



BAKERSFIELD

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
MEMORANDUM

February 3, 2021

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: JULIE DRIMAKIS, CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: PUBLIC STATEMENTS

This memorandum is to transmit correspondence submitted after publication of the Agenda through Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 4:00 PM.

Attachments
JD

From	Agenda Item	Position	Subject	Type	Received	Recipient
Abe Bryan Bumacod	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:53:36 PM	Clerk
Abigail Lewis	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:38:00 AM	Clerk
Alex Dulay	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:26:21 PM	Clerk
Alexis Feller	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:41:37 PM	Clerk
Alisha Brewer	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:38:23 PM	Clerk
Allan De Leon	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:06:46 PM	Clerk
Allison Whitton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 10:09:11 PM	Clerk
Allyson Miller	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:00:49 PM	Council
Allyson Swen	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:04:53 PM	Clerk, Council
Alyssa Antongiovanni	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:41:27 AM	Clerk
Amanda Gauthier-Parker	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:30:21 PM	Clerk
Amanda Schwartz	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:16:59 PM	Clerk
Andrea Ripley	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:25:38 AM	Clerk
Andrea Selvey	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:03:40 AM	Clerk
Andrew RD	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February, 1, 2021 7:30 AM	Clerk, Mayor
Andy Varner	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:38:46 PM	Clerk
Angela Low	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:20:19 AM	Council
Angelee Rosales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:36:51 AM	Clerk
Angelina Subia	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:57:00 AM	Clerk
Anna Rocco	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:18:50 PM	Clerk
Annabella Rosales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:19:21 AM	Clerk
Arian Garcia	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:14:34 AM	Clerk
Ashkea McAllister	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:05:11 AM	Clerk
Ashley Fontes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:53:03 PM	Council
Barbara McNeil	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:14:42 PM	Clerk
Barbara Norcross	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:43:07 PM	Council
Barbara Rademacher	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
Barby Rodriguez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:51:01 PM	Clerk
Becca Moffatt	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:37:05 PM	Council
					Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:33:53 AM;	
Becky Pelishek	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:50:09 AM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
Beth Phipps	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
Betsy Wadman	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:17:27 AM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
					Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:06:24 PM;	
Bill Descary	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email, Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:44 PM	Council, Mayor
Breanne Corley	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 2:47:43 PM	Clerk
Brenda Lopez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:29:04 PM	Clerk
Brian Malavar	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:53:58 AM	Clerk
brianthompson458	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:28:12 AM	Clerk
					Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:07:59 PM;	
Bruce Bagwell	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:01:46 AM	Clerk
Bryce Hayes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:03:34 PM	
Caleb Hawkesworth	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:41:27 PM	Clerk
Camelia Ceron Montes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:36:43 PM	Council
Candice Espericueta	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:54:45 AM	Clerk
Carla Martinez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:37:17 PM	Clerk
					Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:37:05 AM;	
Carla McCoy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:33:31 AM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
					Monday, February 1, 2021 8:44:32 PM;	
Carol Lair	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:45:00 PM	Council
Carol McMahon Bender	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:48:27 PM	Council, Mayor
Carole Gribben	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:07:21 PM	Clerk
Cassandra Sanchez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:54:21 AM	Clerk
Catherine Winters	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:11 PM	Clerk

Cathleen Warren	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:15:07 AM	Clerk
Ceasar	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:57:47 PM	Clerk
Cecilia Dollar	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:43:28 AM	Council
Chelsea Padilla	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:33:32 AM	Clerk
Christi Nolan	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:39:54 PM	Clerk
Christina Park	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:06:02 PM	Clerk
Christina Rajlal	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:26:11 AM	Clerk
Cindy Joslyn	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:13:21 AM	Clerk
Claudia Lopez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:52:37 PM	Clerk
Cody Ganger	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:31:03 PM	Clerk
Colleen Miller	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:19:48 AM	Clerk
Courtney McLemore	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:25:37 PM	Clerk
Craig D Harrell	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 6:40:24 PM	Council
Cristenlittle51	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 3:15:44 PM	Clerk
Crystal Day	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:50:40 PM	Clerk
Dan Soberano	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:21:14 AM	Clerk
Daniel Becina	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:52:54 PM	Clerk
Daniel Olivares	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:54:53 AM	Clerk
Danny Wilson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:41:41 PM	Clerk
Darrin Star	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:10:45 PM; Monday, February 1, 2021 2:19 PM	Clerk
Darryl Pope	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:05:29 AM	Clerk
Dave Thomas	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:19:23 AM	Clerk
David Brust	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:23 PM	Clerk
David Dmohowski	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:16:44 PM	Clerk
David M Hess	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:29:37 AM	Council
David Newton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:14 AM	Clerk
Dawn Doyle	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:18:11 AM	Clerk
De Ana Christy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:05:08 PM	Clerk
Dean Fowler	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:17:09 AM	Council
Debra Davis	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 7:31:26 PM	Council
Debra Foster	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:19:27 AM	Clerk
Denise Netherton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:46:14 PM	Clerk
Diane Olson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:40:21 AM	Clerk
Dianne Bryant	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:17:03 PM	Clerk
Dindo Franz	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:37:09 PM	Clerk
DJ	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:50:52 PM	Clerk
Donald McCall	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:43:50 AM	Council, Mayor
Donna Castillo	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:57:18 PM	Clerk
drgroves72	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:09:32 AM	Clerk
Dusti McDaris	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:25:08 AM	Clerk
Eb	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:38:19 PM	Council
Elena Porcho	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:31:49 AM	Clerk
Emily Dawson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 9:48 AM	Council, Mayor
Emily Keverline	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:29:53 AM	Clerk
Erica Bersentes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:15:48 PM	Clerk
Erica Kimmel	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:19 PM	Clerk
Erica Williams	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:05:37 PM	Clerk
Erica Williams	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:19:23 AM	Clerk
Erin Obert	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:19:23 AM	Clerk
Erin Obert	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:12:56 PM	Clerk
Esther Nunez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:30 PM	Clerk
Fabio Rosales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:31 PM	Clerk
Fabio Rosales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:25:05 AM	Clerk
Fawn Kline	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:34:29 AM; Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:36:57 AM	Clerk

Felix Camotuya	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:54:02 PM	Clerk
Frank Ripepi	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:11:34 AM	Clerk
Gabrielle Canales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:01:21 PM	Clerk
Gail Fieldgrove	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:50 AM	Clerk
Gena Householder	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:33:15 AM	Clerk
George Fuentes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:01:51 PM	Clerk
Gwen Dobbs	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
Heather Aherne	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:28:16 PM	Clerk, Council
Heather Dobbs	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:20:37 AM	Clerk
Heather Merickel	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:31:45 PM	Clerk
Helen Kotowske	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:00 PM	Clerk
Heyley Taber	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:54:53 PM	Clerk
imluke	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:12:00 PM	Clerk
Ingrid Henderson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:13:23 PM	Clerk
Iva Fendrick	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:03 PM	Clerk
Jack Merickel	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:12:20 PM	Clerk
Jan Hei	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 8:14:05 PM	Council
Janice French	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:04:24 PM	Clerk
Janie Boland	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:39:30 PM	Clerk
Jay Clayton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:46:53 AM	Clerk
Jeanette Redstone	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 7:53:41 PM	Council
Jeff Murray	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:28:57 AM	Council
Jeffrey Maberry	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:18:11 PM	Clerk
Jenifer Pitcher	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:58:54 AM	Clerk, Council, Mayor, CMO, CAO
Jennifer Clayton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:21:49 AM	Clerk
Jennifer Constantine	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:39:19 PM	Clerk
Jennifer Kirstine	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:45:16 PM	Clerk
Jennifer Leflar	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 5:08:04 PM	Clerk, Council
Jennifer Phillips	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:28:13 AM	Clerk
Jenny Sanchez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:37 PM	Clerk
Jeremy Doyle	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:00:48 PM	Clerk
Jessica Cadena	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:17:34 PM	Clerk
Jessica Regal	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:12:08 AM	Clerk
Jessie Fowler	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:19:10 AM	Clerk
Jill Burdick	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:59:46 AM	Clerk
Jocelyn Wolter	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:30:46 PM	Clerk
Johanna Coronado	General Public Commetn		SIDEWALKS	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:05:19 AM	Clerk
John Franke	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:37:39 PM	Clerk
John Mccoy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:37:05 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:37:05 AM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
John Vanauken	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:07 PM	Clerk
Jonathan Hawes	General Public Commetn		EMBEZZLEMENT	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:43:22 AM	Clerk
Jordan Kennedy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:43 AM	Clerk
Jorge Talabong	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:11:18 PM	Clerk
Joshua Lewis	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:26:29 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO
JP Hampton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:00:31 PM	Clerk
J'Resah Keeney	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:45:53 AM	Clerk
Jtarula627	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:32:39 PM	Clerk
Julia Castillo	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:58:48 PM	Clerk
Justin Ader	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:56:05 PM	Clerk
Kailan Carr	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:43:31 AM	Clerk, Council
Kara Flockton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:50:23 PM	Clerk
Karen Ash	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:12:06 PM	Council
Karen Crawford	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:16:23 PM	Clerk
Karen Welch	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:29:39 AM	Clerk

Karla Herrboldt	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:45:16 PM	Council
Katherine Winters	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:13:07 PM	Clerk
Kathleen SansSoucie	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:01:27 AM	Council
Kathy Hawks	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:57:14 PM	Council
Katie Cerda	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:32:04 PM	Clerk
Katie Copeland	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46:36 PM	Clerk
Kay Till	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:36 AM	Mayor
Keith Shotts	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:36:11 AM	Clerk
Kelly Castruita	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:33:01 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:33:01 AM	Clerk, Council
Kelsey Doyle	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:31:40 PM	Clerk
Kevster Lugster	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:26:12 PM	Clerk
Kim Chaney	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:50:32 PM	Clerk
Kim Ouska	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Thursday, January 28, 2021 7:22 PM	Clerk, Council, Mayor, CAO
Kimberleigh Womack	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:57:03 AM	Clerk
Kimberly Klaas	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:29:50 AM	Council
Kristianna Serrano	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:10:43 PM	Council
Kristina Clark	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:36:32 AM	Clerk
Larry Bright	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:03:20 AM	Clerk
Larry Brown	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:15:33 AM	Clerk
Leah Carr	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:23 AM	Clerk
Leeandgenise	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:56:19 AM	Clerk
Leticia Pelayo	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:14:14 PM	Clerk
Linda Banducci	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:51 PM	Clerk
Lisa	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:18:05 PM	Clerk
Lisa Chatterton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:44:01 PM	Clerk
Lisa Smith	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:52:27 PM	Clerk
lisamuzzle	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:35:28 PM	Clerk
Lois Ashe	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:13:34 PM	Clerk
Lori A. Kayes	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:33:35 PM	Clerk
Lori Barnett	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:39:00 AM	Council
Lori Park	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:59:11 AM	Clerk
Lori Rodriguez	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:28:00 PM	Clerk
Luis Valladares	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:42:13 AM	Clerk
Lynda Leopold	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:06:32 AM	Council
Macario Visto	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:30:22 PM	Clerk
Mackenzie Jordan	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:06:30 PM	Clerk
Madison Antonell	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:48:00 PM	Clerk
Makenzie Jensen	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:42:13 AM	Clerk
Mallaurie Vermillion	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:32:42 AM	Clerk
Marci Nissen	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08:53 PM	Clerk
Marci Scott	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:47:29 PM	Clerk
Marco Flores	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:12:11 PM	Council
Marcotapia93	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:37:24 AM	Clerk
Margaret Aguilera	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:51:58 AM	Clerk
Maribelle Guerrero	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:38:00 PM	Clerk
Mark Perral	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:27:02 PM	Clerk
Marta Spaeth	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:18:15 PM	Clerk
Mary Anne Blanchard	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:12:18 AM	Clerk
Matt Kennedy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:44 AM	Clerk
Matt Pelishak	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08 AM	Clerk, Mayor
Matthew Mills	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:12 AM	Clerk
Matthew Ouska	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23:10 PM; Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23 PM	Clerk, Mayor
Medianman	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:25:21 AM	Clerk

Melinda Avila	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:56 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Michael Garcia	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Thursday, January 28, 2021 2:31 PM	Clerk, Mayor
Michael Harp	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:15:25 AM	Council
Mikaela Cardenas	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:23:57 PM	Clerk
Mike and Linda Fabrizio	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:38:34 AM	Clerk
Miranda McCoy	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:40 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:39 AM	Clerk, Council
Misty Caraan	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:59:40 AM	Clerk
Mleveroni	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:59 AM	Clerk
Molly Foster	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:59:47 PM	Council
MT Merickel	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:45:00 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Myrriah Collins	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:39:51 PM	Clerk
Nancy Jean Romero	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:44 PM	Clerk, Mayor
Nicholas Rhodes	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 2:58:17 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Nichole Sabo	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:17:48 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Nick Swaim	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:28:06 PM	Clerk
Nicole Rickett	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:12:50 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Nikki Kirstine	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08:26 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
No Name - (661) 742-8681.docx	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:08 PM	Clerk
No Name Provided	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:08 AM	Clerk
No Name Provided	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:50 PM	Clerk
No Name Provided	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:50 PM	Clerk
ochoball83	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:29:54 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Olinda Garcia	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Thursday, January 28, 2021 1:27 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Paige Loya	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 3:21:53 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Pat Petersen	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:39:48 PM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
Pat Wadman	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email, Voicemail	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:29:38 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:29:38 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:39:48 PM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
Patricia Pierce	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:16:37 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Paula Maxwell	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Friday, January 29, 2021 4:13:59 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Paulette Bogges	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
paulys79	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:32:42 AM	Clerk
Pete Bogges	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
Pete Leveroni	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:02:36 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Phylliss Sims	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:43:03 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Randall Phipps	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk, Council
Randy Scholl	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:44:52 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Rebecca Lowe	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:14:36 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Regina Deaton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:43:24 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Renee Nelson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:26:54 PM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
Rex Estoque	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:13:16 PM	Clerk
Rhiannon Solorzano	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:08:13 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Richard & Cheryl Rodriguez	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:04:38 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
RJ B	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:02:15 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Robert B Sheldon	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:37:26 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Robert Eichar	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:52:20 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Robert Flitcraft	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:20 AM; Monday, February 1, 2021 9:21 AM	Clerk
Robert Johnson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:02:25 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Robert Sheldon	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:22:51 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Robin Ablin	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:39 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:42 AM	Clerk, Council
Rueben Canales	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:18:04 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO

Ryan Carr	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:12 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Ryan Dembosky	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:50:55 PM	Clerk
Sam Digilio	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:52:46 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sandi Kallenberger	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:53:39 AM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:54:37 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sandra Descary	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email, Voicemail	Friday, January 29, 2021 3:13:40 PM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:30 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sandy Lewy	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:48:02 PM	Council
Sandy Welch	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:23:57 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sara Smith	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:52:37 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sarah Appleton	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:45:30 AM	Clerk
Sarah Elliot (3)	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:32:56 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sarah Trupe 1	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:38 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Scott Anderson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:08:49 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Scott Waterman	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:00:33 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Shannon Christian	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:54:57 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sharon Scott	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:26:43 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Shawnda Banks	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 4:44:56 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
SL	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:26:00 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Stephen Winters	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:19 PM	Clerk
Steve Obert	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:19:13 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Steve Romero	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 5:33:20 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Stockdale Elementary	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Voicemail	Monday, February 1, 2021 12:07 PM	Clerk
Str8Jesus	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:06:26 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Sue Layman	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 11:43:32 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Susan Richardson	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk
Tanja Brewer	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:34:33 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Tayler Bagwell	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 8:07:15 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Tea	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 1:05:56 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Terrance Banks	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 6:25:33 PM; Monday, February 1, 2021 6:25 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Terry & Betsy Kloth	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:01:06 AM	Clerk
Tiffany Amaya	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:27:36 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Timari Duty	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:03:28 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Timothy Johnson	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Letter	Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46 PM	Clerk
Tom Williams	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 3:23:35 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Tony Lopez	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:00:16 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Tracey Crawford	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:13:20 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Troy J Carroll	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 3:34:09 PM; Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:31:06AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Tyler Bates	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:02:29 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Valerie Walker	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:06:01 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Vicki Tobin	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:07:54 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Victoria Milligan	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:30:38 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Victoria Williamson	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:53:34 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Walkingdead237	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 9:45:05 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Walter Keenan	8.f.	Support	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:36:42 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Wanda Johnson	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:40:25 PM	Clerk, Council, Mayor
Wanda Petersen	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:40:25 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Wendi Kaff	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:51:07 PM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO
Yousef Hamed	8.f.	Oppose	Rescinding Hen Ordinances	Email	Monday, February 1, 2021 10:08:31 AM	Clerk, Mayor, CAO, CMO

From: [Abe Bryan Bumacod](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:53:36 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the rescension at the February 3rd meeting.

We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you.

