD LOSS & RECOVERY

Food Waste Reduction & Recovery

Community Composting



EDUCATION & CONNECTION

Food Hubs

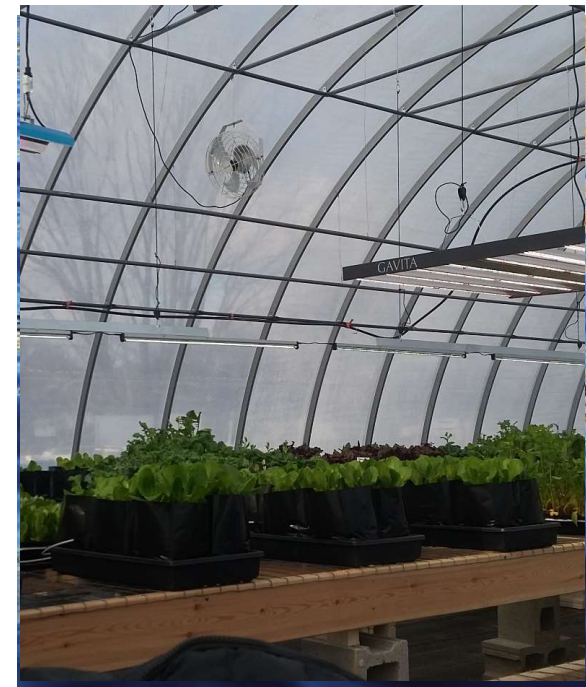
School Gardens

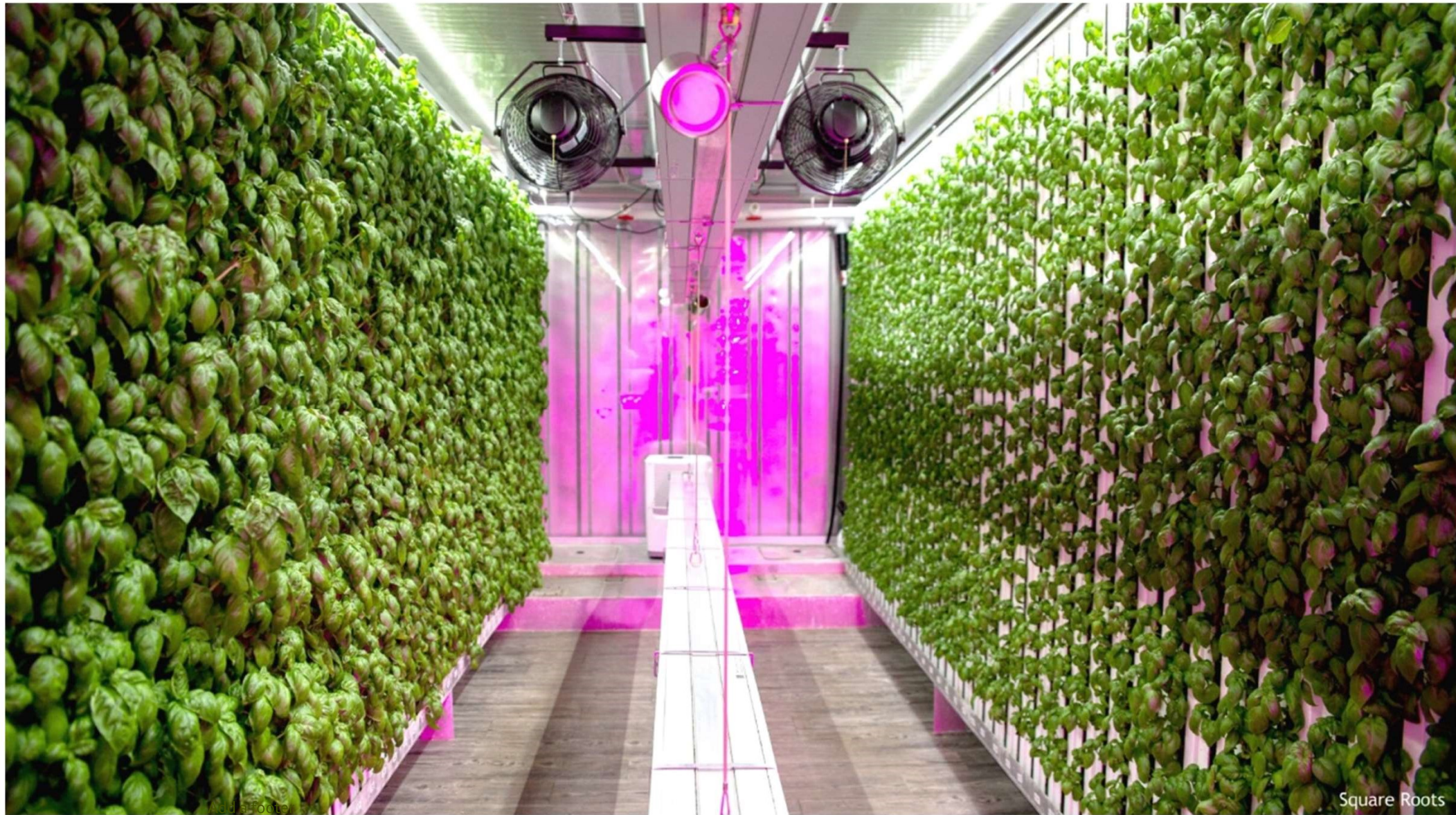
Community Education & Training



growing food in urban areas - the opportunity -

- Covid recovery
- grow in neighbourhoods
- grown on vacant lands
