

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION**

Meeting Date: February 29, 2016

Item: Ordinance Amendment – Amend Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 5 (Agricultural/Open Space and Residential Zoning Districts), Section 8 (Open Space/Agricultural and Residential Use Regulations), Subsection C, Use Matrices Table 5.3 (Agricultural Uses/Animal Keeping) to allow SIC 0279-9901: Apiary (bee and honey farm/Beekeeping) as a Permitted Use in all single family residential and manufactured housing zoning districts; and Amend Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 10 (Performance Standards), Section 4 (Specific Use Regulations), Subsection A, to add language to City Code identifying specific regulations and requirements for Beekeeping operating under SIC 0279-9901 – City Initiated – AO-002631-2015

Request Action: Approval of an amendment to the ordinance

Case Advisor: Brian S. Portz, AICP

Applicant's Request: Development Services is requesting an amendment to the City Code, Title 9, *Zoning, Chapter 5, Agricultural/Open Space and Residential Zoning Districts, Section 8, Open Space/Agricultural and Residential Use Regulations, Subsection C, Use Matrices, Table 5.3, Agricultural Uses/Animal Keeping* to allow SIC 0279-9901 'Apiary (bee and honey farm/Beekeeping)' as a Permitted use in all single family residential and manufactured housing zoning districts; and Amend Chapter 10, *Performance Standards, Section 4, Specific Use Regulations, Subsection A*, to add language to City Code identifying specific regulations and requirements for Beekeeping operating under SIC 0279-9901. This request stems from an inquiry of residents that wish to conduct beekeeping in residential areas. Beekeeping falls under the same SIC zoning code as that of chickens and other animals related to agricultural production, and therefore is currently a Permitted (P) use in Open Space designated areas or thru approval of a Permitted Conditional Use (Pc) Permit on properties of one acre or more with a Residential Estate (RE) designation. Staff's research did not identify any impacts on properties adjacent to beekeeping operations when appropriate flyway barriers and water source is provided. To address this, in addition to changes to the land use matrix within Title 9, Chapter 5, staff also proposes an amendment to Title 9, *Zoning, Chapter 10, Performance Standards, Section 4A* to add the following regulations for beekeeping operating under SIC 0279-9901:

- Beekeeping shall only be allowed on ground owned by the beekeeper himself or on ground owned by a third party for which the beekeeper has written authorization from the property owner allowing for the keeping of bees;
- Bee colonies shall be kept in hives with removable frames, with said hives kept in sound and usable condition;
- A maximum of two (2) hives shall be permitted on a property one (1) acre or smaller in size, while a maximum of ten (10) hives shall be permitted on a property larger than one (1) acre in size;
- Hives shall not be located in the front or side yard;
- A source of water shall be readily available to the bees at all times when the bees are active;
- In each instance in which any hive is situated within twenty-five feet (25') of a property line, as measured from the nearest point on the hive to the property line, the beekeeper shall establish and maintain a flyway barrier parallel to the property line(s) which is a minimum of six feet (6') in height consisting of a solid wall of a building, fence, dense vegetation or combination thereof. Said flyway barrier shall extend a minimum of twelve feet (12') beyond the hive in all directions so that all bees are forced to fly at an elevation of at least six feet (6') above ground level over the property line(s) in vicinity of the apiary. Dense vegetation used as a flyway barrier shall not be limited in height to six feet (6'); however, said vegetation shall be a minimum of six feet (6') in height at the time that beehives are located on the property.

It should be noted, the State has a program that allows for inspection of beekeeping operations should a complaint be expressed regarding an operation. The State Apiarist has indicated to staff that they will conduct a site visit to determine if the beekeeping is being responsibly operated and the bees and beehives appropriately managed. The state Apiarist will work with the beekeeper to ensure proper facilities and management activities. The performance standards that are being added to city code are intended to aid in ensuring proper operation of beekeeping activities, as well as a means to allow for code enforcement if improper operation is due in part to failure to provide a water source and/or flyway barrier.