From: [Abigail Lewis](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:38:00 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am very concerned regarding information received about an ordinance that will not allow citizens to own hens in their own backyard. Are you able to advise if this is valid? I am concerned that an ordinance would even be considered that would take away the rights of private land owners. I would like to speak with someone regarding this matter as soon as possible.

Thank you,
Abigail Lewis

From: [Alex Dulay](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:26:21 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members:

Please do not kill the Ordinance supporting backyard hens.

Notwithstanding the merits of the lawsuit, we trust in your best judgement as elected Officials to tackle the issue the proper way and put forward the interest of the backyard hens community over a few unidentified or anonymous group who oppose the Ordinance.

Thank you for listening to the voice of your constituents.

Alex Dulay
661-889-6853

From: [Troy Carroll](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: support backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:41:37 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

Though I do not live in the city proper as an owner of backyard chickens I strongly support the rights of my fellow residents to own & keep back yard chickens. They can be a great way for children to learn the arts of animal husbandry as well as a source of fresh organic eggs for your household .

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely ,
Alexis Feller

From: [Alisha Brewer](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: OPPOSE TO RESCIND HEN ORDINANCE
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:38:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose to rescind the hen ordinance for the city of Bakersfield!

My name is Alisha Brewer,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the rescension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

From: [JoLoG KIMUSABE](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support backyard Hen
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:06:46 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens in Bakersfield.

Thank you.

Name Allan De Leon
Telephone: 661 664 0320

Sent from my iPhone

From: allison_whitton@yahoo.com
To: [City Council](#)
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 10:09:11 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:

I hope this finds you well. Those of us residents who support the Backyard Hen Initiative are deeply concerned about the consideration to rescind the previously approved ordinance that allowed backyard hens; from what we understand about the recent closed session, a majority were in favor of voting to rescind it at the upcoming meeting on February 3.

The anonymous group who has sued the city with a frivolous environmental lawsuit citing CEQA violations has subverted the democratic process that was fairly and legally completed in 2020.

This group - "Citizens for the Preservation of the R-1 Zones" - has NO history of advocacy for the environment and remains anonymous. Their lawyers in Beverly Hills have zero intention of negotiating. This is a power play. Given the legal team for these "Citizens" has indicated that as long as there are "no hens" there will be "no lawsuit", I believe this is civil extortion. And the Council is about to play their game.

Their legal team has somehow already racked up \$9,000 in legal fees, with the threat of tens of thousands of more dollars the city will pay IF the city defends the lawsuit and loses. But bow to their demands by rescinding the previously approved hen ordinance, and the lawsuit goes away.

The lawyers of this anonymous group allege that there was a CEQA violation due to the "common sense" waiver being used in the hen ordinance. This waiver has been used many times by other cities throughout California. It means that common sense says that backyard hens in the homesteads of city residents who choose to keep them will not have a significant effect on the environment. The fundamental definition of significant effect under CEQA is "a substantial adverse change in physical conditions." We believe that it's impossible for backyard hens in private homes to have a substantial adverse change in the physical environment of the city. Given the information and evidence our group of community supporters has gathered, along with the knowledge that the City has previously defended itself against similar lawsuits, we believe the potential to win is much stronger than the potential to lose. The Council should NOT rescind the hen ordinance and should fight to defend themselves in this lawsuit, as well as uphold the ethical obligation to its constituents and preserve the fair and democratic practice that is at stake here.

Obviously we are extremely disappointed given the overwhelming support demonstrated for backyard hens over the months-long, thorough process that took place to get the ordinance

passed, as well as the majority council vote that officially approved the ordinance in November 2020.

The fact that one small group of disgruntled folks has put the city in the position of having to choose between fighting a costly legal battle to uphold a previously approved ordinance or caving to the lawyers and rescinding the ordinance is not only outrageous, but sets a terrible precedent for the future.

Council members are supposed to represent and serve the community. Our elected officials have a responsibility and obligation to work with the majority public. The city of Bakersfield has an obligation to do its due diligence and fight this lawsuit. The cost to the taxpayers is extremely unfortunate, but the opposition has left NO choice given that they are not willing to negotiate at all. A lawsuit from an anonymous party who is not willing to come to an agreement, entertain a conversation, or negotiate in any way seems to be one that is clearly perpetuated for the sole intent of what it's about to achieve: shutting down a policy they disagree with and flexing their muscles for community and political influence.

Please know this: the community members who support backyard hens are willing to negotiate. We are willing to discuss reasonable revisions to the ordinance, particularly those that may be most concerning like allowing hens to free range, or the amount of hens allowed based on square footage. We believe we could all come to an agreement that serves the community, protects food sovereignty, expands on the list of current approved backyard pets, and makes a minimal impact to the city residents.

We are here to hold you accountable. I encourage the newly elected council members to review the many previous meetings that the council held where the community voiced their support, as well as read the record of letters and phone calls surrounding this issue. The workshop process first began in June 2020. The first vote approving the first draft of the ordinance took place in October 2020. At that time, there was no mention of CEQA at all; in November 2020 prior to the second and final vote, one council member became concerned with it moments before voting and did indicate they'd be faced with a lawsuit if they voted to approve it. Although this (partially) new Council may not have heard from us recently (because we believed this ordinance was, although tabled by a lawsuit, at least safe from being rescinded!), we were the majority.

It is egregious to think that our city council would not be willing to defend against this frivolous lawsuit, both for the sake of backyard hen ownership and protecting the democratic process from future muscle-flexers and political influencers.

We implore the Bakersfield City Council to not rescind the ordinance and to continue to work with the community to come to a resolution regarding backyard hens. If it must defend itself in a lawsuit, then it must. Not because backyard hens caused this, but because a few disgruntled people lawyered up and put the pressure on. Don't cave to this bad practice and the bad precedent that will follow.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of the other cities in California that allow backyard hens in homes that are less than 1 acre:

San Diego
Santa Rosa
Long Beach

Oxnard
Murrieta
Citrus Heights
Elk Grove
Stockton
La Mesa
Hanford
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Pasadena
Glendora
Chino
Rancho Cucamonga
Monterey Park
San Marino
Santa Fe Springs
Sacramento
Folsom
Porterville
San Jose
Santa Maria
San Luis Obispo
West Covina
Fullerton
San Clemente
Laguna Niguel
Roseville

I know progress can be a little slower in our big small town, but the opposition to such a simple issue allowing families to raise hens and collect their own eggs is embarrassing.

Thank you for your time.

From: [Allyson Miller](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:00:49 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Allyson Miller

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Allyson Miller](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:00:49 PM

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Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Allyson Miller
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ally Swen](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); andrae@andraegonzales.com; [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:04:53 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the Feb 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we are exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Allyson Swen

From: [Alyssa Antongiovanni](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:41:27 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to make my position about the upcoming decision about the hen ordinance. I strongly oppose rescinding the ordinance. The lawsuit that has been brought to the council is frivolous. It is simply a way for an anonymous group to prevent the council from following through with their initial vote in favor of the backyard hen ordinance.

There are so many positive reasons to allow backyard hens in the city of Bakersfield. The biggest positive that I see in our current situation is that hens can aid in food security for many families. There are countless other reasons why backyard hens can bring a positive environment to our city.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this matter.

Alyssa Antongiovanni

From: [theGPS](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:30:21 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance. This ordinance ensures the people of our city have the right to a small number of hens to provide food for their families, fertilizer for backyard gardens, natural pest control, and most importantly, hands-on education for our neighborhood children.

Thank you,
Amanda Gauthier-Parker
Bakersfield resident 93304

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Amanda Schwartz](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:16:59 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

When it comes to a vote I would like you to consider allowing backyard hens. Everyone should be allowed to have hens if they so wish. There are many benefits to backyard hens not just for eggs as a food source. A person can add the chicken waste to a compost pile and use it on their garden as a fertilizer. Chickens will also happily eat any insects and pests in the yard. Most chicken owners love them as pets and have great affection for their hens. Just like dogs they should be well maintained.

Thank you,

Amanda Schwartz

Bakersfield resident of 43 years

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Andrea Ripley](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:25:38 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello!

I am for people to have the freedom to have hens in the City of Bakersfield.

Thank you,
Andrea Walker

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Andrea Selvey](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Resending Hen Ordinance for Council Meeting- Please record my email as such for the record
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:03:40 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good Morning,

Please reconsider resending the Hen Ordinance that passed a few months ago. Hens are lovely pets and provide eggs and love for our family. Our children have learned the value of hard work, care and importance of raising hens, responsibly.

We, the citizens of Bakersfield, support the Hen Ordinance. Please don't allow anonymous, disgruntled people- some of who are not even from OUR community- come in and dictate what we are able to do.

Thank you and please record my opposition to rescinding the Hen Ordinance that was already approved and passed.

Andrea Selvey

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Andrea Selvey](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: I Oppose Rescinding the Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:19:10 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

As a life-long citizen of Bakersfield and a Constituent, please do not rescind the Hen Ordinance that was already passed last year. We, followed protocol and did the right thing coming to you and presenting facts over fear...yet, outsiders are threatening to come in to represent "anonymous" people to overthrow the will of what the people fought for.

Stand up for YOUR people. Do the right thing, please.

Andrea Selvey

From: [Andrea Selvey](#)
To: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Do not Rescind the Hen Ordinance, Please
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:20:37 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

As a life-long citizen of Bakersfield and a Constituent, please do not rescind the Hen Ordinance that was already passed last year. We, followed protocol and did the right thing coming to you and presenting facts over fear...yet, outsiders are threatening to come in to represent "anonymous" people to overthrow the will of what the people fought for.

Stand up for YOUR people. Do the right thing, please.

Andrea Selvey



Andrea Selvey
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Superintendent
Bakersfield City School District

☎ (661) 631-4612 📠 (661) 324-3190
selveya@bcsd.com

This electronic message is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying or distribution or use of the contents of this information is prohibited. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please notify me by telephone (661-631-4611) or by electronic mail immediately. Thank you.

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [A D](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Backyard Hen Initiative (Andrew RD)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:31:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Andrew,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: A D [mailto:got2takechances@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 3:11 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you for your time,

Andrew RD

From: [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
To: [A D](#)
Cc: [Julie Drimakis](#)
Subject: Re: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:30:26 AM

Good morning and thank you for your email.

By cc to the City Clerk I am asking that she submit your comments to the City Council as a public statement and part of the record at Wednesday's meeting.

Ginny Gennaro

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 30, 2021, at 3:14 PM, A D <got2takechances@gmail.com> wrote:

**Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield.
Think before you click!**

Dear Ginny Gennaro,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you for your time,

Andrew RD

From: [A.D](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 3:17:55 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

City Council Members,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you for your time,

Andrew RD

From: [Andy Varner](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:38:46 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I vote and You support backyard hens. You passed it now please make it legal. Please stand up to the frivolous law suit.

Thank you,

Andy Varner

Sent from my iPhone

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication and any documents, files or previous e-mail messages attached to it, constitute an electronic communication within the scope of the Electronic Communication Privacy Act (18 USCA § 2510). This communication may contain non-public, confidential, or legally privileged information intended for the sole use of the designated recipient(s). The unlawful interception, use or disclosure of such information is strictly prohibited under 18 USCA § 2511 and any applicable laws. If you are not the intended recipient, or have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail or by telephone and delete any and all electronic and hard copies of this communication, including attachments, without reading them or saving them to disk.

From: [Angela Low](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:20:19 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Angela Low

From: [AngieIsaRose](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:36:51 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am in support of Bakersfield hens and I oppose rescinding the hen ordinance.

Angelee Rosales

From: [angie bravo](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: BACKYARD HEN INITIATIVE
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:57:00 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Best regards
Angelina Subia

From: [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
To: [angie bravo](#)
Cc: [Julie Drimakis](#)
Subject: RE: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:59:06 PM

Thank you for your email.

By cc to the City Clerk I am asking her to make your comments part of the public statements and official record for this Wednesday's Council meeting.

From: angie bravo <bravoangie1967@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:11 PM
To: Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro <vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you for your time.

Best regards

Angelina Subia

From: [angie bravo](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:40:52 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Counsel Members,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards
Angelina Subia

From: [Anna Rocco](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:18:50 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Anna Giesbrecht

From: [Annabelle Rosales](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support Bakersfield hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:19:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am in support of Bakersfield hens. I do not think it's right how you are letting this cowardly anonymous small group of people bully you into changing your minds after so many of us have already invested in beautiful runs for our hens.

Annabelle Rosales

Sent from my iPhone

From: ariangarcia01@yahoo.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:14:34 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am a resident of Kern County and would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
Arian Garcia

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [A McAllister](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:05:11 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Clerk's Office,

I am writing to express my opposition to your rescinding the hen ordinance. Please understand that 19 cities out of 35 in the state of California used the common sense CEQA exemption for backyard hens. At present, 35 cities allow hens and no full "environmental review" has ever been done. To rescind the ordinance would be to move in the opposite direction of meaningful progress for the city of Bakersfield.

Thank you,

Ashkea McAllister

From: [Ashley Fontes](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:53:03 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support the backyard hens. Keep the chicks!

Sincerely,

Ashley Fontes

CIYT

SCBWI

661-472-4186 voice

www.readandyoga.com

From: [Barbara McNeil](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:14:42 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello all,

I strongly oppose rescinding the Chicken Ordinance that was passed by the city council last year. Especially now during Covid, having a few hens is a great education opportunity for families and children.

Barbara M

From: barbara@norcrossrealty.com
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Chickens in the city
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:43:07 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am wondering why there is such an over whelming concern about chickens in the city limits? For years I have put up with other peoples Dogs leaving their unwanted land mines in my yard, chasing me on my (Health) walk, or walking my dogs on their leashes. I have reported, spoke with owners, and have been told to mind my own business. Being told, we can not do anything unless we see?? really!!!

Chickens don't bit, scratch, or leave land mines , they stay in their cage & yards. They produce food. Loose Dogs are making health hazards more ways than one. No one makes the pet owner responsible for the mess, and hazards of their Dogs to people's property and personal injury.

Why is it so important that we spend so much money on impact studies for a few Chickens, but no one can stop dogs from running

the streets. Quit wasting the TAX Payers money on frivolous lawsuits. This is a concerned and tax paying citizen. We have more important issues to deal with here in Bakersfield, and I am sure your job has much more pressing issues to deal with. Please do not vote to band chickens in the City. Pass a law that all Dogs need to be microchipped, so the owner can be responsible (fined) for not being a responsible pet owner.

Sincerely

Barbara Norcross

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021

Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,



Barbara Rademacher

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Barby Rodriguez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:51:01 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello.

I am writing as a concerned member of the community. I want to clearly express my strong feelings in SUPPORT OF BACKYARD HENS. I hope my position is arriving at the proper destination. My family and I have already started educating ourselves and taking responsible steps to plan for backyard hens and were sorely disappointed to learn it will be going to a vote. Please vote to support your citizen's autonomy and rights!

Thank you

Barby Rodriguez

From: [Becca Moffatt](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Uphold the Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:37:05 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:

I hope this finds you well. Those of us residents who support the Backyard Hen Initiative are deeply concerned about the consideration to rescind the previously approved ordinance that allowed backyard hens.

The anonymous group who has sued the city with a frivolous environmental lawsuit citing CEQA violations has subverted the democratic process that was fairly and legally completed in 2020.

Obviously we are extremely disappointed given the overwhelming support demonstrated for backyard hens over the months-long, thorough process that took place to get the ordinance passed, as well as the majority council vote that officially approved the ordinance in November 2020.

We implore the Bakersfield City Council to not rescind the ordinance and to continue to work with the community to come to a resolution regarding backyard hens. If it must defend itself in a lawsuit, then it must. I'd like to remind you of the other cities in California that allow backyard hens in homes that are less than 1 acre:

San Diego
Santa Rosa
Long Beach
Oxnard
Murrieta
Citrus Heights
Elk Grove
Stockton
La Mesa
Hanford
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Pasadena
Glendora
Chino
Rancho Cucamonga
Monterey Park
San Marino
Santa Fe Springs
Sacramento
Folsom
Porterville
San Jose
Santa Maria
San Luis Obispo
West Covina
Fullerton
San Clemente
Laguna Niguel
Roseville

Sincerely,
Becca Ollivier

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Becky Pelishek](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Keep the Passed Chicken Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:33:53 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publized and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, every day citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable soluation.

Becky Pelishek

From: [Becky Pelishek](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: keeping the backyard hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:50:09 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publized and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, every day citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable soluation.

Becky Pelishek

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

DAVID L. GONZALES

January 29, 2021

Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,

Beth Phipps



Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Betsy Wadman](#)
To: [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: agenda Feb 3 Ordinances f.1
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:17:27 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,

I understand this topic will be discussed at the February 3, 2021 meeting.
Ordinances, f., 1.

1. Rescission of Ordinance No. 5023 amending Section 6.08 of the Bakersfield Municipal Code relating to Fowl and Rescission of Ordinance No. 5032 which created Chapter 6.09 Relating to Hens in the R-1 Zone.

