

Considered at May 11, 2021 Council Meeting

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Request to Appear as a Delegation

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Name of Delegation:Regenerative Garden Farming - Climate Change Mitigation Strategies
Name of Primary Contact Person:Keith Dunne
Name(s) of Delegation Member(s) in Attendance: Keith Dunne Dana Dunne
Purpose of Delegation: To seek an amendment to RS-1 Zoning Bylaw No. 2937.
Details of Request: The fact is that anthropogenic climate change is putting our regional food security at serious risk. In order to create resilient communities, generate healthy soil ecosystems and establish a multigenerational path to food security, Port Moody must allow citizens and communities to establish a variety of urban agricultural practices. We have as a family decided to show our kids where and how to grow food and have a food garden in our backyard. Along with what we grow we have decided to care for backyard laying hens. In order to have an effective backyard food garden, soil health is the key ingredient. Backyard chickens are a significant benefit to soil health by eliminating the need for commercial fertilizers, acting as beneficial pest managers and composters. We are asking the city council of Port Moody to introduce an amendment to Bylaw No. 2937 and establish clear guidelines for having backyard chickens.
Additional Information in Support of Request:

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Benefits of Backyard Chickens

- Improved Soil Health
- Improved Food Security
- Education and Healthy Food

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Soil Health – Permaculture Practices

- Natural Soil Amendment

Chicken manure is a natural and effective fertilizer.

- No pesticides. Chickens are great pest managers.
- No fungicides.
- No artificial fertilizers.

- Biodiversity

Billions of beneficial microbes live in one handful of healthy soil which leads to:

- Increased water carrying capacity. Reduced water use.
- Increased crop yield. Naturally.
- Increased carbon sequestration.
- Improved land use and soil health has been identified as a leading climate change mitigation strategy.

Food Security

- Industrial agricultural practices are responsible for 1/3 of global GHG emissions and are destroying soil fertility.
- Communities need to be more resilient and assess all bio-regional food production capacity to establish local food resilience.
- A Climate Emergency means that our entire food system is in serious risk of failure!

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Knowledge and Education

- Self Sufficiency
 - Promotes health and wellness and can contribute to a stable and local food economy.
- Children's Education