- grow on underutilized lands
- grow in vacant buildings
- grow on rooftops
- grow in converted shipping containers
- grow in parks
- grow in rights-of-way





Growing in Vacant Buildings

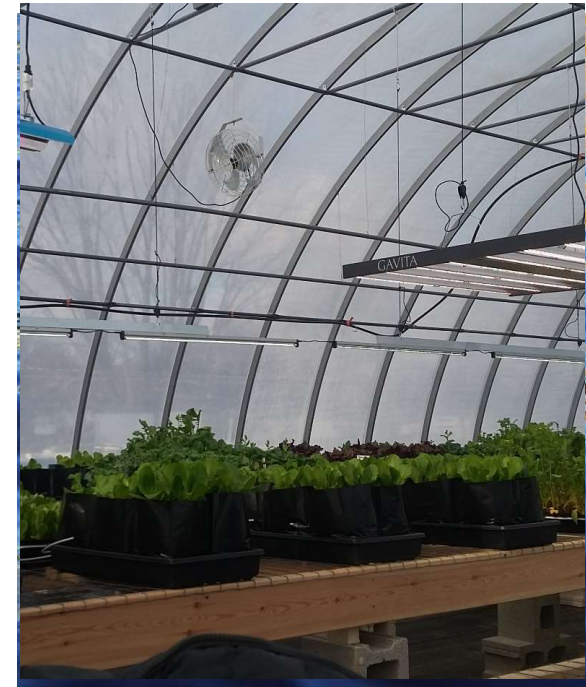




Add a footer

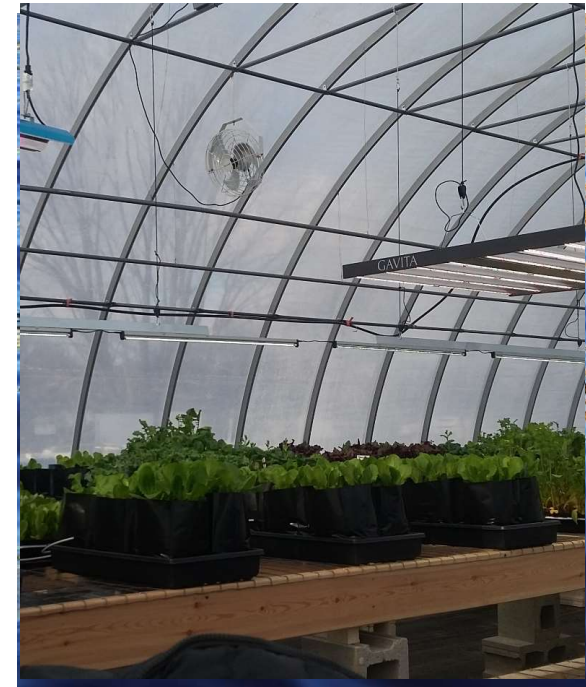
growing food in urban areas - key considerations-