I would like to state we are R-1 homeowners. We are life-long Bakersfield residents. We purchased our lot and built our home in R-1 for a reason. We chose R-1 because we wanted to live in a residential neighborhood. We love animals and love nature, but spent our money to live in R-1 to be insured of living in a residential neighborhood. If we had wanted to live in a neighborhood with animals we would not have chosen R-1.

It is very simple, those who want R-1 choose R-1, and those who wish to have animals or hens or whatever to teach their families and small children the value of 'farm life' can choose a different zone. Zoning is just simple it groups like-minded residents so that no one's rights are infringed upon.

The dangers in 'changing boats in the middle of the stream' with regards to allowing non-R-1 activities in R-1 areas are plentiful. With over 80,000 R-1 sites in Bakersfield it is not prudent to change the perimeters of R-1 to accommodate those few who wish to now raise hens in their yard. It is not just their yard, it is a R-1 neighborhood. There are ample opportunities in Bakersfield for families or homebuyers to choose housing with animals privileges. Wanting to change the rules of zoning to accommodate a new passion of raising hens is not acceptable now or ever.

We love our R-1 neighborhood because it is R-1, please do not allow a change in zoning to allow any number of hens within R-1. America is about free choice and homebuyers have a choice of zoning areas to accommodate their own personal lifestyle, please leave it that way. Zoning matters.

Thank you for your time and service to Bakersfield.

Sincerely,
Betsy Wadman

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Betsy Wadman](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#); [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
Subject: RE: agenda Feb 3 Ordinances f.1 (Betsy Wadman)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:50:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Wadman,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Betsy Wadman [mailto:betsywadman@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:17 AM

To: City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: agenda Feb 3 Ordinances f.1

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,

I understand this topic will be discussed at the February 3, 2021 meeting.

Ordinances, f., 1.

1. Rescission of Ordinance No. 5023 amending Section 6.08 of the Bakersfield Municipal Code relating to Fowl and Rescission of Ordinance No. 5032 which created Chapter 6.09 Relating to Hens in the R-1 Zone.

I would like to state we are R-1 homeowners. We are life-long Bakersfield residents. We purchased our lot and built our home in R-1 for a reason. We chose R-1 because we wanted to live in a residential neighborhood. We love animals and love nature, but spent our money to live in R-1 to be insured of living in a residential neighborhood. If we had wanted to live in a

neighborhood with animals we would not have chosen R-1.

It is very simple, those who want R-1 choose R-1, and those who wish to have animals or hens or whatever to teach their families and small children the value of 'farm life' can choose a different zone. Zoning is just simple it groups like-minded residents so that no one's rights are infringed upon.

The dangers in 'changing boats in the middle of the stream' with regards to allowing non-R-1 activities in R-1 areas are plentiful. With over 80,000 R-1 sites in Bakersfield it is not prudent to change the perimeters of R-1 to accommodate those few who wish to now raise hens in their yard. It is not just their yard, it is a R-1 neighborhood. There are ample opportunities in Bakersfield for families or homebuyers to choose housing with animals privileges. Wanting to change the rules of zoning to accommodate a new passion of raising hens is not acceptable now or ever.

We love our R-1 neighborhood because it is R-1, please do not allow a change in zoning to allow any number of hens within R-1. America is about free choice and homebuyers have a choice of zoning areas to accommodate their own personal lifestyle, please leave it that way. Zoning matters.

Thank you for your time and service to Bakersfield.

Sincerely,
Betsy Wadman

Name: Bill Descary

Number: (661) 834-3507

Message: My name is Bill Descary and I'm calling in regards to Consent Calendar Item 8.f. 1 and 2. I just want to point out the many cities and counties that have adopted hen ordinances without knowing setback distances, lot sizes and numbers of hens allowed, as well as any provisions for animal control. Thank you.

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: wcdescary@aol.com
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: All Councilmembers (Backyard Hens - Bill Descary)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:06:24 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Mr. Descary,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: wcdescary@aol.com [mailto:wcdescary@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 10:48 AM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Fwd: All Councilmembers

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Mayor Goh,

Please consider my comments below as you evaluate the vote to rescind the backyard hen ordinance.

Thank you,

Bill Descary

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

From: wcdescary@aol.com

To: city_council@bakersfieldcity.us <city_council@bakersfieldcity.us>

Sent: Fri, Jan 29, 2021 10:34 am

Subject: All Councilmembers

COVID-19 health concerns prevent me from being a public speaker.

Councilmembers:

I am in support of the Council's decision to rescind the hen ordinance. The ordinance changed R-1 zoning rules on over 85,000 parcels without a properly noticed public hearing and an environmental impact report. Participation at public meetings continues to be limited by COVID-19 pandemic rules. The hen ordinance never should have been considered under these circumstances.

Regarding hen ordinance advocates being in the majority - a small well organized special interest group is not a majority. There have been no official surveys or public opinion polls to establish any sort of majority status. Calling themselves a majority is ridiculous. Existing R-1 rules are being subjugated for the wishes of a few.

Municipal Code concerning text amendments to zoning rules was ignored. Likewise, such a sweeping change to zoning rules is not exempt from longstanding CEQA requirements. The group effectively lobbied the Council to get four votes and achieve their goal.

Rescinding the hen ordinance will avoid a lengthy and costly CEQA lawsuit. To maintain a satisfactory quality of life for all Bakersfield residents, the City Council and staff need to focus on public safety, housing, economic opportunity and assure Measure N money is spent wisely.

Bill Descary

From: [YourBee Gal](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support back yard chickens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 2:47:43 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

A majority of pet owners care for the well being and cleanliness of their pets. The same goes for those who own chickens. The privilege of owning chickens should never be taken away because of the few. Chickens bring just as much joy to a family as a cat or a dog. They also help teach children where our food comes from. The connection this community has to farm life is hard to ignore. All though some dont understand this because they don't seem to leave the inner city, Kern and Tulare county are both rich with ag. It's what makes Kern County Unique. Please allow the great county of Kern the experience with back yard chickens. --
Sincerely,

Breanne Corley
661-703-3131
Owner, Kern County Bees
www.kerncountybees.com

From: [Brenda Madird](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:29:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.
Brenda Lopez

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Jennifer Malavar](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:53:58 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,

I appreciate your willingness to listen to the citizens of Bakersfield. I am writing to support your initial vote to allow backyard hens. Chickens are domesticated animals that people have as pets across California and the US. It is wrong that a small, anonymous group would have you consider undoing your 4-3 vote. The best reasons to allow chickens include: 1. They are fun, friendly pets 2. They offer educational value to children 3. They can provide a healthier food source 4. They provide a high quality fertilizer for gardens 5. They control flies and other pests and dispose of weeds and other scraps that would otherwise end up in landfills. Please keep the ordinance that you passed to allow backyard hens.

Sincerely,

Brian Malavar

Sent from my iPhone

From: [brianthompson458](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: In support for backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:28:12 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Bruce Bagwell](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Fw: Oppose rescission of backyard hens ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:07:59 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Bruce Bagwell" <sdbruceb@yahoo.com>
To: "City_Council" <city_council@bakersfieldcity.us>
Sent: Sat, Jan 30, 2021 at 8:01 AM
Subject: Oppose rescission of backyard hens ordinance

I am furious that the city council is even considering rescinding the backyard hens ordinance and strongly oppose this move.

I am asking, no, I am demanding that you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this bogus lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is

bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Sincerely

Bruce Bagwell

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Bruce Bagwell](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Oppose rescission of backyard hens ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:01:46 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am furious that the city council is even considering rescinding the backyard hens ordinance and strongly oppose this move.

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Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

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Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Sincerely

Bruce Bagwell

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Bryce Hayes](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens - In Favor
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:03:34 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

It's crazy to think that it would be illegal to not be able to provide your own food. A government that doesn't allow this is a socialist government forcing its citizens to rely on someone else.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Caleb Hawkesworth](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:41:27 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Sincerely,
Caleb Hawkesworth

From: [Hola Anjelina](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:36:43 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you for you time.

Best Regards,
Camelia Ceron Montes

From: [Candice](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:54:45 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom It May Concern,

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance. My family are responsible hen owners who, like many took the Stay At Home ordinance as a chance to pour into our family and our home. Our hens have been a bright light during what can seem like a very dark time as my son struggles with the stress and disconnection of distance learning and as I cope with the loss my job last year due to COVID. Our hens have become like dear friends and my children look forward to harvesting eggs and learning how to care for them just like they do our dogs. It would be a shame to deny them their pets after we acquired them and cared for them legally last year. For me to tell my children that our pets are now deemed illegal and we have to get rid of them would be devastating. I am asking you today to please reconsider and support the hen initiative. Bakersfield is one of the top Agricultural hubs of Kern county and residents should be allowed to keep hens in city limits as it helps promote interest in this thriving industry and gives children valuable skills for later in life as they learn about the food chain and animal husbandry.

Kind Regards,
Candice Espericueta

From: cjohns77@gmail.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:37:17 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen ordinance that was passed last year. I currently do not own any hens but plan to this summer. I was excited to learn the ordinance passed. I grew up with chickens and would like my children to have the same experience.

It sounds like an anonymous group is trying to back the city into a corner. Is this our future? Someone doesn't like an answer that's already researched and voted on but hey let's scare them with a lawsuit so they change their minds! Don't back down!! Keep the ordinance and teach groups if they had a problem with it then they should have voiced their concerns at the original meetings prior to the vote.

Don't be a "chicken". Hold your ground and let us have hens!

Carla Martinez
Bakersfield City Resident

From: [Carla & John](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:33:31 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

This is my formal request that my representatives follow through with what they gave me: Backyard Hens. These animals are quiet, kept clean, provide wonderfully organic eggs, give great fertilizer for our garden, and are just a lot of fun. My city representatives gave this to me and my kids.

You agreed that this was a worthy cause.

You knew that Bakersfield was more than ready for this.

You said it was happening.

And now you're threatening to take it away forever.

Why?

Because one group of bullies decided to hire a big wig attorney who's threatening time, threatening money, and threatening my freedom.

I am a 3rd generation Bakersfield resident. While my family has come and gone through the years, the boomerang effect has been a strong one, and for that, I'm very grateful. This city is large and getting larger, but the home town feel is as strong as ever. We run into friends while running to the store and we can borrow a cup of milk from a neighbor.

I'm shocked that this town I love is trying to tell me that I can't have a few birds in my backyard. I'm honestly, not entirely sure what people have against hens and I'm not sure why it ever became such a hot topic. It seems so simple. I raise the animals in my own yard, I feed them with my own money, and I eat their eggs in my own home. Why is this such a big deal?

The number of citizens in the Bakersfield community that would end up actually getting hens is small, but the number that support it is very large. Thanks to the ordinance that you provided us, the hen owners would be incredibly responsible or face the consequences laid out. It sure would be better than the neighbors who let their cats roam free so I now have 2 in my garage that I can't get rid of because they have found shelter there. It would also be better than my neighbors on both sides of me who have both pit bulls and great danes barking at all hours. My hens make a little noise when they're telling me they've laid an egg. Other than that, they're quiet the rest of the day AND night.

Please, please, please don't take away what you have already promised, just because of some uninformed, uneducated bullies who are simply sore losers that are trying to dictate what I do

in my own private backyard.

Sincerely,
Carla McCoy

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: City Council meeting 2-3-21 Agenda Ordinances f. Rescinding the hen ordinances
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:44:32 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I hope I have the correct agenda item number. I want to speak in support of allowing Bakersfield city residents to have backyard chickens.

I have followed this issue and I am not persuaded by the folks opposing this issue. If I correctly grasp the objections of the opponents to chickens they are concerned about the following:

-- Chickens will be noisy. Are they seriously arguing that the soft clucking of chickens can compare to the cars racing around our neighborhoods, barking dogs, and the seemingly never ending barrage of illegal fireworks set off on random days for no apparent reason.

-- Chickens will spread disease. Really? Where is their proof of this? We need to see actual proof not just the speculation of maybe this could happen.....

-- Chickens will cause odor. This shouldn't be an issue if the rules are followed. I think the folks that want chickens will be super careful of this considering all the publicity. If I were going to have chickens I would be considerate of my neighbors.

The group opposing chickens filed a lawsuit demanding the City Council rescind the chicken ordinances, conduct an appropriate environmental review if the council pursued and adopted new hen ordinances, and pay \$9,151.36 in attorneys fees, according to an administrative report compiled by the City Attorney's Office. Do we really need an environment impact report for backyard chickens? Are there not many more important issues for the city to concern itself?

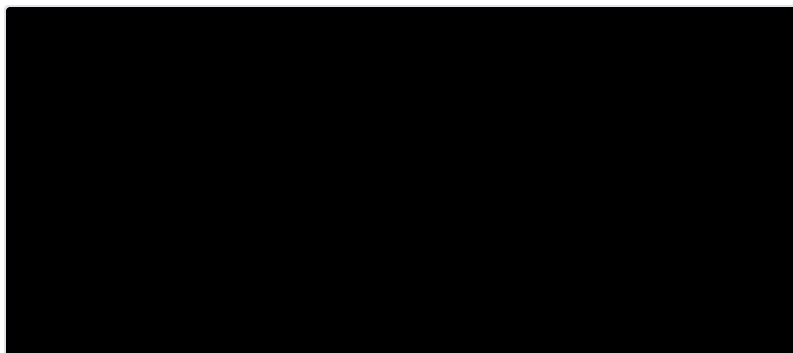
I do speak from some experience about chickens. I had 6 chickens, two mallard ducks and two gray/white geese for several years without single complaint. Never. No problems with noise, disease or odors. My neighbors had no problems with my little flock. They brought things for the birds to eat and brought their kids to see them. I had all the eggs I could eat and shared with others.

Backyard chickens are easy and fun to raise. Please, please, please do not rescind the ordinance changes you approved. Let's give it a try and if there are problems hold the bad actors accountable. Let folks have their chickens!!

Please take a few moments to check out the map showing the counties/cities with chicken ordinances. Look at California in particular. Note the number of jurisdictions allowing chickens. For example, San Luis Obispo, Fresno, Santa Barbara here in southern California. Clearly other places have made this work why can't we here in Bakersfield?



Go to [BackYard Chickens - Learn How to Raise Chickens](#) "Backyard chickens local laws and ordinances" for the interactive map.



BackYard Chickens - Learn How to Raise Chickens

Does your pet make you breakfast? Tips & Tricks for raising chickens,

building chicken coops, & choosing chicken...

Thank you for your consideration.

Carol Lair

From: [Carol Lair](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Consent agenda Ordinances f. Rescinding the hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:45:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I hope I have the correct agenda item number. I want to speak in support of allowing Bakersfield city residents to have backyard chickens.

I have followed this issue and I am not persuaded by the folks opposing this issue. If I correctly grasp the objections of the opponents to chickens they are concerned about the following:

-- Chickens will be noisy. Are they seriously arguing that the soft clucking of chickens can compare to the cars racing around our neighborhoods, barking dogs, and the seemingly never ending barrage of illegal fireworks set off on random days for no apparent reason.