City Council Subcommittee: This item was discussed at the January 15, 2015 Development and Planning City Council Subcommittee meeting. The Council Members were supportive of staff working with the residents on a draft ordinance to allow beekeeping in West Des Moines with identified parameters. The draft ordinance was presented to the Development and Planning City Council Subcommittee at their March 12, 2015 meeting. At the meeting, the Subcommittee decided to delay an ordinance amendment so that educational information could be provided to the general public and gauge the responses received. An article about beekeeping was published explaining the beekeeping process and the nature of bees. No negative responses have been received. On December 3, 2015, the subcommittee was again asked if they would like to proceed with an ordinance amendment. The Subcommittee discussed the idea and asked staff to move forward with an ordinance amendment to allow beekeeping with specific performance standards.

Staff Review and Comment: There are no outstanding issues.

Comprehensive Plan Consistency: The project has been reviewed for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. Based upon that review, a finding has been made that the proposed project is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan in that the project is consistent with all of the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan and the land use map of the Comprehensive Plan.

Noticing Information: On February 18, 2016, notice of the February 29, 2016 Plan and Zoning Commission and March 7, 2016 City Council public hearings for this project was published in the *Des Moines Register*. No mail notices are required of City Code amendments.

Staff Recommendation and Conditions of Approval: Staff recommends the Plan & Zoning Commission approve a resolution recommending to the City Council approval of the ordinance amendments.

Attachments:

- Attachment A - Resolution
- Exhibit A – Proposed Ordinance
- Attachment B - Letters from Residents

RESOLUTION NO. PZC

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST DES MOINES, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL THAT IT APPROVE AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 9 (ZONING), CHAPTER 5 (AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE AND RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS), SECTION 8 (OPEN SPACE/AGRICULTURAL AND RESIDENTIAL USE REGULATIONS), SUBSECTION C, USE MATRICES, TABLE 5.3 (AGRICULTURAL USES/ANIMAL KEEPING) TO MAKE SIC 0279-9901: APIARY (BEE AND HONEY FARM/BEEKEEPING) A PERMITTED USE IN ALL SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND MANUFACTURED HOUSING ZONING DISTRICTS; AND AMEND TITLE 9 (ZONING), CHAPTER 10 (PERFORMANCE STANDARDS), SECTION 4 (SPECIFIC USE REGULATIONS), SUBSECTION A, TO ADD LANGUAGE TO CITY CODE IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR BEEKEEPING OPERATING UNDER SIC 0279-9901

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Title 9, Chapter 1 et seq, of the West Des Moines Municipal Code, Development Services staff requests an amendment to Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 5 (Agricultural/Open Space and Residential Zoning Districts), Section 8 (Open Space/Agricultural and Residential Use Regulations), Subsection C (Use Matrices), Table 5.3 (Agricultural Uses/Animal Keeping) to allow SIC 0279-9901: Apiary (bee and honey farm/Beekeeping) as a Permitted Use in all single family residential and manufactured housing zoning districts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Title 9, Chapter 1 et seq, of the West Des Moines Municipal Code, Development Services staff requests an amendment to Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 10 (Performance Standards), Section 4 (Specific Use Regulations), Subsection A, to add language to City Code identifying specific regulations and requirements for Beekeeping operating under SIC 0279-9901;

WHEREAS, studies and investigations were made, and staff reports and recommendations were submitted which is made a part of this record and herein incorporated by reference;

WHEREAS, this Commission held a duly-noticed hearing to consider the application for an amendment to ordinance;

WHEREAS, this Commission did consider the application for an amendment to ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST DES MOINES DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The findings for approval in the staff report dated February 29, 2016 or as amended orally at the Plan and Zoning Commission public hearing are adopted.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE (AO-002631-2015) is recommended to the City Council for approval, as stated in the staff report or as amended in the attached Exhibit A.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on _____.

