



# Draft City of Tucson Urban Agriculture Proposal

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE - City of Tucson Urban Agriculture Public Meeting - Thursday, October 23, 2014, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (light refreshments) , YWCA Building, 1st Floor Meeting Room, 525 N. Bonita Ave. - Parking on site**

## Summary

1. Complies with the voter-approved (November 5, 2013) Plan Tucson policy to create updated urban agriculture zoning standards.
2. Attempts to use as a guide local agricultural traditions and current agricultural standards rather than create new more restrictive standards.
3. Keeps City standards on animal cruelty and neglect and slaughter as currently adopted.
4. Keeps the land use class, crop production, which can allow extensive gardening in residential zones, as currently adopted but may allow a passive greenhouse (one without noisy mechanical equipment) as an accessory use.
5. Makes distinctions between passive and mechanical greenhouses regarding setbacks from property lines.
6. Allows composting as a permitted accessory use with standards mitigating nuisances.
7. Creates standards for on-site crop sales that encourages neighborhood interaction but limits city-wide sales events.
8. Clarifies that a community garden is a land use class in the zoning code's use category Agricultural Group and that it is allowed widely in residential and non-residential zones with compatibility standards.
9. Defines urban farms as a land use type allowed in non-residential zones that currently prohibit agricultural uses.
10. Clarifies that a farmers' market is a common intermittent land use type allowed with compatibility standards in residential zones as an accessory use and non-residential zones as both principal and accessory use.
11. Clarifies the difference between rural and urban agriculture. An example is a regular-sized goat is allowed in rural zones but only miniature goats are allowed in urban residential zones.
12. Creates a definition for small farm animals as a group that can be kept in urban residential areas with animal density and pen setback standards resembling local current practices. Examples are chickens, miniature goats and ducks.
13. Creates a unit of measure for small farm animals used for local food production in urban residential areas called an Animal Unit (AU). The measurement is set up to allow two AUs per every one thousand square feet of property with an overall cap in urban residential zones. Allows for requests to adjust pen setbacks and animal density through a case review and a notification of adjoining property owners, who may consent or appeal a change.