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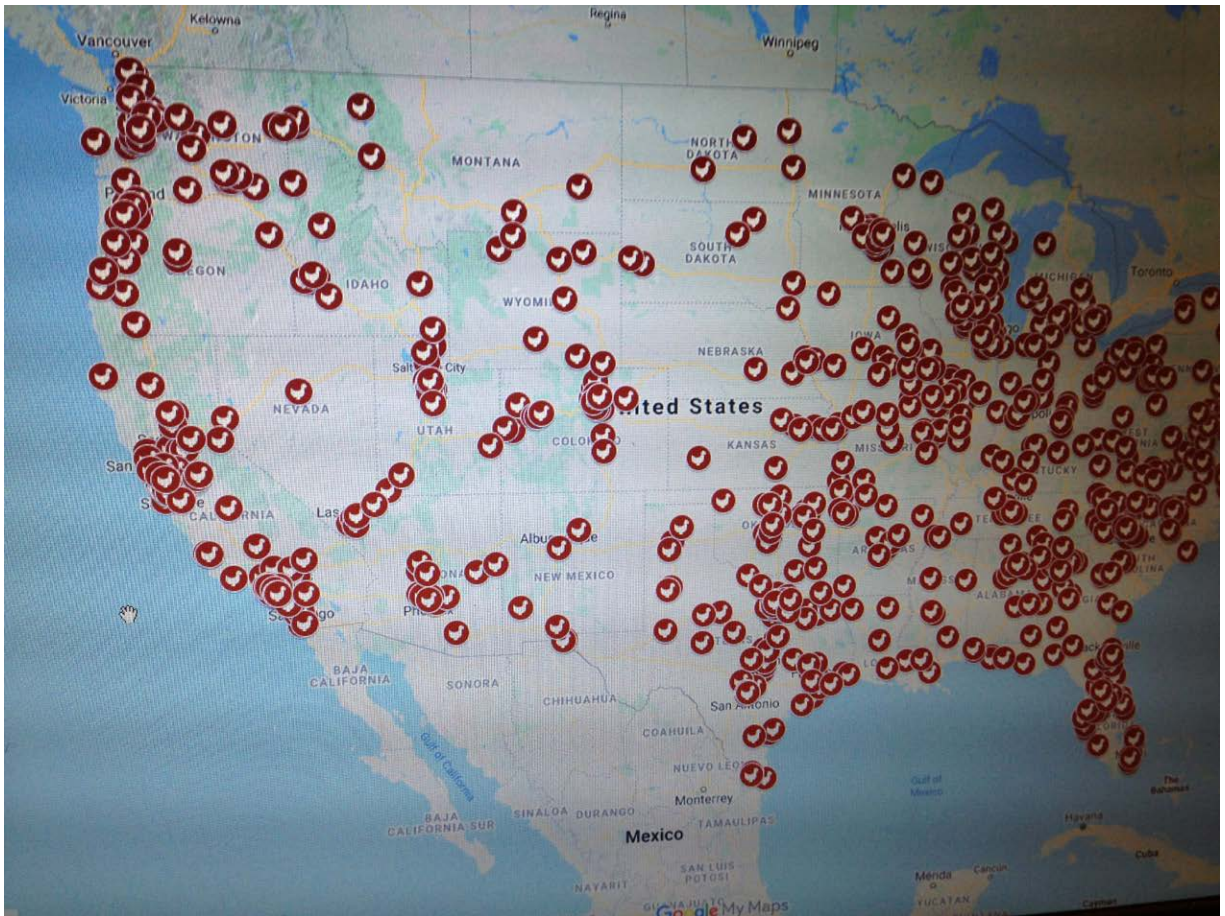
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Please take a few moments to check out the map showing the counties/cities with chicken ordinances. Look at California in particular. Note the number of jurisdictions allowing chickens. For example, San Luis Obispo, Fresno, Santa Barbara here in southern California. Clearly other places have made this work why can't we here in Bakersfield?



Go to [BackYard Chickens - Learn How to Raise Chickens](#) "Backyard chickens local laws and ordinances" for an interactive map.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carol Lair

From: [cmbdolls](mailto:cmbdolls@cityofbakersfield.com)
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Fwd: Distribute ALL Councilpersons prior to Feb 3, 2021 meeting re: Hen Ordinance Consent Item F (Hens)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:48:27 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

RE: City Council Meeting February 3, 2021
Agenda item: F Rescission of Hen Ordinance and accompanying zoning modifications

Good Afternoon,

I am pleased to see that the rescission of the Hen Ordinance and the accompanying zone modifications are on the consent agenda.

I had such a hard time understanding how the previous Council passed them without further study, environmental review and public input. It appeared that a very small group of very vocal persons were pushing this forward without any of the general public's knowledge weeks/months before it came before the council.

Something of this magnitude should never have been proposed in the midst of a worldwide pandemic when the public could not participate fully. Such a big change in zoning and zoning use should have been tabled until the public could more actively participate, as this is NOT an urgent issue/need.

I won't repeat what I have said in previous submissions. I know that we now have 2 new councilmembers who may not have read my previous e-mail letters. Additionally, I think it important to re-read them for those who previously voted.

Please rescind this set of hen ordinances. Minimally table them to a later date. Perhaps by 2022, the public will be able to fully participate. I urge you not to assume that the "majority" of Bakersfield homeowners are in favor of the hen ordinances. Personally, I know of not one.

I have copy/pasted my previous correspondence below.

Sincerely,
Carol McMahon Bender, RN, PHN

RE: City Council Meeting October 21, 2020 **Please distribute to all Councilpersons prior to meeting**
Agenda item 8 : Consent Calendar : Ordinances G (1-9)

Good Afternoon,

It was brought to my attention by Mayor Goh, that my submission to the last hearing regarding ordinance changes permitting hens in R-1 single family dwelling zones was not received-- therefore unread prior to the meeting. Therefore, I can only assume that it was not read by any councilpersons. Given that, I am submitting the letter again in hope that it will be read and considered.

I was extremely disappointed that this item was not at least continued to a later date, given the lack of public notification. It is my understanding that this type of zone ordinance must have a separate public hearing before it goes before the city council for a vote. I do not believe that has been done. It was very apparent in watching the meeting remotely, that the general public ...and even the Bakersfield Association of Realtors were not included in any committee/workshops that may have been formed by those that were promoting this new ordinance. Both the Bakersfield Association of Realtors and the Home Builders Association were not in favor of pushing this ordinance forward either. Many other homeowners spoke out in opposition and requested that the Council defer any decisions until a later date when there could be more participation.

I respectfully request that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar for the next City Council meeting (Oct 21) for further discussion to include the need for a separate public hearing regarding the plan as put forward in the last hearing. It is inadequate to allow comment only at the public statement allotted period, when there is need for much further separate detailed discussion and much more public participation for such a serious ordinance change. Such a significant change in zone allowances should never have been pushed forward during a pandemic when the public is only able to have minimal participation.

Having said that, here is my letter:

-----Original Message-----
From: cmbdolls <cmbdolls@aol.com>
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>
Sent: Wed, Sep 23, 2020
Subject: Urgent E-mail to Council before today's meeting re: backyard chickens

(Please forward this e-mail with attachment to each City Council member as soon as possible so that they can review it prior to the meeting today.)

Dear Councilmembers:

I would like to submit comments in opposition to the upcoming agenda item 6b re: allowing backyard chickens (hens) in the city of Bakersfield.

I was present during the last discussions several years ago when this was last before the Council. At that time it was decided that it was not in the best interest of Bakersfield citizens to change the current ordinance. There was active participation from both sides of the issue--which is not the case here due to the Covid-19 pandemic limiting in-person access to meetings. I think that to be fair to all citizens, minimally the issue should be tabled until the pandemic restrictions for in-person attendance are eliminated.

Having said that, I will address the possibility of there being a vote despite opposition... to choose one of 2 options that are scheduled to be presented at the City Council meeting Wednesday, Sept 23.

Since this issue was last before the Council, the city of Bakersfield has grown and adapted to a policy of high density infill. This means that housing lots going forward are to be much smaller with shorter setbacks and minimum distances between neighborhood homes. Urban areas especially those with a future focus to increase densities is not an environment that can handle the disruption and difficulty of fielding complaints from citizens due to the addition of backyard chickens. It is my understanding that the Code Enforcement department is not looking favorably at being well enough equipped to field such complaints and provide oversight. Trying to finagle a way to allow chickens on the tiniest of lots by somehow rationing the number, as in option 2, is completely unacceptable.

As a health professional, I am very concerned about the health and well-being of our community. I also have experience with the raising and handling of chickens as my brother and his wife have a chicken farm in Northern California. Additionally, a very good friend of mine has backyard chickens in the unincorporated County area. I am concerned that the perception out there is that chickens make wonderful pets/companions and also that their care is not complex--perhaps no different than having a dog or cat. This could not be farther from the truth. There is a terrific amount of upkeep that must take place to maintain their coops, their food and their excrement. If not properly and CONSISTENTLY kept sanitary, there WILL BE problems with flies,lice, fleas and rodents, ...and ultimately, disease.

The proposed ordinance allowing up to 12 chickens per residence makes absolutely no sense since the sale of eggs is to be prohibited. It only takes 3-4 chickens to produce a dozen eggs a week. The ordinance says the sole purpose of a hen is for egg laying and/or pet companionship. Is it reasonable to assume a person needs 12 pets for companionship? 12 dogs? 12 cats? Do households need 3-4 dozen eggs/week when sale of them is prohibited? No!

If eggs are not harvested every day and properly washed and stored, they can be easily contaminated. Avian flu and salmonella are serious problems with backyard chickens for those owners not properly trained on their care and diligent in their care. There are documented cases of these problems with disease in other cities in California. This is especially true with regard to children under the age of 5 who are most susceptible to these contaminants. While raising chickens may be "educational" as proponents say, this is only true if the environment is meticulously maintained and children are supervised. Hands must be washed before and after dealing with chickens. Shoes should be left outside. Food properly stored. Excrement would have to be hosed off daily or composted if chickens are allowed to roam in backyards. A separate enclosure or chicken run is necessary in addition to a coop (not just a fenced backyard) to ensure the health of the household and neighborhood.

Who is going to do the education, permitting and follow-up to ensure people are adhering to the proper care of these chickens? Who is going to address the multitude of complaints that will come from odor, flies, rodents and predators? I know that in Northwest Bakersfield, there are already problems with rodents without this adding to it.

Chickens are very sociable and do like people, so I understand the affection that owners have towards their chickens. However, they do not belong in urban areas on small lots. In doing a survey of other cities that do allow them, the most dense cities that allow them restrict the number to 5 or fewer. They also require setbacks/distances from other homes of 30-50 feet. Many do not allow any at all unless the lot is at least 20,000 sq ft. Again, if eggs are not harvested daily, they can harbor disease.

I was opposed to this type of ordinance when first proposed years ago, and remain opposed at this time also...perhaps more so. Raising chickens in an urban city is simply a poor fit. If people want to raise chickens, they have the option to move into the county or other locations that are a better fit. The cost to care and feed chickens is more than what it would cost to buy eggs at the grocery store, so even in this pandemic when expenses are tight, having backyard chickens is not a money-saving proposition. With many adhering to the "stay at home order" and/or working from home, it may be easier for them to envision that they can easily care for backyard chickens. However, one cannot emphasize enough that it is hard work to maintain this type of "pet companion". If the council allows this ordinance to move forward, there will be more noise, nuisance and possibly disease introduced into neighborhoods. It will be very difficult to follow up and resolve these complaints, as there is no permitting, training and follow-up inspection required to ensure the health and safety of our neighborhoods.

During this pandemic, we are very concerned with those with compromised immune systems, particularly our elderly. Adding backyard chickens into the mix in the average neighborhood is just adding fuel to the fire.

Perhaps I am old-fashioned...but "free-range" chickens are usually associated with living freely on farms or at least on acreage (1/2 acre is even pushing it).... Is anyone really looking at what is in the best interest of the chickens?

Please carefully consider this issue and vote against both options. Keep the current ordinance in place. Backyard chickens do not belong within the city of Bakersfield. Copy/pasted below is a link to a brief CDC article addressing this issue. I encourage you to read it. It will reinforce what I include in this e-mail. I will also include it as an attachment.

Best regards,
Carol Bender R.N., P.H.N.

<https://wsava.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Clinician-s-Brief-March-2018-TP-Backyard-Chickens.pdf#:~:text=Zoonotic%20diseases%20that%20backyard%20poultry%20may%20spread%20to,in%20the%20United%20States.%204%20Some%20humans%E2%80%94including%20children>
by: Casey Barton Behravesh, MS, DVM, DrPH, DACVPM Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Atlanta, Georgia

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [cmbdolls](#)
Cc: [City Clerk: Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Distribute ALL Councilpersons prior to Feb 3, 2021 meeting re: Hen Ordinance Consent Item F (Hens) (Carol McMahon Bender)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:36:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Bender,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm. (Clerk: Please also add any prior correspondence on this topic that was not previously included as part of the official comments.)

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770



From: cmbdolls [mailto:cmbdolls@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:48 PM
To: City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Fwd: Distribute ALL Councilpersons prior to Feb 3, 2021 meeting re: Hen Ordinance Consent Item F (Hens)

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

RE: City Council Meeting February 3, 2021
Agenda item: F Rescission of Hen Ordinance and accompanying zoning modifications

Good Afternoon,

I am pleased to see that the rescission of the Hen Ordinance and the accompanying zone modifications are on the consent agenda.

I had such a hard time understanding how the previous Council passed them without further study, environmental review and public input. It appeared that a very small group of very vocal persons were pushing this forward without any of the general public's knowledge weeks/months before it came before the council.

Something of this magnitude should never have been proposed in the midst of a worldwide pandemic when the public could not participate fully. Such a big change in zoning and zoning use should have been tabled until the public could more actively participate, as this is NOT an urgent issue/need.

I won't repeat what I have said in previous submissions. I know that we now have 2 new councilmembers who may not have read my previous e-mail letters. Additionally, I think it important to re-read them for those who previously voted.

Please rescind this set of hen ordinances. Minimally table them to a later date. Perhaps by 2022, the public will be able to fully participate. I urge you not to assume that the "majority" of Bakersfield homeowners are in favor of the hen ordinances. Personally, I know of not one.

I have copy/pasted my previous correspondence below.

Sincerely,
Carol McMahon Bender, RN, PHN

RE: City Council Meeting October 21, 2020 **Please distribute to all Councilpersons prior to meeting**
Agenda item 8 : Consent Calendar : Ordinances G (1-9)

Good Afternoon,

It was brought to my attention by Mayor Goh, that my submission to the last hearing regarding ordinance changes permitting hens in R-1 single family dwelling zones was not received-- therefore unread prior to the meeting. Therefore, I can only assume that it was not read by any councilpersons. Given that, I am submitting the letter again in hope that it will be read and considered.

I was extremely disappointed that this item was not at least continued to a later date, given the lack of public notification. It is my understanding that this type of zone ordinance must have a separate public hearing before it goes before the city council for a vote. I do not believe that has been done. It was very apparent in watching the meeting remotely, that the general public ...and even the Bakersfield Association of Realtors were not included in any committee/workshops that may have been formed by those that were promoting this new ordinance. Both the Bakersfield Association of Realtors and the Home Builders Association were not in favor of pushing this ordinance forward either. Many other homeowners spoke out in opposition and requested that the Council defer any decisions until a later date when there could be more participation.

I respectfully request that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar for the next City Council meeting (Oct 21) for further discussion to include the need for a separate public hearing regarding the plan as put forward in the last hearing. It is inadequate to allow comment only at the public statement allotted period, when there is need for much further separate detailed discussion and much more public participation for such a serious ordinance change. Such a significant change in zone allowances should never have been pushed forward during a pandemic when the public is only able to have minimal participation.

Having said that, here is my letter:

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

From: cmbdolls <cmbdolls@aol.com>
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>
Sent: Wed, Sep 23, 2020
Subject: Urgent E-mail to Council before today's meeting re: backyard chickens

(Please forward this e-mail with attachment to each City Council member as soon as possible so that they can review it prior to the meeting today.)

Dear Councilmembers:

I would like to submit comments in opposition to the upcoming agenda item 6b re: allowing backyard chickens (hens) in the city of Bakersfield.

I was present during the last discussions several years ago when this was last before the Council. At that time it was decided that it was not in the best interest of Bakersfield citizens to change the current ordinance. There was active participation from both sides of the issue---which is not the case here due to the Covid-19 pandemic limiting in-person access to meetings. I think that to be fair to all citizens, minimally the issue should be tabled until the pandemic restrictions for in-person attendance are eliminated.

Having said that, I will address the possibility of there being a vote despite opposition... to choose one of 2 options that are scheduled to be presented at the City Council meeting Wednesday, Sept 23.

Since this issue was last before the Council, the city of Bakersfield has grown and adapted to a policy of high density infill.

This means that housing lots going forward are to be much smaller with shorter setbacks and minimum distances between neighborhood homes. Urban areas especially those with a future focus to increase densities is not an environment that can handle the disruption and difficulty of fielding complaints from citizens due to the addition of backyard chickens. It is my understanding that the Code Enforcement department is not looking favorably at being well enough equipped to field such complaints and provide oversight. Trying to finagle a way to allow chickens on the tiniest of lots by somehow rationing the number, as in option 2, is completely unacceptable.

As a health professional, I am very concerned about the health and well-being of our community. I also have experience with the raising and handling of chickens as my brother and his wife have a chicken farm in Northern California. Additionally, a very good friend of mine has backyard chickens in the unincorporated County area. I am concerned that the perception out there is that chickens make wonderful pets/companions and also that their care is not complex--perhaps no different than having a dog or cat. This could not be farther from the truth. There is a terrific amount of upkeep that must take place to maintain their coops, their food and their excrement. If not properly and CONSISTENTLY kept sanitary, there WILL BE problems with flies, lice, fleas and rodents, ...and ultimately, disease.

The proposed ordinance allowing up to 12 chickens per residence makes absolutely no sense since the sale of eggs is to be prohibited. It only takes 3-4 chickens to produce a dozen eggs a week. The ordinance says the sole purpose of a hen is for egg laying and/or pet companionship. Is it reasonable to assume a person needs 12 pets for companionship? 12 dogs? 12 cats? Do households need 3-4 dozen eggs/week when sale of them is prohibited? No!

If eggs are not harvested every day and properly washed and stored, they can be easily contaminated. Avian flu and salmonella are serious problems with backyard chickens for those owners not properly trained on their care and diligent in their care. There are documented cases of these problems with disease in other cities in California. This is especially true with regard to children under the age of 5 who are most susceptible to these contaminants. While raising chickens may be "educational" as proponents say, this is only true if the environment is meticulously maintained and children are supervised. Hands must be washed before and after dealing with chickens. Shoes should be left outside. Food properly stored. Excrement would have to be hosed off daily or composted if chickens are allowed to roam in backyards. A separate enclosure or chicken run is necessary in addition to a coop (not just a fenced backyard) to ensure the health of the household and neighborhood.