Craig Erickson, Chairperson
Plan and Zoning Commission

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

EXHIBIT A

Prepared by: B. Portz, West Des Moines Development Services, PO Box 65320, West Des Moines, IA 50265, 515-222-3620
When Recorded, Return to: City Clerk, City of West Des Moines, PO Box 65320, West Des Moines, IA 50265-0320

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF WEST DES MOINES, IOWA, 2014, TITLE 9 (ZONING), CHAPTER 5 (AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE AND RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS), SECTION 8 (OPEN SPACE/AGRICULTURAL AND RESIDENTIAL USE REGULATIONS), SUBSECTION C (USE MATRICES), TABLE 5.3 (AGRICULTURAL USES/ANIMAL KEEPING) TO MAKE SIC 0279-9901: APIARY (BEE AND HONEY FARM/BEEKEEPING) A PERMITTED USE IN ALL SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND MANUFACTURED HOUSING ZONING DISTRICTS; AND AMEND TITLE 9 (ZONING), CHAPTER 10 (PERFORMANCE STANDARDS), SECTION 4 (SPECIFIC USE REGULATIONS), SUBSECTION A, TO ADD LANGUAGE TO CITY CODE IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR BEEKEEPING OPERATING UNDER SIC 0279-9901.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST DES MOINES, IOWA:

Section 1. Amendment. Title 9: *Zoning*, Chapter 5: *Agricultural/Open Space and Residential Zoning Districts*, Section 8: *Open Space/Agricultural and Residential Use Regulations*, Subsection C *Use Matrices*, Table 5.3: *Agricultural Uses/Animal Keeping* is hereby amended by adding the following italicized and bolded text:

TABLE 5.3 AGRICULTURAL USES/ANIMAL KEEPING									
Land Uses	OS	RE	RS	R-1	SF-CR	SF-VJ	MH	RM	RH
Animal husbandry									
Animal, wild by nature	Pc	Pc							
Dogs and cats	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Other household pets	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
01Agricultural production - crops	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
02Agricultural production - livestock and animal specialties	P	Pc							
<i>0279-9901 – Apiary (bee and honey farm/Beekeeping)</i>	<i>P</i>								
5421Fruit and vegetable markets	Pc	Pc							

Section 2. Amendment. Title 9: *Zoning*, Chapter 10: *Performance Standards*, Section 4: *Specific Use Regulations*, Subsection 'A' is hereby amended by adding a #17 and the following italicized and bolded text:

17. ***Beekeeping: In those districts in which SIC 0279-9901 is allowed, the following regulations shall apply to beekeeping operations:***
- a. ***Beekeeping shall only be allowed on property owned by the beekeeper or on property owned by a third party for which the beekeeper has written authorization from the property owner allowing for the keeping of bees;***
 - b. ***Honeybee colonies shall be kept in hives with removable frames, with said hives kept in sound and usable condition;***
 - c. ***A maximum of two (2) hives shall be permitted on a property one (1) acre or smaller in size, while a maximum of ten (10) hives shall be permitted on a property larger than one (1) acre in size;***
 - d. ***Hives shall not be located in the front or side yard;***
 - e. ***A source of water shall be readily available to the bees within the property that the beehives are located at all times during the year in which the bees are active;***
 - f. ***When a hive is situated within twenty-five feet (25') of a property line, as measured from the nearest point on the hive to the property line, the beekeeper shall establish and maintain a flyway barrier parallel to the property line(s) which is a minimum of six feet (6') in height consisting of a solid wall of a building, fence, dense vegetation or combination thereof. Said flyway barrier shall extend a minimum of twelve feet (12') beyond the hive in all directions so that all bees are forced to fly at an elevation of at least six feet (6') above ground level over the property line(s) in vicinity of the apiary. Dense vegetation used as a flyway barrier may exceed a height of six feet (6'); however, said vegetation shall be a minimum of six feet (6') in height at the time that beehives are located on the property. A building permit shall be obtained prior to construction of any building or fence;***
 - g. ***As recommended by the Iowa State Apiarist, the beekeeper shall incorporate best management practices in the beekeeping operation at all times, including practicing proper management and manipulation of colonies to remedy swarming and/or aggressive colonies.***
 - h. ***In the event that a beekeeping operation is determined to be in violation of this Code with regard to the above regulations, the beekeeper and/or property owner shall be given written notice of the violation and be allowed fourteen (14) days from the date of the notice to correct the violation. If the property is not brought into compliance within fourteen (14) days, the hives shall be immediately removed from the property.***