- Potential land use impacts
- Health and safety
- Undermining other planned land uses
- Impacts on natural heritage and hazards
- Ongoing maintenance



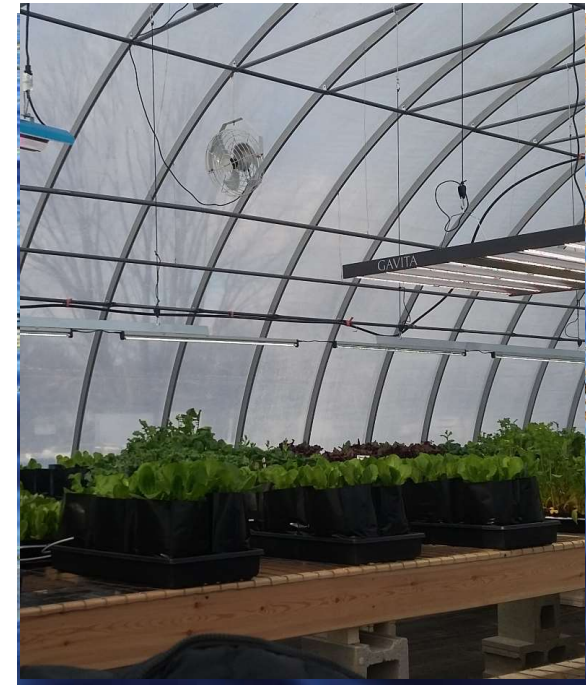
growing food in urban areas - the barriers -

- The London Plan
 - General policies leave questions
 - Not explicit in Place Type policies
 - Is explicit in a couple of Place Types..raising more questions



growing food in urban areas - the barriers -

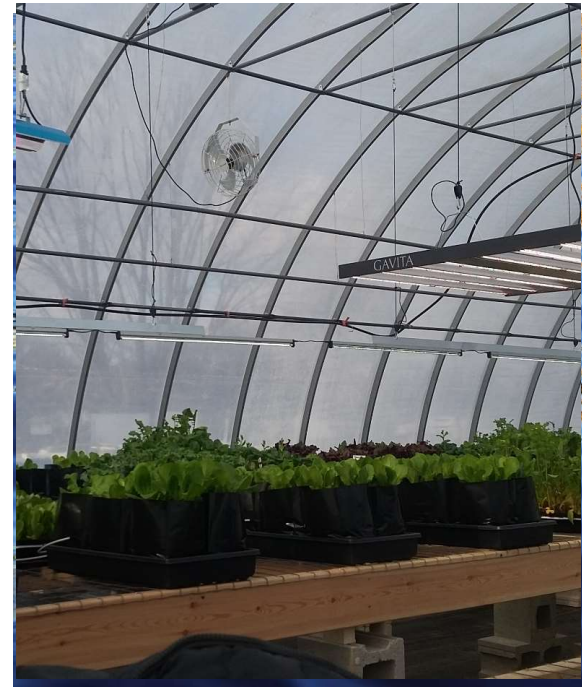
- Zoning By-law
 - Allows agriculture and horticulture in rural zones only
 - Silent in all other zones
 - Shipping container definition doesn't consider conversions
 - "Urban Agriculture" use is only applied to one property in the entire City
 - Definition of greenhouse limits size to 10 sq.m. if they are accessory buildings
 - Lot coverage restrictions could be very limiting
 - Parking standards are impractical