Who is going to do the education, permitting and follow-up to ensure people are adhering to the proper care of these chickens? Who is going to address the multitude of complaints that will come from odor, flies, rodents and predators? I know that in Northwest Bakersfield, there are already problems with rodents without this adding to it.

Chickens are very sociable and do like people, so I understand the affection that owners have towards their chickens.

However, they do not belong in urban areas on small lots. In doing a survey of other cities that do allow them, the most dense cities that allow them restrict the number to 5 or fewer. They also require setbacks/distances from other homes of 30-50 feet. Many do not allow any at all unless the lot is at least 20,000 sq ft. Again, if eggs are not harvested daily, they can harbor disease.

I was opposed to this type of ordinance when first proposed years ago, and remain opposed at this time also...perhaps more so. Raising chickens in an urban city is simply a poor fit. If people want to raise chickens, they have the option to move into the county or other locations that are a better fit. The cost to care and feed chickens is more than what it would cost to buy eggs at the grocery store, so even in this pandemic when expenses are tight, having backyard chickens is not a money-saving proposition. With many adhering to the "stay at home order" and/or working from home, it may be easier for them to envision that they can easily care for backyard chickens. However, one cannot emphasize enough that it is hard work to maintain this type of "pet companion". If the council allows this ordinance to move forward, there will be more noise, nuisance and possibly disease introduced into neighborhoods. It will be very difficult to follow up and resolve these complaints, as there is no permitting, training and follow-up inspection required to ensure the health and safety of our neighborhoods.

During this pandemic, we are very concerned with those with compromised immune systems, particularly our elderly. Adding backyard chickens into the mix in the average neighborhood is just adding fuel to the fire.

Perhaps I am old-fashioned...but "free-range" chickens are usually associated with living freely on farms or at least on acreage (1/2 acre is even pushing it).... Is anyone really looking at what is in the best interest of the chickens?

Please carefully consider this issue and vote against both options. Keep the current ordinance in place. Backyard chickens do not belong within the city of Bakersfield. Copy/pasted below is a link to a brief CDC article addressing this issue. I encourage you to read it. It will reinforce what I include in this e-mail. I will also include it as an attachment.

Best regards,
Carol Bender R.N, P.H.N.

<https://wsava.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Clinician-s-Brief-March-2018-TP-Backyard-Chickens.pdf#:~:text=Zoonotic%20diseases%20that%20backyard%20poultry%20may%20spread%20to,in%20the%20United%20States.%204%20Some%20humans%E2%80%94including%20children>
by: Casey Barton Behravesh, MS, DVM, DrPH, DACVPM Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Atlanta, Georgia

From: [cgribben](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:07:21 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am very much in favor of allowing backyard hens. Please do not rescind the Hen Ordinance on February 3rd.

Thank you,
Carole Gribben

From: [Cassandra Sanchez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:54:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am voicing my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. I am asking that the council uphold the fair and legally passed ordinance. The city of Bakersfield has an obligation to its citizens to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. There is no legitimate basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
Cassandra Sanchez

Name: Catherine Winters

Number: (773) 710-3518

Message: Hello, my name is Catherine Winters and I am a resident of Bakersfield and businessowner here. I am in full support of having backyard chickens for many reasons. Pest control, fertilizer, being able to produced your own eggs. Those are some of my top priorities. And I'm in full support of it. The fact that it's even coming back to Council to be discussed is ridiculous. We're an agricultural community. Allow the citizens of Bakersfield to have a few chickens in their yard if they would like. People are allowed to use pesticides, people are allowed to use leaf-blowers whenever they want. I mean, these are way worse for the City than a few chickens here and there. I'm in full support of chickens. I cannot stress that enough. And any City Councilmembers to oppose having backyard chickens will not be voted for in the future, or shown any support and love at all by me. That's it.

From: [cathleenwarren26](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:15:07 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. I am asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA “common sense” waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you. Cathleen Warren

Powered by Cricket Wireless

From: [Ceasar Ceasar](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hen
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:57:47 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPhone

I support backyard hen in Bakersfield

Ceasar
6614872437

From: [Cecilia Dollar](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: backyard ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:43:28 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support the backyard hen ordinance.

From: [Chelsea Padilla](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:33:32 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Bakersfield city council members, I

Urge you, as a Bakersfield city resident, to push through for the backyard hen ordinance already passed by the previous members of council. Backyard hens pose no risk to the city, and only add value. Please take the initiative in allowing Hens to the city as an added benefit to the city of Bakersfield as a farming community and as a community in general. The proper assessments have been taken and the city of Bakersfield backs the ordinance that was passed in 2020.

Thank you for your consideration,
Chelsea Padilla

From: [Christi Nolan](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: City hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:39:54 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Have a great day!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christi Nolan

From: [Kalli Park](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Do not rescind
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:06:02 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to the rescission of the backyard hen ordinance.

Christina Park

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CHRISTINA RAJLAL](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance Letter of Support
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:26:11 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I am writing this letter in support for the Hen Ordinance. It has been brought to my attention that there are efforts in moving this action forward. During this time of the pandemic, many people are facing food insecurities and challenges with companionship in these isolating times. The Hens could be a source of sustainable at home food supply, adding fresh eggs to a home. Additionally, Hens can be a very loving pet for those home bound and facing isolation. Please take this letter in serious support for the Hen Ordinance.

Sincerely,
Christina Rajlal, PhD, MBA
2224 Park Way, 93304
(310)612-5329

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cindy Joslyn](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:13:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Chicken should be allowed in Bakersfield! If you limit the number of chickens (say, six) and have a complaint number to call, what's the problem? My son and his family have chickens and they're a wonderful source of food and fun. My seven year old granddaughter pushes her chickens in a stroller, hauls them in the wagon and carries them all over the yard. She chose her baby chicks and watched them grow up. They are her pets, with names, just the same as their German Shepherd and three cats. The chickens have an automatic door to their coop, and are absolutely no problem. Their eggs are delicious!

Even if you allow chickens, not everybody's going to go out and get them! I know I'm not! But, I think those who want to have a few chickens should be able to, without interference from nosy Know-it-Alls.

Cynthia Joslyn
12105 Riverfront Park Dr., Bakersfield 661-599-1829

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Claudia Lopez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Don't Rescind
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:52:37 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance. Work towards a solution.

Thank you,

From: [Cody Ganger](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: City Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:31:03 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Thank you,

Cody Ganger

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Max Miller](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Repeal of hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:19:48 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to the council rescinding the hen ordinance at the meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration,
Colleen Miller
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Courtney McLemore](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Uphold the hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:25:37 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear city council,

How can we allow wealthy people to legislate through lawsuit?

I am voicing my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the rescension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that city council uphold the ordinance that was FAIRLY and LEGALLY passed. This is heartbreaking to our children and to those of us who have been working toward this for so long and were so hopeful when it passed.

Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

Please uphold the previous vote to approve the backyard hen ordinance that was legally

35 cities in CA allow hens, and a full environmental review has NEVER been done. In 19 of those cities, the common sense waiver was used. Others used Negative Declarations. There is precedent to fight this ridiculous lawsuit!!

Why would you RUSH to a decision to rescind, pay these attorneys at the drop of a hat without negotiation, and lock the entire future of hen ordinance into an environmental review process that has never been done before?

This sets a dangerous precedent.

Thank you

Courtney mclemore

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CRAIG HARRELL](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 6:40:24 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To members of the City Council,

I ask that you please stop the ordinance to allow backyard hens. I am a life long resident of Bakersfield and I believe this would be a major negative to the quality of life in our city. It bothers me that this pro hen group is controlling the narrative through the local media showing a glossed over version of the reality of backyard hens. Some years back we had people move in next door and they brought in hens. And the noise. And the smell. And the feathers.

I tried to be a good neighbor but after several months of it I had enough. I was able to call Code Enforcement and get it stopped. Please don't stop my ability to enjoy my own home. Living next to hen owners is no different than having neighbors that play loud music. We all should have the right to enjoy our homes. But we shouldn't be doing what we enjoy at the expense of others. This is why we are a nation of laws- so we can get along or at least co-exist.

Thank you for your consideration.

Craig D Harrell
3613 Candlewood Drive
Bakersfield, CA
93306

From: [cristenelittle51](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Please do not allow chickens in our neighborhood! They are smelly and attract flies!
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 3:15:44 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

From: [Crystal Day](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: SUPPORT BACKYARD HENS
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:50:40 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance!!!!
Crystal D.
Bakersfield, Ca

From: [Dan Soberano](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:21:14 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to have chickens in my backyard please do not resend the ordinance to allow to have chickens thank you

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Daniel Becina](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support backyard hans
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:52:54 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Daniel Olivares](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:54:53 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.

City council has a job to perform and that is to hear their constituents. There's a majority of people who want Backyard Hens and there's a large amount of people that support ownership even if they themselves do not want hens. It should be up to a anonymous group that determines your vote... The people have spoken . We want HENS!

From: [Danny Wilson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support back yard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:41:41 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I'm writing this email in support of the back yard hen initiative.

From: [WebMaster](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: FW: Backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:10:45 PM

From: Darrin_Starr@yahoo.com <Darrin_Starr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:01 AM
To: WebMaster <WebMaster@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support the right to self sustain by raising chickens.

From: [WebMaster](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: FW: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:40:03 AM

From: Darrin_Starr@yahoo.com <Darrin_Starr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:19 PM
To: WebMaster <WebMaster@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I supportbackyard hens

From: [Darryl Pope](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:05:29 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is a general public comment in support of backyard hens

I do not agree with any groups ability to negate hardworking Bakersfield property owners rights and privileges. The ordinance for backyard hens was already legally passed by the council. Do not dismiss the democratic process and allow any unrighteous group with a hidden agenda negate what's right in the eyes of the beholder. Please uphold my right and freedom to use my property in a way that is reasonable, safe, and enhances quality of life for American families.

Respectfully,
Darryl Pope

From: [DAVE THOMAS](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Consent agenda/hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:19:23 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Council members,

I am against the hen ordinance and would like to see its repeal. I live in the east side subdivision of Tuscany.

Although we have large lots, we have had issues with people raising chickens.

They say they will take care of them and it won't be an annoyance to neighbors but it is. We have CC&Rs that ban such activities but still have had year long battles with people raising chickens.

Dave Thomas

President Tuscany HOA

Thomasdave450@aol.com

661-333-6093

Sent from my iPhone

Name: David Brust

Number: (661) 326-1011

Message: Hi my name is David Brust. I live in Oleander and I am in favor of my neighbors having hens and I want to make sure that the City Council knows this. I also want to make sure that they know I'm very weary and believe that they should be, for acquiescing to an anonymous group on such a mundane subject as hens. Basically what we're looking at is a form of greenmail where unknown groups can then come out of the woodwork regarding any of these sorts of notions, and defeat them by forming an alliance and creating an anonymous group to sue the City. I'm very worried about the ability for these groups to sustain themselves and object to anything that we do to promote and improve life in Bakersfield. So I'm voting and asking for the City Council to vote to keep hens in Bakersfield. Thank you.

From: [David Brust](#)
To: [City Council](#); [PD-PIO Council member Chris Parlier](#); [PD-PIO Council Member Gonzalez](#); [Bruce Freeman](#); [Ken Weir](#); [Bob Smith](#); [Eric Arias](#); [Patty Gray](#)
Subject: Keep the hen ordinance.
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:03:17 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Bakersfield City Council
Brust

David

1501 Truxtun Avenue
Oleander Avenue

225

Bakersfield, CA
93301

Bakersfield, CA 93304

Honorable Council members,

I'm writing to you in favor of the recently approved urban hen ordinance. I'm sure you have heard from many people that are in favor of the ordinance and a few that are opposed to it. I know hens to be wonderful pets, low noise, clean, and good for our backyards and families, but I believe the argument is not about chickens it's about council integrity. I'm not talking about individual integrity because I believe each one of you to be honorable and true to your convictions. The integrity I'm referencing is honoring the lawful decisions of past City Councils by standing up for what is just and honorable regardless of your individual feelings.

We rely on our City Council to protect our rights, improve our safety and maintain order in our community. This can't be done if we don't honor the past lawful decisions and we revoke ordinances due to a small shadow group "green mailing" our City. Acquiescing to this group may seem like a short term solution. The hen people go away, we don't have to deal with this shadow group and we save the City money. Unfortunately that won't be the case. The Urban hen community is a strong well guided community that surely will double down on their efforts to get a reasonable ordinance enacted. This shadow group will only be emboldened to shape our city in their view and attempt to thwart the will of your council and future councils by continued "greenmailing" when they are not satisfied with your decisions. This emboldened group will cost the City more money in the long run as they see a simple path to victory and countless legal proceedings. For these reasons I implore you as a Council not to give in to this anonymous group and keep our City Councils integrity.

Thanks,
David Brust

From: [David Dmohowski](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Cc: [Matt Towery](#)
Subject: Rescission of Hens Ord. 5023 and Ord. 5032--Item 8. f (1)--Bakersfield City Council Meeting February 3, 2021
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:16:44 PM
Attachments: [HBA Email to City Council 09-23-20.pdf](#)

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Honorable Mayor & City Council:

The Home Builders Association of Kern County wishes to reiterate its concerns with ordinance amendments relating to keeping of hens in residential zones previously adopted by the City Council. Our email correspondence of September 23, 2020 to your Council on this subject is attached.

We are in support of the staff recommendation regarding rescission of Ordinance 5023 and Ordinance 5032 as set forth in your agenda packet for the February 3, 2021 City Council meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Dmohowski
Executive Officer
Home Builders Association of Kern County
661.510.8311



David Dmohowski <dave.d@kernhomebuilders.com>

City Council Agenda Item 6.b.---First Reading Hens Ordinance Amendments

1 message

David Dmohowski <dave.d@kernhomebuilders.com>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 11:11 AM

To: City Clerk Bak <city_clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>

Bcc: Bruce Freeman <freebmorton@icloud.com>, Matt Towery <matt1@toweryhomes.com>

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

The Home Builders Association of Kern County has reviewed the staff report and supporting information relating to the proposed first reading of municipal code amendments relating to the keeping of hens in residential zones. It is our recommendation that no action be taken on this item until further study is conducted on the noise, odor, public health, enforcement, and quality of life issues raised by this proposal.

Our membership is committed to quality community-building that reflects the City's high design and performance standards for planned residential development. The proposed hen-keeping regulations appear overly broad, largely unenforceable, and potentially threatening to the peaceful enjoyment of outdoor living spaces in existing and future residential neighborhoods.

There is a natural trend toward smaller lots in new residential construction due to affordability concerns and the high compliance costs associated with state regulations related to energy efficiency, climate change, and new restrictions on vehicle miles travelled. The close proximity of other rear yards in a typical mid-block R-1 lot situation, makes setbacks of whatever distance an ineffective regulatory measure. Up to 5 hen houses within 30 or so feet of a family's back door could be possible.

We found no analysis in the staff report of other communities' experience with hen-keeping, nor the potential negative effects of widespread hen-keeping on Bakersfield homeowners. Further study, and more rigorous public outreach (when pandemic restrictions allow it) seem appropriate prior to formal action by the City Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Dave Dmohowski

Executive Officer

Home Builders Association of Kern County

661.510.8311

From: [David M Hess](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Ward 5
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:29:37 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mr. Freeman:

I am urging you to vote **against allowing** backyard chickens in the residential areas of Bakersfield.

David M. Hess
1705 Aubusson Court
Bakersfield, CA 93311

661 333 2314
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Name: David Newton

Number: (661)843-7456

Message: Hola buenos dias estoy llamando sobre las gallinas. Porque no le hacen ningun dano. tenian dos gallina-itos las personas. Y yo pienso que deberian de votar por dejar la lei que cualquier persona..(inaudible)

Hello good day I am calling regarding the chickens. I do not think they are a problem. My neighbors had two small chickens. I believe the council should vote to leave the ordinance to allow anybody to own chickens.

From: [Dawn doyle](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support for backyard hens in Bakersfield city.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:18:11 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Bakersfield City counsel members,

As a Bakersfield City resident I am writing this letter to encourage you to move forward with allowing the backyard hens ordinance to be passed as it was in September of 2020. This ordinance has an overwhelming number of support from the residents of Bakersfield and the vote of the counsel members in September. We as a community are at the core an agricultural community, we are not unlike many other California city's that have also passed a similar ordinance. Those city's have had no adverse impacts due to allowing a few hens and no roosters on properties within city limits. I encourage you to please vote in favor of the backyard hens ordinance.

Thank you,
Dawn Doyle: Ward 6.

