

Urban Roots London

Chair and Members
Planning and Environment Committee
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON, N6B 1Z2

Friday, November 19, 2021

Regarding: OZ-9332/City of London – Encouraging the Growing of Food in the Urban Areas, London Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning and Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Board of Urban Roots London, I am writing to convey our support for the City of London – Encouraging the Growing of Food in the Urban Areas, London Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments to be discussed at the Planning and Environment Committee meeting on Monday, November 22, 2021. The proposed amendments to the regulations for growing food within the urban growth boundary, for greenhouses in association with urban agriculture, and for shipping containers used for the growing of food in association with urban agriculture will ease barriers and provide much-needed clarity for urban agriculture activities throughout London.

With COVID-19 only increasing food insecurity in the city, the need for better access to healthy, fresh, high-quality produce has never been greater. In the last five years, Urban Roots London has grown over 35 thousand pounds of food, with over 18 thousand pounds of it donated to local organizations that provide frontline services to Londoners. These proposed amendments will make it easier for Urban Roots London and organizations like ours to improve food security in our community.

In addition, Urban Roots London would like to voice its support for continued action on the urban agriculture issues listed in section 1.6 of the report to make progress in regards to London's Urban Agriculture Strategy.

If you have any further questions about Urban Roots London or our support for these amendments, please contact us at admin@urbanrootslondon.ca.

Sincerely,



Laura Thorne
Director of Organizational Development