Section 3. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4. Savings Clause. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 5. Violations and Penalties. Any person who violates the provisions of this Ordinance upon conviction shall be punished as set forth in Section 1-4-1 of the City Code of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa.

Section 6. Other Remedies. In addition to the provisions set out in the Violations and Penalties Section herein, the City may proceed in law or equity against any person, firm or corporation for violation of any section or subsection of this Ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2016, and approved this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ryan T Jacobson, City Clerk

The foregoing Ordinance No. _____ was adopted by the Council for the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, on _____, 2016, and was published in the Des Moines Register on _____, 2016.

Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk

From: Twedt, Lynne
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Portz, Brian
Subject: FW: Bees

From: Jennie Deerr
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:01 PM
To: Twedt, Lynne
Subject: Bees

Dear Ms. Twedt,

I am a resident of West Des Moines and writing to ask you to support changing city code to allow backyard beekeeping. Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. Backyard beekeeping has been gaining widespread attention since the President and First Lady of the United States began keeping two hives on the White House Lawn. Several major metropolitan areas have taken decisive action and legalized urban beekeeping including San Francisco, New York City, Seattle, Portland, Denver and Chicago. Residents of Des Moines and Indianola are currently allowed to have backyard bees. I would be proud if West Des Moines would do the same.

Sincerely,

Jennie Deerr
6225 Brookview Dr.
West Des Moines, IA 50266

Portz, Brian

From: Twedt, Lynne
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 10:16 AM
To: Portz, Brian
Subject: FW: Backyard Honeybees

From: Loyd, Peter
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 9:32 AM
To: Twedt, Lynne; jlsandager@mchsi.com; Ryan Lensing
Subject: Backyard Honeybees

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing this letter in support of a proposed amendment that would allow beekeeping in the R1 districts/residential backyards.

I am a transplant from San Francisco, California (about 40 years there) and have lived in West Des Moines for the last 11 years with my family. Jim Sandager is a back yard neighbor.

I got my zoology degree from UC Davis, 1983, and took a couple apiculture (bee science) classes while there. I then taught at a Catholic school (St Ignatius HS) in SF for about 17 years. I kept honeybees both in my crowded, urban backyard and on the roof of the school for many years. I used to take my classes up to see the hives, we did honeybee anatomy labs, and we never had a problem with bees or the neighbors complaining. Most neighbors never know the bees are around unless you tell them. Something that neighbors do tend to notice is that their gardens do better---more fruits and veggies are produced---thanks to the "invisible garden friends" who quietly visit everyone's flowers. While I haven't kept bees in Iowa yet, I do know that neighbors of Jim and me have kept them in their backyard and most people have no idea they're working away improving gardens all summer long.

Below is from a teaching colleague of mine, Ryan Lensing, at Dowling Catholic. I couldn't say it any better.

"Honeybees are ideal for keeping in residential areas for the following reasons.

- 1) They are extremely quiet
- 2) They do not smell
- 3) They provide a service to neighbors who garden or have landscape plants
- 4) They generate honey which can be shared within the community
- 5) They are docile and safe
- 6) They take up a very small space
- 7) They naturally occur in Iowa, local bee keepers will just be helping the local bee populations to rebound
- 8) They can provide educational opportunities for children and adults to learn about biology, ecology, and environmental science

With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas. Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone."