growing food in urban areas - the barriers -



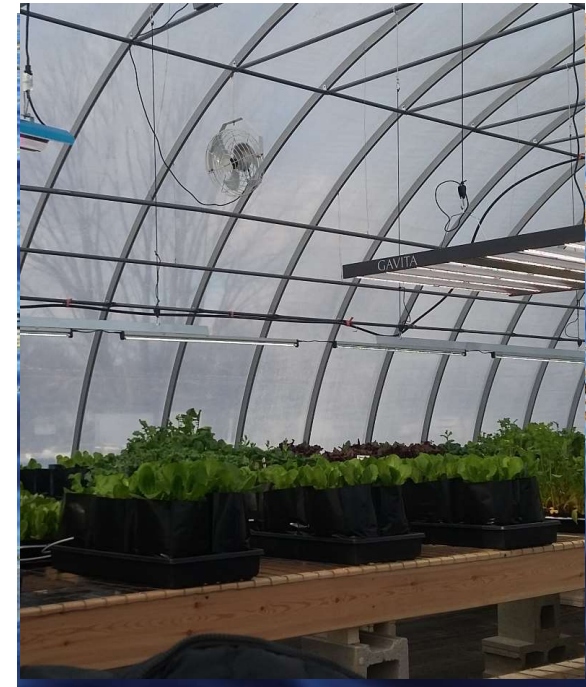
- Site Plan
 - Unclear whether site plan is required for small or temporary greenhouses
 - No exemptions
- Building Code
 - Temporary greenhouse structures couldn't possibly meet Ontario Building Code – but can meet Farm Building Code



growing food in urban areas - the barriers -



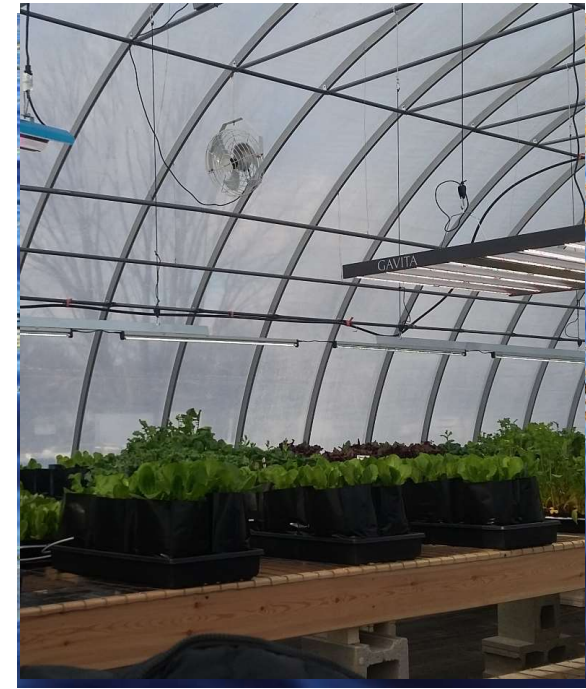
- Streets By-law
 - “it shall be lawful for an owner or occupant to plant and maintain a grassed area upon the portion of the street which abuts his premises that is not occupied by road works”

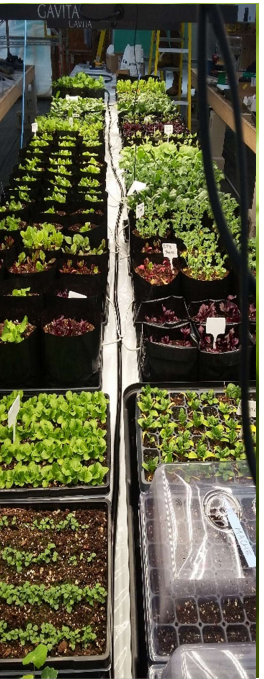


growing food in urban areas

- NEXT STEPS -

- Working closely with City Planning
- Draft policy framework, amendments and report outline to Staff by end of this week
- Hopefully circulation of amendment soon after that
- Receive community input and complete study – targeting March to submit report & recommendations to Staff
- Then to Council for approval





Please send comments to:

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