--

Dawn Doyle

From: [De Ana Christy](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: "Support Backyard Hens"
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:05:08 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am reaching out about my support of the BACKYARD hens! I fully support a family having these cute little animals in their yards and producing eggs for their dinner tables! They make great pets too! PLEASE let them have them!

Thank you so much for your consideration,

Ms. Christy

From: [Dean Fowler](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen initiative
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:17:09 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Sincerely,

Dean Fowler

From: [Debra Davis](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:31:26 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:

I hope this finds you well. Those of us residents who support the Backyard Hen Initiative are deeply concerned about the consideration to rescind the previously approved ordinance that allowed backyard hens; from what we understand about the recent closed session, a majority were in favor of voting to rescind it at the upcoming meeting on February 3.

The anonymous group who has sued the city with a frivolous environmental lawsuit citing CEQA violations has subverted the democratic process that was fairly and legally completed in 2020.

This group - "Citizens for the Preservation of the R-1 Zones" - has NO history of advocacy for the environment and remains anonymous. Their lawyers in Beverly Hills have zero intention of negotiating. This is a power play. Given the legal team for these "Citizens" has indicated that as long as there are "no hens" there will be "no lawsuit", I believe this is civil extortion. And the Council is about to play their game.

Their legal team has somehow already racked up \$9,000 in legal fees, with the threat of tens of thousands of more dollars the city will pay IF the city defends the lawsuit and loses. But bow to their demands by rescinding the previously approved hen ordinance, and the lawsuit goes away.

The lawyers of this anonymous group allege that there was a CEQA violation due to the "common sense" waiver being used in the hen ordinance. This waiver has been used many times by other cities throughout California. It means that common sense says that backyard hens in the homesteads of city residents who choose to keep them will not have a significant effect on the environment. The fundamental definition of significant effect under CEQA is "a substantial adverse change in physical conditions." We believe that it's impossible for backyard hens in private homes to have a substantial adverse change in the physical environment of the city. Given the information and evidence our group of community supporters has gathered, along with the knowledge that the City has previously defended itself against similar lawsuits, we believe the potential to win is much stronger than the potential to lose. The Council should NOT rescind the hen ordinance and should fight to defend themselves in this lawsuit, as well as uphold the ethical obligation to its constituents and preserve the fair and democratic practice that is at stake here.

Obviously we are extremely disappointed given the overwhelming support demonstrated for backyard hens over the months-long, thorough process that took place to get the ordinance passed, as well as the majority council vote that officially approved the ordinance in November 2020.

The fact that one small group of disgruntled folks has put the city in the position of having to choose between fighting a costly legal battle to uphold a previously approved ordinance or caving to the lawyers and rescinding the ordinance is not only outrageous, but sets a terrible precedent for the future.

Council members are supposed to represent and serve the community. Our elected officials have a responsibility and obligation to work with the majority public. The city of Bakersfield has an obligation to do its due diligence and fight this lawsuit. The cost to the taxpayers is extremely unfortunate, but the opposition has left NO choice given that they are not willing to negotiate at all. A lawsuit from an anonymous party who is not willing to come to an agreement, entertain a conversation, or negotiate in any way seems to be one that is clearly perpetuated for the sole intent of what it's about to achieve: shutting down a policy they disagree with and flexing their muscles for community and political influence.

Please know this: the community members who support backyard hens are willing to negotiate. We are willing to discuss reasonable revisions to the ordinance, particularly those that may be most concerning like allowing hens to free range, or the amount of hens allowed based on square footage. We believe we could all come to an agreement that serves the community, protects food sovereignty, expands on the list of current approved backyard pets, and makes a minimal impact to the city residents.

We are here to hold you accountable. I encourage the newly elected council members to review the many previous meetings that the council held where the community voiced their support, as well as read the record of letters and phone calls surrounding this issue. The workshop process first began in June 2020. The first vote approving the first draft of the ordinance took place in October 2020. At that time, there was no mention of CEQA at all; in November 2020 prior to the second and final vote, one council member became concerned with it moments before voting and did indicate they'd be faced with a lawsuit if they voted to approve it. Although this (partially) new Council may not have heard from us recently (because we believed this ordinance was, although tabled by a lawsuit, at least safe from being rescinded!), we were the majority.

It is egregious to think that our city council would not be willing to defend against this frivolous lawsuit, both for the sake of backyard hen ownership and protecting the democratic process from future muscle-flexers and political influencers.

We implore the Bakersfield City Council to not rescind the ordinance and to continue to work with the community to come to a resolution regarding backyard hens. If it must defend itself in a lawsuit, then it must. Not because backyard hens caused this, but because a few disgruntled people lawyered up and put the pressure on. Don't cave to this bad practice and the bad precedent that will follow.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of the other cities in California that allow backyard hens in homes that are less than 1 acre:

San Diego
Santa Rosa
Long Beach
Oxnard
Murrieta
Citrus Heights

Elk Grove
Stockton
La Mesa
Hanford
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Pasadena
Glendora
Chino
Rancho Cucamonga
Monterey Park
San Marino
Santa Fe Springs
Sacramento
Folsom
Porterville
San Jose
Santa Maria
San Luis Obispo
West Covina
Fullerton
San Clemente
Laguna Niguel
Roseville

I know progress can be a little slower in our big small town, but the opposition to such a simple issue allowing families to raise hens and collect their own eggs is embarrassing.

Sincerely,

Debra Davis

From: [Debra Foster](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:19:27 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance

Sent from my iPhone

From: thenethertons@yahoo.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: chickens in the city-support
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:46:14 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I support allowing chickens in the city. Think this is a wonderful outlet for families and children who are currently home. Especially if other major cities are already doing this with no major issues- I dont see what the problem is for Bakersfield to do the same.

Thank you,

Denise Netherton

From: [Diane Olson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Opposed
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:40:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to REC I ding the hen ordinance. People have a right to be self-sufficient!!

Diane Olson
jndolson@icloud.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dianne Bryant](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens in the City of Bakersfield
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:17:03 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would really like the right to own a couple hens in my backyard if I desire. Please don't let the city council be bullied into passing an ordinance we don't want.

Thank you,
Dianne Bryant

From: [Dindo Franz](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:37:09 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support Backyard hens in Bakersfield.

Thank you.

Fernando Francisco

From: [davesredjeep](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:50:52 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I am writing this email on behalf of all residents in Bakersfield who support the Backyard Hens Initiative. I am saddened to know that all it takes is a lawsuit with no merit, to cause our City Council to go back on their word. This ordinance was voted for the RIGHT way with a vote, and because an anonymous group decided they are is against it and did not accept the outcome of said vote, the rest of Bakersfield may lose their opportunity to have this element of self sufficiency taken from them forever?

I really cannot understand how this is being entertained by our Council. If we allow this to happen we are allowing our freedoms and our right to be heard, to be taken. We are further proving that the mentality of being “sue happy” is tolerated as well as feared upon without as much as even a full evaluation of the merit.

Hens not only contribute greatly to the well being of homeowners alike, they connect us to our food. They require responsibility, understanding, and teach you how to benefit from your efforts.

If you are uncomfortable with chemicals being dumped into your yard, hens can drastically eliminate weeds AND pests. If you are uncomfortable in paying \$3.99 for a squash at the store in hopes that the pretty little organic, non-gmo label is real..you can find comfort in knowing that you can enhance your own garden with chicken waste. You can grow your own produce and feed your family and friends for much less than what you spend at the store, and yes, hens contribute. You can teach children how to be compassionate, self sufficient, and smart about what they are eating.

If you or someone you know or love has suffered or is suffering from Cancer, wouldn't you like to be able to help in ensuring their food is quality? Healthy gardens produce healthy vegetables which turn you into a healthy human being. Healthy eggs come from healthy chickens who aren't caged up and pumped with hormones and feed to lay eggs and do nothing else. Eggs that are bleached and stored for months on end are not good for you. It really is common sense, and I'm appalled that we even need to lay it out this way.

I encourage you to research big farms and see where these eggs are really coming from. How these hens are really treated. The treatment of the hens trickles into the eggs that you consume and we should all be concerned about where our food comes from. Animals of all species deserve dignity, and chickens are no different. You provide them a healthy life, and they provide you with healthy eggs for your family and friends alike. What is the harm in that?

I sincerely hope that our Council hears our voices and takes their job seriously. Please do your

research, know what you're options are, and do not shy away from something that has no merit. If this is revoked I will have no choice but to believe that our Council does not hope for a better, healthier, and more self sufficient City.

Sincerely,
D.J

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [davesredjeep](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:50:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I am writing this email on behalf of all residents in Bakersfield who support the Backyard Hens Initiative. I am saddened to know that all it takes is a lawsuit with no merit, to cause our City Council to go back on their word. This ordinance was voted for the RIGHT way with a vote, and because an anonymous group decided they are is against it and did not accept the outcome of said vote, the rest of Bakersfield may lose their opportunity to have this element of self sufficiency taken from them forever?

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I sincerely hope that our Council hears our voices and takes their job seriously. Please do your research, know what you're options are, and do not shy away from something that has no merit. If this is revoked I will have no choice but to believe that our Council does not hope for a better, healthier, and more self sufficient City.

Sincerely,
D.J

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Donald McCall](#)
To: [bakersfield mayor](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Thank you NO Chickens!
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:43:50 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning City Council, and Mayor Goh

I want to THANK YOU for voting to reject the hen ordinance in the city limits. When I heard it was going for review, I remembered my time with a neighbor who had hens, I can recall the noise, and they smelled, I couldn't believe that we as neighbors had to live with this. When it was recently rejected after the initial approval, my wife and I were ecstatic. Hens are NOT for everyone, and we shouldn't be forced to live with our neighbor's chickens.

After reading in The Bakersfield California that it may be overturned again, it saddens me that this is even being looked at. Not only do chickens carry many health issues, which are a concern with the current pandemic, but our Government should watch our budgets. Do we really have the funds to waste on allowing people to have hens? I KNOW we have better things to do with what little money our city has left.

PLEASE keep the hens out of the city limited!

Regards,
Donald McCall

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Donald McCall](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Thank you NO Chickens! (Donald McCall)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:54:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Mr. McCall,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Donald McCall [mailto:mccall.donald@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:44 AM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Thank you NO Chickens!

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning City Council, and Mayor Goh

I want to THANK YOU for voting to reject the hen ordinance in the city limits. When I heard it was going for review, I remembered my time with a neighbor who had hens, I can recall the noise, and they smelled, I couldn't believe that we as neighbors had to live with this. When it was recently rejected after the initial approval, my wife and I were ecstatic. Hens are NOT for everyone, and we shouldn't be forced to live with our neighbor's chickens.

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really have the funds to waste on allowing people to have hens? I KNOW we have better things to do with what little money our city has left.

PLEASE keep the hens out of the city limited!

Regards,
Donald McCall

From: [Donna Castillo](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:57:18 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Sent from my iPhone

From: drgroves72@att.net
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:09:32 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance. Hens do not make noise and do not smell but they do help control bug populations and provide fresh eggs.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dusti McDaris](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:25:08 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.

Sincerely,
Dusti McDaris

From: [e b](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: I oppose
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:38:19 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly oppose rescinding the Chicken Ordinance that was passed by the city council last year.

From: [Elena Porcho](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:31:49 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please do not take my family's beloved pets and producers of some of the most nutritious food source.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Emily Dawson](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Feb 3rd Council Meeting: Support for Bakersfield Urban Hens (Emily Dawson)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:35:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Dawson,

Thank you for your email.

Best regards,

Karen Goh



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Emily Dawson [mailto:edawson@westmont.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 9:58 AM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Feb 3rd Council Meeting: Support for Bakersfield Urban Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh,

On February 3rd, the City Council will once again review the ordinance for backyard hens. *Please extend the time limit for public comment on this topic!* Our voices need to be heard, and 15 minutes is insufficient. Clearly, the ordinance requires further dialogue and collaboration; our City Council members ought to be willing to listen to their constituents and work with us to find solutions. Thank you for all you do.

Best,

Emily
6808 Segura Way
Bakersfield, CA 93309

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Emily Dawson** <edawson@westmont.edu>

Date: Tue, Jan 26, 2021 at 9:48 AM

Subject: Re: Support for Bakersfield Urban Hens

To: <city_council@bakersfieldcity.us>

Dear City Council,

I've been dismayed to hear that after all the hard work of due process of law, and the passage of the hen ordinance, that rescinding is now under consideration. And in response to a lawsuit that has no precedence in other cities who have successfully adopted similar ordinances? Such a frivolous lawsuit should not have the power to bully the City. If amendments to the ordinance are needed, so be it; there is a large grassroots community who support backyard hens and are willing to continue collaborating to find the best solutions. But you can not just rescind and sweep this under the table!

Best,

Emily Clark
6808 Segura Way
Bakersfield, CA 93309

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:20 PM Emily Dawson <edawson@westmont.edu> wrote:

Dear City Council,

I'm writing to you today to affirm my support for the urban hen ordinance. I was born and raised in Bakersfield and am now a new homeowner here, moving back after seven years away. I'm looking forward to raising a family here, and I hope we can add a future chicken coop as part of our new home! Thank you for all you do.

Best,

Emily Clark
6808 Segura Way
Bakersfield, CA 93309

From: [Emily Keverline](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:29:53 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I fully support the keeping of backyards hens in the city of Bakersfield. I urge the council not to rescind the ordinance regarding this

Emily Keverline
93312 Zip code area

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Erica Bersentes](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:15:48 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This impacts more than just hens, the reality is that very few people want backyard hens. This lawsuit is much more of a flex for control on the city council. I don't know about you, but it's really annoying to be told what I can cannot do on my own property.

It is not about chickens as much as it is about how people, whom can bully the council into going against their constituents.

I support the ordinance.

Erica Bersentes

From: [Erica pate](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:19:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Its my property and my land I support the hen ordinance. It is not about chickens as much as it is about how people, who can bully the council into going against their constituents.

Evan Bersentes

From: [Erica Kimmel](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:05:37 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom It May Concern,

Please let responsible citizens keep hens. Just like rules are enforced for dog and cat owners, there should definitely be guidelines that have to be followed to keep neighbors happy. Hens are quiet, they are a natural form of pest control, they provide fresh eggs, and they also give owners something to enjoy during these difficult times.

I am not even writing this on behalf of myself, since I am not able to keep hens at this time. This is an appeal for anyone that wishes to keep them. My younger years owning hens taught me so much about responsibility and self-sufficiency. I want to see others have that same wonderful experience. Don't let a lawsuit get in the way of what you know is right.

Erica Kimmel

From: [Erica Williams](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:19:23 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to the hen ordinance being rescinded. I am especially concerned that an absurd lawsuit can be filed by a few people with a minority opinion and have that paid for by the taxpayers. Please reconsider rescinding the ordinance and paying for their lawyers.

Thank you,
Erica Williams

From: [Erin Obert](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:12:56 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

From: [estherannunez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:30:45 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [esther_nunez8](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:31:17 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens!

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [fabio.rosales](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support Bakersfield hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:25:05 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My name is Fabio Rosales, I live in ward 5 and I support Bakersfield hens.

From: [Fawn Kline](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:34:29 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

From: [Fawn Kline](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:36:57 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

From: [Pheelicks Junior](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:54:02 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens in Bakersfield.

Thanks you.

Felix Camotuya Jr.
661-301-9113

From: [Frank Ripepi](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Vote to approve Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:11:34 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Don't let a group with a questionable agenda manipulate the board with a meritless lawsuit and prevent the completely harmless practice of raising backyard hens, a practice that has been approved in jurisdictions across the country. The board needs to show some spine and reinitiate the ordinance on backyard hens!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Gabrielle Canales](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I oppose rescinding the hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:01:21 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Last year the city council voted to allow backyard hens in city limits. Doing an environmental impact report for this ordinance would be a waste of taxpayer money as the impact of hens to the environment has been studied extensively and small backyard flocks are allowed in cities across the country. Do not allow an anonymous bullies to attempt to power grab at the city council by kowtowing to their absurd demands. I firmly oppose rescinding the hen ordinance.

Gabrielle Canales

Name: Gail Fieldgrove

Number: (661) 319-6571

Message: Hello, my name is Gail Fieldgrove. This is concerning allowing chickens in people's backyards. I'm actually all for it, don't think there's anything wrong with it. Children have an opportunity to see how things work. And I hope that they don't plan to recall this action. I think it's very important. Hi Andrae Gonzales. Bye, thank you so much. Bye.

From: [Gena Householder](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:33:15 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My name is Gena Householder and I live in the County. I am strongly opposed to the rescinding of the Hen Ordinance.

From: [George Fuentes](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Please Allow Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:01:51 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please advise my council representative that I am for backyard hens.

Thank You,
George Fuentes
2825 Harmony Dr
Bakersfield

21 FEB -2 PM 1:45
BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021

Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,



Gwen Dobbs

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Heather Aherne](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Save our Hens!
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:28:16 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good evening Madams and Sirs:

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't even from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm tremendously disappointed that it's even being considered.

DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION

Yours, Heather

From: [Heather Pressley](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:20:37 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Cordially,
Heather Dobbs

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Merickel Family Email](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:31:45 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I am writing to share my support for lifting the temporary suspension of the amended ordinance to allow families the right to own hens. Please respect me and the other Bakersfield residents enough to be responsible with managing our own pets in our own backyards.

Heather Merickel



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Name: Helen Kotowske

Number: (661) 903-0976

Message: Hi, my name is Helen Kotowske, 661-903-0976 is my cell phone number. And I'm calling about the hen ordinance. I heard that it had passed and everything was okay but now there's a lawsuit and I'd hate to see people have to get rid of their hens. I know it provides food for people, it's a learning experience for children and it adds to the neighborhood. I have neighbors that have chickens, they have hens, and I had no idea that they had them because they don't cause any kind of problem, so I just hope that you're going to keep the ordinance we have so that they can continue to have hens. I live in the Oleander-Sunset area. Helen Kotowske 661-903-0976. Bye.

From: [Heyley Taber](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:54:53 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.

Thank you,

Heyley Taber (661-333-5295)

From: [imluke](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:12:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly believe that we should be able to have hens on our property and this "unidentified group" should not dictate our rights and freedoms. I believe the group fighting for it already got the ordinance passed so why is it a problem when people are reasonable and safe. I hope that hens are allowed in the future and they have my FULL SUPPORT!

From: [Ingrid Henderson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:13:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose to rescind the hen ordinance for the city of bakersfield.

Sincerely

Ingrid Henderson

Sent from my iPhone

Name: Iva Fendrick

Number: (661) 303-5327

Message: Hello, my name is Iva Fendrick. I live in the City of Bakersfield and I'm calling regarding the vote on having hens in people's backyards. I don't see how you could accept anonymous people, anonymous lawsuit, because if they don't have the guts to step forward to say who they are and they really believe in this, if people want to have chickens, fine. I vote for that and I hope our City Council will too, and look at this feasibly. The other animals we have in neighborhoods, barking, barking, and I don't think chickens are harmful to the environment and have already been approved in other counties, Fresno especially. They have an ordinance where they can have hens and so I hope our City Council will vote that we can have those chickens if they want them. Thank you for your time. Goodbye.

From: [Jack Merickel](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:12:20 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you to express my support for backyard hens. Hens are healthy for families and they help make Bakersfield better. I was part of the process and spoke directly to you regarding the benefits and how any perceived nuisance is manageable. Please respect me and other Bakersfield residence by trusting us to be responsible and capable of following the ordinance that was passed and is now under attack from an anonymous unwarranted lawsuit. Thank you for having the courage to do the right thing and lift the temporary suspension on the ordinance that has already been debated and passed.

Sincerely,
Jack Merickel

From: [Jan Hei](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard hens
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 8:14:05 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please do not rescind the ordinance regarding the matter of backyard hens. Do the right thing and honor the many wishes of your community members. A dangerous precedent will be set if you allow the “anonymous” few to derail this effort.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jan Hei

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Janice French](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Council Meeting Agenda Item 8.f.1
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:04:24 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Council Members,

I am writing in regards to Meeting Agenda Item 8.f.1, the "Backyard Hen Ordinance." The opposition group cites three major points in their argument against this ordinance: noise, odor, and disease.

In item one, noise, their argument is almost null. Hens only cluck, and not very loudly, with the exception of being under attack from a predator.

Item two, odor, is also close to null. Chicken feces are fairly free of odor, even in excess, due to their diet being mostly grain with occasional insects and worms. So this is also a very weak argument.

Item three, disease, is of concern to some extent. But I think if the ordinance added the requirement of a permit and a person who could issue said permits would minimize this fear.

The backyard of a person who applied for a permit could be inspected, and an area acceptable to guidelines for housing the hens could be marked. A follow-up visit after completion of coops, etc. could be done, and if guidelines are met, a flier of safety tips could be given to the owner to remind them of possible diseases, how they're spread, and how to prevent them. The permit process could include a fee, which would help pay for the inspections and such. This would also create a liaison for any complaints that come up from neighbors.

Just my two cents.

Thank you,
Janice French

From: [Janie Lugo](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Rescinding an ordinance
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:39:30 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I would like to communicate my support of allowing backyard hens within the city limits.

This has now become an issue much more than the right of the citizens of Bakersfield to own hens. This has become about upholding the democratic process of government and not allowing the power of a few wealthy individuals overrule the will of the majority of the common people.

It is unethical for past or present city employees or elected officials to be involved in a lawsuit against the city that they are supposed to serve because an ordinance was passed that they did not agree with. If there is any grounds for a lawsuit against the City of Bakersfield at all it would be for not upholding the ordinance that was passed and placing many Bakersfield citizens completely outside of the cities legal limits.

This is not fair to those of us who tried to go about doing things the right way. Many of us took significant time and effort to communicate with each of you in trying to get this ordinance passed. Many of us held off buying our hens until the ordinance was passed. Now it seems as though the hard working, upstanding citizens of Bakersfield who try to abide by it's rules are being ignored while only a few wealthy individuals are being allowed to manipulate the system.

I have to say that I am incredibly dissappointed that we are even at this place where the City Council is even considering rescinding the hen ordinance over a frivolous lawsuit. I was just starting to believe that maybe everyday citizens actually could have a voice. Maybe we actually could make a difference in our community for the better if we just got involved in the process. After learning of the 6-1 vote in a closed door session to consider rescinding the hen ordinance, I have serious doubts that any of our government actually works for the people.

I hope that the City Council of Bakersfield will uphold and not rescind the ordinance that was passed allowing backyard hens. I hope that they will actually fullfill their obligation to our community and support what the majority of their constituents have requested.

Sincerely,

Janie Boland

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Janie Lugo](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hens
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 10:00:09 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I would like to communicate my support of allowing backyard hens within the city limits.

This has now become an issue much more than the right of the citizens of Bakersfield to own hens. This has become about upholding the democratic process of government and not allowing the power of a few wealthy individuals overrule the will of the majority of the common people.

It is unethical for past or present city employees or elected officials to be involved in a lawsuit against the city that they are supposed to serve because an ordinance was passed that they did not agree with. If there is any grounds for a lawsuit against the City of Bakersfield at all it would be for not upholding the ordinance that was passed and placing many Bakersfield citizens completely outside of the cities legal limits.

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I hope that the City Council of Bakersfield will uphold and not rescind the ordinance that was passed allowing backyard hens. I hope that they will actually fullfill their obligation to our community and support what the majority of their constituents have requested.

Sincerely,

Janie Boland

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Janie Lugo](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hens
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 10:00:09 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I would like to communicate my support of allowing backyard hens within the city limits.

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I have to say that I am incredibly dissappointed that we are even at this place where the City Council is even considering rescinding the hen ordinance over a frivolous lawsuit. I was just starting to believe that maybe everyday citizens actually could have a voice. Maybe we actually could make a difference in our community for the better if we just got involved in the process. After learning of the 6-1 vote in a closed door session to consider rescinding the hen ordinance, I have serious doubts that any of our government actually works for the people.

I hope that the City Council of Bakersfield will uphold and not rescind the ordinance that was passed allowing backyard hens. I hope that they will actually fullfill their obligation to our community and support what the majority of their constituents have requested.

Sincerely,

Janie Boland

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Jay Clayton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding of Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:46:53 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly oppose rescinding the fair and reasonable chicken ordinance that was passed by the city council last year.

Jay Clayton
2236 San Emidio st. 93304

From: jeanette@jeanetteredstone.com
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:53:41 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:
I support the Backyard Hen Initiative and ask you not to rescind the previously approved ordinance that allowed backyard hens. Hens are quiet pets that do not cause harm to others. They can also provide food for families with their eggs. In these uncertain economic times, a few eggs a day could be a huge blessing to a struggling family. Please do not bow down to the frivolous environmental lawsuit against the initiative.
Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Jeanette Redstone
661-808-6222

From: [Jeff Murray](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard hen initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:28:57 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

From: [Jeffrey Maberry](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:18:11 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council Members,

I support your previously passed ordinance in favor of allowing backyard hens.

Thank you for your service,
Jeff Maberry

From: [Jenifer Pitcher](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [Eric Arias](#); [PD-PIO Council Member Gonzalez](#); ken@weircpa.com; [Robert Smith](#); [Bruce Freeman](#); [Patty Gray](#); [PD-PIO Council member Chris Parlier](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Cc: [Christian Clegg](#); [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#); [Kim Huckaby](#)
Subject: Bakersfield Association of REALTORS Comments on Item 8 F on City Council Agenda 2-3-2021
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:58:54 AM
Attachments: [BAOR Oppose Backyard Hens 01-29-2021 full analysis final.pdf](#)

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh and Members of the City Council,

I would like to respectfully submit the attached comment letter from the Bakersfield Association of REALTORS in regards to the Rescission of the Backyard Hen Ordinances (agenda item 8F) on the February 3 Bakersfield City Council Agenda.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this item. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 661-331-0484.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenifer Pitcher
Bakersfield Association of REALTORS
2300 Bahamas Dr.
Bakersfield, CA 93309
P|661.635.2052 F|661.405.0020 C|661.331.0484



January 29, 2021

Bakersfield City Council
1501 Truxtun Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mayor Goh and Members of the Council,

The Bakersfield Association of REALTORS®, the County’s largest trade association representing over 2,300 REALTOR® members in Bakersfield, continues to oppose the proposed backyard hen ordinance anticipated to be before your Council on February 3, 2021. We would like to thank you for your pragmatic approach and willingness to reconsider this matter. While our Association’s mission is to protect private property rights, we also support public policy that builds and maintains healthy and vibrant communities. We believe you should amend the current ordinance OR repeal it until a more thorough evaluation of the impacts on residential properties is conducted. We would like to reiterate the issues that we brought to your attention in October 2020 when this item was before you.

The **Background** section of this letter provides a summary of the key substantive provisions of the Hen Ordinance. The Background section then discusses some of the pros and cons of keeping and raising domestic hens on private property.

The **Analysis** section of this letter begins by comparing the proposed Hen Ordinance to hen ordinances adopted in six other California communities: Fresno, Modesto, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, and Anaheim. It then discusses similarities and differences between the proposed Hen Ordinance and the existing hen ordinances in these other communities. The Analysis section then addresses concerns about the Hen Ordinance and the process the City is undertaking. First, it reviews the proposed setback requirement under the Hen Ordinance and recommends that the Hen Ordinance be revised to contain a setback that would be measured from the property line, rather than from the location of an offsite residential building, as now proposed. Second, it discusses how the proposed standards for regulating noise and odor generated by hens are too subjective and would be difficult to enforce and vulnerable to challenge. Third, it notes that the City Council has not undertaken CEQA review of the Hen Ordinance and should do so before taking further action on it. Lastly, it points out that the Hen Ordinance has the potential to impact over 85,000 properties and over 200,000 residents and the City Council should not rush to adopt it without giving the public the opportunity for an in-person, open dialogue.

BACKGROUND

OVERVIEW OF THE HEN ORDINANCE

Below is our summary of the key substantive provisions of the Hen Ordinance.

Key Definitions: Under existing Chapter 6.08 of the Municipal Code, the keeping of “fowl” is allowed in an enclosed yard or pen on property located within an agricultural zone or residential suburban zone.¹ While existing Chapter 6.08 treats all types of “fowl” the same, the proposed Hen Ordinance would insert the following definitions in order to regulate hens differently than roosters and other types of fowl.

“**Fowl**” means a duck, goose, rooster, turkey, or other poultry, except a hen as defined herein.²

¹ Municipal Code § 6.08 (available online at <https://bakersfield.municipal.codes/Code/6.08>).

² Hen Ord. §§ 6.08.010, 6.09.010.

“**Hen**” means a female chicken (subspecies *Gallus gallus domesticus*), specifically excluding a male chicken or rooster.³

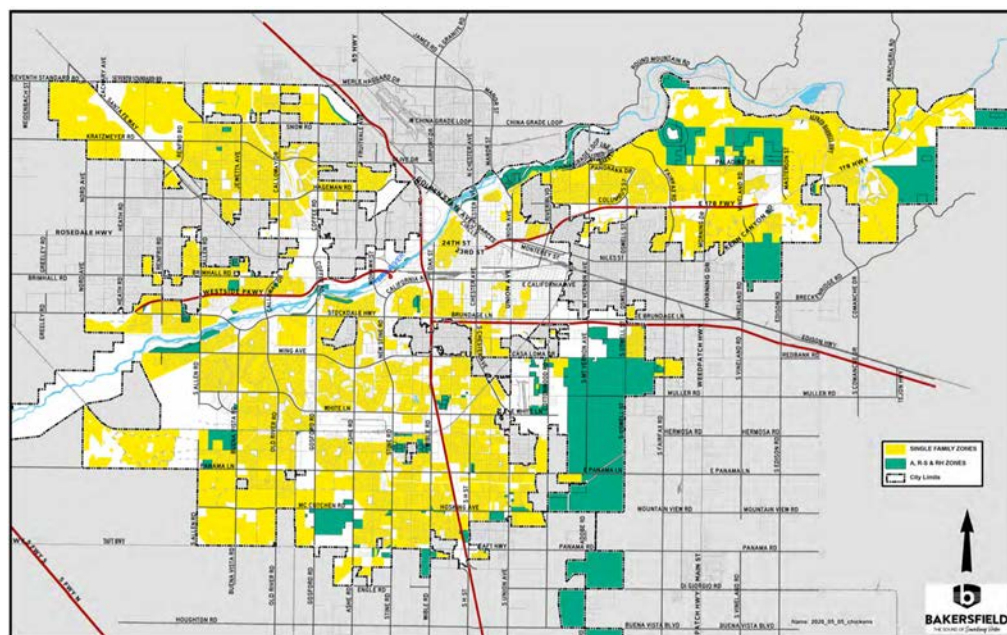
“**Rooster**” means a male chicken (subspecies *Gallus gallus domesticus*).⁴

“**Coop, Enclosure, Henhouse, or Hen Tractor**” mean a structure that allows for securely locking hens in at night. A henhouse is stationary while a hen tractor is moveable. An enclosure or coop could refer to either.⁵

“**Rear yard**” means an open unoccupied space on the same lot with the main building between the rear line of the nearest vertical support or wall of the main building or enclosed or covered porch attached thereto and the rear line of the lot and extending the full width of the lot.⁶

Hens Permitted in the R-1 Zone: The Hen Ordinance permits the keeping of hens in the R-1 Zone, subject to the requirements of proposed Chapter 6.09. In the map below, the R-1 Zone is shown in yellow, while the Agricultural (A), Residential Suburban (R-S), and Residential Holding (R-H) Zones—where the keeping of hens was previously permitted—is shown in green.⁷ The Hen Ordinance continues to permit the keeping of hens in the A, R-S, and R-H Zones.⁸

Figure 1: Map of R-1 Zone (Yellow) and A, R-S, and R-H Zones (Green) in Bakersfield



Hen Keeping Standards: Chapter 6.09 established the following requirements and restrictions for keeping hens in the City.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Hen Ord. § 6.09.010.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ The map is attached to an Administrative Report to the City Council for the August 12, 2020 public workshop (available at <https://bakersfield.novusagenda.com/AgendaPublic/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=7869&MeetingID=583>).

⁸ Hen Ord. § 6.09.020.

- Purpose: Hens are allowed only for egg laying and/or pet companionship in the R-1 and R-S Zones.⁹
- Number of Hens Allowed: The maximum number of hens allowed per rear yard is based on how far the hen enclosure is set back from any off-site residential building as shown in the following table:¹⁰

Table 1: Number of Hens Allowed per Rear Yard

Distance from Hen Enclosure to Nearest Off-Site Residential Building	Maximum Number of Hens Allowed
10 feet	4
15 feet	6
20 feet	8
30 feet	12

Note Regarding the Alternative Draft Ordinance: City staff previously provided the City Council with an alternative draft of Chapter 6.09 (the “Alternative Draft Ordinance”) that proposed to establish a flat maximum of 12 hens per rear yard¹¹ and a flat setback requirement of 30 feet from the hen enclosure to the nearest offsite residential building.¹² Except for the maximum hen limitation and the setback requirement, the requirements of the Alternative Draft Ordinance are the same as the Hen Ordinance. In voting to approve the Hen Ordinance on September 23rd, the City Council effectively rejected the Alternative Draft Ordinance.

- Hen Enclosure Requirements: The Hen Ordinance requires that hens be kept in an enclosure or the fenced rear yard at all times. Moreover, all hens have to be secured in a henhouse or hen tractor during non-daylight hours. The enclosures have to be “kept clean, dry, odor-free, and sanitary at all times” and owners have to provide the hens with “adequate ventilation and water” and “adequate exposure to sun and shade.”¹³
- Odor and Noise Standards: The Hen Ordinance requires that “hen manure, hen odor, or other hen related substances ... not be perceptible beyond the property boundaries such that it would cause discomfort or disturb persons.”¹⁴ It also requires that hen noise “not be loud enough” to cause “discomfort or annoyance” beyond the property boundaries.¹⁵

⁹ Hen Ord. § 6.09.030.