Sincerely,

Pete Loyd
248 S 58th Ct
WDM, IA 50266

--
*advanced & AP Biology instructor
Dowling Catholic*

Portz, Brian

From: Twedt, Lynne
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 9:05 AM
To: Portz, Brian
Subject: FW: Backyard Honeybees

Please update Ry when you update the others regarding schedule and draft ordinance.

From: Ry Lens
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:56 AM
To: Twedt, Lynne
Subject: Backyard Honeybees

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing this letter in support of a proposed amendment that would allow beekeeping in the R1 districts/residential backyards.

I am an avid gardener and have an extensive list of fruits and vegetables growing in my yard that require honeybee pollinators. Due to the dwindling populations of honeybees worldwide, I have become worried about the future of this ecologically and economically important creature. I have witnessed the decline first hand as I have often had to hand pollinate some of my plants in my backyard just to get fruit to set. Urban areas provide a great shelter against harmful insecticides commonly used on Iowa farmland in addition to the diversity and abundance of flowering plants homeowners have landscaped with. Many communities around the US (including Des Moines and Indianola) have legalized backyard beekeeping and I believe it is time West Des Moines follows suit.

Honeybees are ideal for keeping in residential areas for the following reasons.

- 1) They are extremely quiet
- 2) They do not smell
- 3) They provide a service to neighbors who garden or have landscape plants
- 4) They generate honey which can be shared within the community
- 5) They are docile and safe
- 6) They take up a very small space
- 7) They naturally occur in Iowa, local bee keepers will just be helping the local bee populations to rebound
- 8) They can provide educational opportunities for children and adults to learn about biology, ecology, and environmental science

With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas. Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,

Ryan Lensing
730 34th St, WDM
Environmental Science Instructor, Dowling Catholic High School

Portz, Brian

From: Twedt, Lynne
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 9:08 AM
To: Deb Willyard
Cc: Portz, Brian
Subject: RE: Bees in West Des Moines

Deb:
Thank you for your email.
At the request of a few other residents, the City is preparing the necessary Code Amendments that will allow for beekeeping within the City. We anticipate to have the process completed by the end of April.
Brian Portz (cc'd above) is the case planner assigned to the amendment. Please feel free to touch base with Brian should you have any questions or additional thoughts/recommendations to be considered. Your email of support of the change will be included in the staff report that is presented to the P&Z Commission and City Council.
Have a great day.
Lynne

Lynne Twedt
Director of Development Services
Addressing Administrator
City of West Des Moines

515-222-3620
515-273-0602 (fax)
lynne.twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Deb Willyard
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 8:19 AM
To: Twedt, Lynne
Cc: jswanson@itagroup.com; kevinl@performancemarketing.com; scott.wiegert@wdm-ia.com; lwarner@mercydesmoines.org; jlersten@gmail.com; slersten@gmail.com; bberg2@mercydesmoines.org; dcummings@mercydesmoines.org; kjohnson8@mercydesmoines.org; albertsonlois@gmail.com; jbeard@mercydesmoines.org; barbie.girl@mchsi.com; bchia@iowaheart.com
Subject: Bees in West Des Moines

> Dear Ms.Twedt, Please consider amending the WDM code in favor of allowing bee keeping in WDM family backyards. We have been residents of WDM for over 35 years and support this change. We also have raised a few hives of bees in northern Missouri on a friend's farm. The hobby was started after my husband and I built our "bucket lists" and starting to acquire "hobbies" to do in our coming retirement years. We took bee classes at DMACC about 5 years ago, which opened our eyes to the plights of our little bee friends! Pesticides and disease is causing a terrible decline in our world wide bee population. According to bee experts, Serious environmental issues will result in a very short time (within 10 years) if we do not right the numbers of our pollinating friends. It actually may be too late, according to many articles about crops such as blueberries, avocados, citrus, ect. Very scary to think we, possibly, will not eat fresh oranges or even an apple or pear again since the pollination of many of these fruits depend on honey bees. Doug and I think the ability to have a few (1-2) hives in our backyards in WDM, will increase our ability to furnish honey to our families, as

well as raise awareness of our neighborhoods that the bee plights are worldwide. In our own experience, a well tended hive will not harm people, and actually, the bees keep to themselves for the most part, just going about their business of collecting pollen and making our flower gardens look beautiful.

Thank you for your consideration. We would welcome your questions about this issue and seriously ask that you support this change in code for WDM residents.

We are encouraging our WDM friends to also join us in writing you and supporting this change in WDM code.

Thank you

Deb and Doug Willyard

204 S. 29th st.

WDM, Iowa 50265

515-240-5730

Sent from my iPad

March 10, 2015

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

Honey bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhood landscape beautiful, ensure that the trees in our parks are nice and full, and contribute to our garden bounty.

As the president of the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association, I can assure you that our club offers year-round education and support for area beekeepers. As a beekeeper for over 40 years, I can't begin to list all the good things about bees and their gentle nature. I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this issue. Please share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,

Arvin Foell, President

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

3/2/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

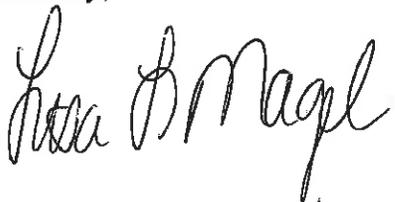
Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhoods full of flowers and our gardens full of harvest. Backyard beekeeping fits nicely into the sustainability area that the City of West Des Moines seems to be moving toward.

Backyard beekeeping has been gaining widespread attention especially since the President and First Lady of the United States began keeping two hives on the White House lawn and San Francisco, New York City, Seattle, Portland, Denver, and Chicago have all taken decisive action and legalized urban beekeeping. Locally, residents of Des Moines, and more recently Indianola, are allowed to have backyard bees. I can attest to the benefits of bees and their gentle nature.

With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,



8302 Westown Parkway

3.2.15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhoods full of flowers and our gardens full of harvest. Backyard beekeeping fits nicely into the sustainability area that the City of West Des Moines seems to be moving toward.

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With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. Prince".

604 Grand Ave.

3/2/2015

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhoods full of flowers and our gardens full of harvest. Backyard beekeeping fits nicely into the sustainability area that the City of West Des Moines seems to be moving toward.

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With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,


210 S. 41st St

3-2-15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

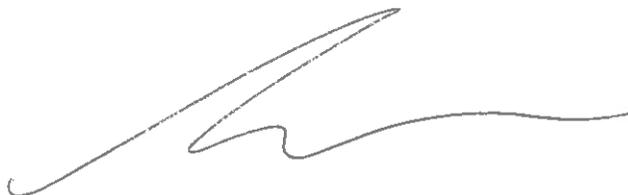
Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhoods full of flowers and our gardens full of harvest. Backyard beekeeping fits nicely into the sustainability area that the City of West Des Moines seems to be moving toward.

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Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected strokes that form a stylized name.

8220 Ashworth Rd.

3/2/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

Bees are an essential part of our ecosystem. They keep our neighborhoods full of flowers and our gardens full of harvest. Backyard beekeeping fits nicely into the sustainability area that the City of West Des Moines seems to be moving toward.

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Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,


1250 73rd

3/2/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

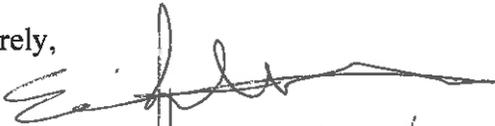
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Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,


210 S prairieview Dr

3.2.15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Dale", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

210 S. PRAIRIE View Dr.

03-02-2015

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

TLI White

225 Prairie View Drive #11202

3/3/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

Laura Nelson
Laura Nelson

3/2/15

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. S. E.', written in a cursive style.

3/10/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,



655 SE WACO PL

3/3/15

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Buttenberg". The signature is stylized with a large vertical stroke on the left and a series of loops and curves to the right.

15818 WILDWOOD DR

3 2-15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

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Sincerely,



4112 maple street

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

3/3
Jeri M. Davies 521 25th St.

3/2/2015

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Sincerely,


Michael Lebeck
605 55th St.

3.10.15

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob A. Raush". The signature is fluid and cursive.

3847 8th Pl.

3/2/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

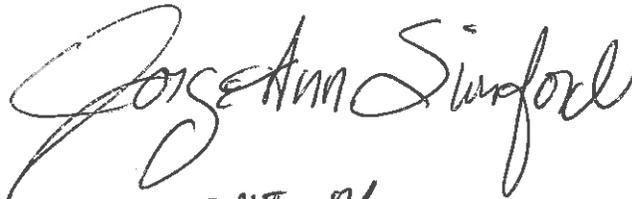
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joget Ann Simford". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the address.

647 38th St.

03/02/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

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Sincerely,



Alexandra H Thiel
1505 34th St.

3/3/15

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Sincerely,

Hannah Witmer

Hannah Witmer

606 Grand Ave.

3/9/15

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Sincerely,



8976 NW Beaver Drive

3/2/15

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Sincerely,


603 Se. Annie Park Lane

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Sincerely,

Christy Blome
5710 Kingman Blvd

3/10/15

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. H. Q.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

2205

4th ST SW

3/3/15

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,



2405 Maple St.

,

3/3/15

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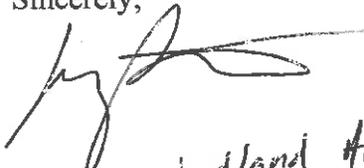
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Sincerely,



4925 Woodland Ave.

3/2/15

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Sincerely,

Paula Grapp
1124 Rapids St.

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

Your name

Russell D Wright

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

932 - 30TH ST, WEST DES, MOINES

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

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Sincerely,

Your name



Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

920 3079 ST

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

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Sincerely,

Your name *J John Mitchell*

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

900 30th WDM 50265

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

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Date

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Sincerely,

Your name



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813. 30th St west Des Moines

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Backyard beekeeping has been gaining widespread attention especially since the President and First Lady of the United States began keeping two hives on the White House lawn and San Francisco, New York City, Seattle, Portland, Denver, and Chicago have all taken decisive action and legalized urban beekeeping. Locally, residents of Des Moines, and more recently Indianola, are allowed to have backyard bees. As a beekeeper of xxx number of years, I can attest to the benefits of bees and their gentle nature.

With all that in mind, I strongly urge you to support efforts to change current ordinances that prohibit beekeeping within residential zoning areas.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue. I urge you to share my support with all interested parties, including City Council and all appropriate subcommittees, such as Development and Planning and Plan and Zone.

Sincerely,

Your name



Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

805 30th
WDM IA 50245

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

I am writing a letter in support of a proposed amendment to City Code that would allow beekeeping in R1 districts/residential backyards.

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Sincerely,

Your name *Joyce Wessel*

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

*700 28th -
W. Des Moines - 50265*

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,


Your name

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

712 28th St

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

Your name

Lori + Mike Behve

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

905 28th St
WDM IA 50265

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name



Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

917 28th

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Cindy Arnold. 917 28th Street WDM,

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Amy Arends

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

916 29th St

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name



Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

925 28th St

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name *John Gapekups*

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

920 29th Street

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name *Derek Druech*

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

916 29th St West Des Moines IA 50265

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

Dear Ms. Twedt:

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Sincerely,

Your name



931 29th St WDM, IA 50265

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name:
Sue Nathan

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

919-30th West Des Moines

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Julia Shuis

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

917-24th St.

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Jinda Cashner

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

914 30th St

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Sincerely,

Your name

Aut Downes 804-29th St. WDM 50265

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov

Date

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Your name

Your address (just like addressing City Council, house number and street only)

Judith K Larson
925 30th St

Lynne.Twedt@wdm.iowa.gov