¹⁰ Hen Ord. § 6.09.040.

¹¹ Alternative Ord. § 6.09.040.

¹² Alternative Ord. § 6.09.050.F.

¹³ Hen Ord. § 6.09.050.

¹⁴ Hen Ord. § 6.09.060.A.

¹⁵ Hen Ord. § 6.09.060.B.

- **Feed and Water Requirements:** Section 6.09.070 of the Hen Ordinance requires that every hen be given access to feed and clean water in a manner that provides for their good health and basic needs.

Prohibited Acts: The Hen Ordinance makes it unlawful to allow a hen to roam outside of an enclosed rear yard or to keep a hen on undeveloped land.¹⁶ In addition, the breeding of hens for resale purposes, hen fertilizer production for resale purposes, and egg production for resale purposes is prohibited in the R-1 and R-S Zones.¹⁷

Penalty: Violations of the Hen Ordinance are punishable as an infraction, misdemeanor or administrative penalty and subject to penalty of up to \$50 for the first violation, \$100 for a second violation within 1 year, and \$250 for each additional violation within 1 year.¹⁸

PROS AND CONS OF KEEPING HENS FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES

Over the last decade, American cities have seen an increase in the movement towards bringing agricultural practices into urban settings.¹⁹ One commentator attributes this movement to people wanting to take control over their own food, starting with the source of the food, after learning of the problems with our modern commercial agricultural practices.²⁰ A significant portion of the urban agricultural movement involves urban animal husbandry, particularly the keeping and raising of chickens.²¹ The following is a summary of the “pros” and “cons” commonly associated with the domestic keeping and raising of chickens in urban settings, based on a review of several environmental and planning articles on the subject.²² **Note:** Many of the pros and cons discussed below were also identified in a presentation given by staff at a City Council Workshop on August 12, 2020.

Pros

- **Fresh and Nutritious Eggs:** Eggs produced from domestically raised hens reportedly taste better and are more nutritious.²³ Most eggs in commercial production are weeks or months old before they reach the point of sale in a grocery store,²⁴ while eggs produced by a backyard hen can be eaten as soon as the same day they are laid. Eggs laid by backyard hens are also more nutritious because they can forage in the backyard for fresh grass and other

¹⁶ Hen Ord. §§ 6.09.080, 6.09.090.A.

¹⁷ Hen Ord. § 6.09.090.B-D.

¹⁸ Hen Ord. §§ 6.09.100; 1.40.010.A.

¹⁹ Jaime Bouvier, *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry and a Model Ordinance for Regulating City Chickens*, 42 ENVTL. L. REP. NEWS & ANALYSIS 10888 (SEPTEMBER 2012) (hereinafter “*Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry*”).

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² See generally *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry*; Urban Livestock, American Planning Association (available at <https://www.planning.org/knowledgebase/urbanlivestock/>); and Patricia Salkin, *Feeding the Locavores, One Chicken at a Time: Regulating Backyard Chickens*, ZONING AND PLANNING LAW REPORT (March 2011).

²³ *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry* at 3.

²⁴ *Id.*

greens, whereas commercially produced eggs have a standardized diet. Scientific nutritional analysis shows that eggs laid in the backyard contain one-third less cholesterol, one-fourth less saturated fat, two-thirds more vitamin-A, twice the omega-3 fatty acids, three times more vitamin-E, and seven times more beta-carotene than commercially-raised store bought eggs.²⁵

- Companionship as Pets: People who raise hens consider them to be pets and part of the family, just like any other domestic pet. Hens are said to have their own personality that their owners bond with.²⁶ Currently, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people are spending more time at home and may feel they can benefit from the companionship of a household pet.
- Pest Control: Hens eat insects such as ants, spiders, ticks, fleas, slugs, roaches, beetles, worms, small snakes, and small mice. Therefore, the presence of hens in a backyard can help to remove pesky insects and eliminate the need to use harsh chemicals for the prevention of insects and other pests.²⁸

Cons

- Noise: A common concern over the raising and keeping of hens is their noise production. The average noise level of a clucking hen is about 65 decibels, which is comparable to human conversation. (By contrast, a rooster's crowing registers around 130 decibels).²⁹ The more hens in a backyard, the more noise that would be generated, thereby increasing the likelihood of disturbing neighboring property owners.
- Odor: The odor produced from hen waste is a common concern voiced by people who live near domestically raised backyard hens. Reportedly, most of the odor associated with hens is actually ammonia, which is typically the product of poor ventilation or a moist coop or enclosure.³⁰
- Spread of Disease: The avian flu and salmonella are two diseases that are commonly transferred from poultry to humans.³¹ Hens are just like any other household pet and can transfer illness to humans. Disease may be spread within the household due to a failure to keep the enclosures clean and failure to wash hands after touching the hens.³²
- Impact on Property Values: Another common concern associated with the domestic raising of hens in backyards is that it will reduce the surrounding property values. Local Appraisers have submitted opinions regarding negative impacts on property values. However, according to one article on the topic of municipal regulation of backyard poultry, though the argument can certainly be made, there is no study to date that definitively attributes a decrease in property values to the domestic raising of hens.³³

²⁵ *Id.* at 3-4 (citing Robert & Hannah Litt, *A Chicken in Every Yard* at 179 (2011)).

²⁶ *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry* at 4.

²⁷ *Id.* It is not clear whether this price range is accurate for Bakersfield.

²⁸ *Id.* at 4-5.

²⁹ "Roosters are as Deafening as Jet Engines but Insanely Advanced Ears Protect Their Hearing," *Newsweek* (available online at: <https://www.newsweek.com/roosters-are-loud-enough-deafen-humans-insanely-advanced-ears-protect-their-787043>).

ANALYSIS

PART 1

COMPARISON OF THE HEN ORDINANCE WITH HEN ORDINANCES ADOPTED BY OTHER CALIFORNIA CITIES

In order to provide some additional perspective on the substantive terms of the Bakersfield Hen Ordinance, the table on the following page compares the key substantive components of the Hen Ordinance with a sampling of hen ordinances adopted by other California cities.

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³⁰ *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry* at 5 (citing Doug Gurian Sherman, *CAFOS Uncovered, The Untold Costs of Animal Feeding Operations*, UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS (Apr. 2008) (available online at: www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/food_and_agriculture/cafos-uncovered.pdf).

³¹ *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry* at 6.

³² *Id.*

³³ *Id.* at 7.

Table 2: Comparison of Municipal Hen Ordinances

STANDARD OR REQUIREMENT	MUNICIPALITY						
	Bakersfield	Fresno ³⁴	Modesto ³⁵	San Bernardino ³⁶	Riverside ³⁷	San Diego ³⁸	Anaheim ³⁹
Permitted in Single-Family Zoning Districts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maximum number of Hens	4 to 12 ⁴⁰	12 per acre	12	2 to 24 ⁴¹	5 to 50 ⁴²	5 to 25 ⁴³	1 per 1,800 s.f. lot area
Minimum Lot Size (square feet)	6,000	36,000	5,000 ⁴⁴	None	20,000 ⁴⁵	1 acre	1,800
Minimum Setback from On-Site Residence	None	None	40 feet	50 or 100 feet ⁴⁶	50 or 100 feet ⁴⁷	50 feet	None
Minimum Setback from Property Line	None	40 feet	5 to 15 feet ⁴⁸	None	None	25 feet	20 feet
Minimum Setback from Off-Site Residence	10 to 30 feet ⁴⁹	50 feet	40 feet	50 or 100 feet ⁵⁰	50 or 100 feet ⁵¹	25 to 50 feet ⁵²	50 feet
Enclosure Requirement	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nighttime Henhouse or Hen Tractor Requirement	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Odor and Noise Standards	Yes	No	Subject to noise regulations	Subject to noise regulations	No	No	Subject to noise regulations

Comment: Based on the comparison of municipal hen ordinances outlined in Table 2, there appears to be a consensus with regard to the types of regulations that should be included in a municipal backyard hen ordinance, but little agreement with regard to the specifics of those regulations. For example, while all seven ordinances surveyed contain a minimum setback from off-site residences, the setback distances range from a low of 10 feet in the Bakersfield Hen Ordinance up to a high of 100 feet in San Bernardino. Similarly, while all but one city (San Bernardino) imposes a minimum lot area requirement on the keeping of hens, the lot area

³⁴ Fresno Zoning Code § 15-2707.

³⁵ Modesto Zoning Code § 10-3.202.

³⁶ San Bernardino Municipal Code § 6.05.

³⁷ Riverside Zoning Code §§ 19.100, 19.455.

³⁸ San Diego Municipal Code § 42.0709(e) and San Diego Zoning Code § Chapter 13, Article 1.

³⁹ Anaheim Zoning Code § 18.38.030.

⁴⁰ Based on distance of enclosure from any offsite residential building.

⁴¹ Based on distance hens are kept from any residential building.

⁴² Based on distance hens are kept from any offsite residential building. Additional hens may be permitted subject to a conditional use permit.

⁴³ Based on existing setback requirements.

⁴⁴ Based on minimum lot size requirement for residential districts that allow this use.

⁴⁵ Based on minimum lot size requirement for residential districts that allow this use.

⁴⁶ 50 feet for up to 2 hens, 100 feet for more than 2 hens

⁴⁷ RA-5 and RC Zoning Districts only. 50 feet for up to 5 hens, 100 feet for up to 50 hens.

⁴⁸ Based on number of stories per dwelling

⁴⁹ Based on number of hens allowed per rear yard.

⁵⁰ 50 feet for up to 2 hens, 100 feet for more than 2 hens

⁵¹ 50 feet for up to 5 hens, 100 feet for up to 50 hens.

⁵² Based on number of hens allowed per rear yard.

requirements vary widely from a low of 1,800 square feet per hen in Anaheim to a high of one acre in San Diego. The chicken regulations at Section 42.0709 of the SD Code do not specify a minimum lot area requirement, but Table 131-04B of the SD Zoning Code permits “Raising, Maintaining & Keeping of Animals” as an accessory use only in the Residential Estate (RE) zones, which have minimum lot size requirements of 1 acre on up to 10 acres. Read together these provisions would appear to create a minimum lot area requirement for the raising and keeping of chickens in a residential zone. Unfortunately, the term Raising, Maintaining & Keeping of Animals is not defined in the code, resulting in some ambiguity. We did not confirm with San Diego how it interprets the relationship between the foregoing provisions, but given the ambiguity it is possible that the city interprets Table 131-04B as not applying to chickens.

There is also a divergence with regard to how certain standards are calculated. For example, while two cities have set a fixed cap on the number of hens allowed per property, the other five cities use a variable cap based on lot area. Anaheim, for example, permits one hen per 1,800 square feet of lot area. Another area where the sample group diverges is the minimum setback from off-site residential buildings; three cities have a uniform fixed setback distance, while four cities (including Bakersfield) have a variable standard based on the number of hens kept on the property.

As discussed further below, the only aspect of the Bakersfield Hen Ordinance that stands out as an outlier among the sample group of municipal hen ordinances is the required minimum setback distance from off-site residential buildings. Bakersfield’s minimum setback requirement—which ranges from a low of 10 feet for four or fewer hens to a high of 30 feet for nine to twelve hens—is *less than half* of the next lowest setback distance (San Diego’s range of 25 feet to 50 feet) and just *one-fifth* of the 50-foot minimum setback requirement adopted by the majority of cities in the sample group.

The Bakersfield Hen Ordinance is also unique in that it requires the hens to be kept within their coops or enclosures during the overnight hours. Other cities do not impose this restriction. Bakersfield’s Hen Ordinance also imposes both noise and odor standards on backyard hens, however, as discussed below, these standards may be too subjective and vague to be enforceable as a practical matter.

PART 2

ISSUES RAISED BY THE BAKERSFIELD HEN ORDINANCE

Issue: The Hen Ordinance should be amended to include a minimum setback distance from the property line.

The Bakersfield Hen Ordinance contains a variable setback requirement, measured from the hen enclosure to nearest off-site residential building, based on the number of hens kept on a property. For example, a hen enclosure with four or fewer hens must be at least 10 feet from the nearest off-site residential building, while an enclosure with ten hens must be at least 30 feet from the nearest off-site residential building.⁵³ This type of setback requirement is a common one—all of the municipal hen ordinances surveyed in Table 2 above have a minimum setback from off-site residential buildings requirement. But it is not the only type of setback requirement—many other municipalities surveyed all also impose setbacks from the property line. Moreover, the setbacks from off-site residential buildings in the Hen Ordinance are significantly less than the comparable setbacks in the other ordinances surveyed, and arguably do not adequately protect adjoining properties from the negative impacts of backyard hens.

⁵³ Hen Ord. § 6.09.040.

In practice, a minimum setback requirement measured from a hen enclosure to off-site residential buildings may provide little or no protection to neighboring yards. Depending on how far a neighboring home is setback from its own property line, the proposed setback requirement could allow a hen enclosure to be placed right at the property line. For example, if my rear yard directly abuts my neighbor's rear yard and my neighbor's house is 20 feet from our common property line, the Hen Ordinance would allow the neighbor to place an enclosure with eight hens right at the property line. In this scenario, while my home arguably would be protected, to some extent, by the 20-foot setback requirement, my backyard would enjoy no such protection. In fact, virtually any use of my backyard, such as a barbeque, children playing, or gardening likely would put my family just feet (possibly inches) away from my neighbor's hens. This is problematic, because the closer people get to a hen enclosure, the more they will be exposed to their negative impacts, including the risk of disease transmission, odor, and noise.

One way to address this concern would be to add an additional setback requirement measured from the hen enclosure to the property line, which would better protect neighboring properties by ensuring that the hen enclosure is kept an appropriate distance from neighboring yards.⁵⁴ This setback approach is used by four of the six municipal hen ordinances surveyed in Table 2—Fresno, Modesto, San Diego, and Anaheim. In fact, the July 19, 2020 Administrative Report from the Development Services Director to the Mayor and City Council identified “setback of animal enclosure [from the] property line” as a restriction that the City Council should have considered including in the Hen Ordinance. We recommend this issue be considered for an amendment to the ordinance.

One possible approach would be to establish a minimum property line setback for hen enclosures that matches the existing R-1 Zone setback requirement of 25 feet or 20% of the depth of the lot, whichever is less.⁵⁵

The Bakersfield Association of REALTORS® believes that the setback requirement from off-site residential buildings is not sufficient to protect neighboring properties and residents from the negative impacts of backyard hens, including the potential for disease transmission, odor, and noise. The Association urges the City Council to amend the Hen Ordinance to include a requirement that hen enclosures also be setback a minimum distance from the rear and side property lines, as many other California cities have done. We also recommend that the City use the existing R-1 Zone setback requirement of not less than 25 feet or 20% of the depth of the lot, whichever is less as the basis for establishing a minimum property line setback for hen enclosures.⁵⁶

⁵⁴ *Illegal Fowl: A Survey of Municipal Laws Relating to Backyard Poultry* at 22.

⁵⁵ Zoning Code § 17.10.060.

⁵⁶ *Id.*

Issue: The adopted odor and noise standards of Section 6.09.060 are subjective and vague.

Section 6.09.060 of the Hen Ordinance requires that “hen manure, hen odor, or other hen related substances shall not be perceptible beyond the property boundaries such that it would cause *discomfort or disturb* persons.”⁵⁷ It also requires that hen noise “not be loud enough” to cause “*discomfort or annoyance*” beyond the property boundaries.⁵⁸ While these odor and noise standards presumably are intended to protect neighboring residents from the potential negative impacts of hens, they are arguably so subjective and vague that they are essentially unenforceable. Questions about whether a particular odor or noise causes “discomfort” or “disturbs” or “annoys” a person are entirely subjective – what one person may find annoying may not bother another person at all. Additionally, Section 6.09.060 lacks any objective standards for determining whether a particular odor or noise causes discomfort or disturbs or annoys, leaving it unclear how the City would decide what constitutes an odor or noise violation under the Hen Ordinance. This may quickly result in wasted City staff time responding to code compliance complaints that cannot be resolved. As a practical matter, these standards would be very difficult to enforce in a consistent way across the City.

The lack of clarity and certainty in the adopted odor and noise standards leaves Section 6.09.060 subject to arbitrary and discretionary interpretation, application, and enforcement because it leaves hen owners, neighbors, and City staff guessing as to whether the odor from the hen coop at a particular property causes discomfort or disturbs persons, or what level of hen noise reasonably causes discomfort or annoys. As a result, Section 6.09.060 may be susceptible to challenge under the “void for vagueness” doctrine, which is rooted in the procedural due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. A recent California case states that a statute or ordinance is unconstitutionally vague if it “either forbids or requires the doing of an act in terms so vague that [people] of common intelligence must necessarily guess at its meaning and differ as to its application.”⁵⁹

The Bakersfield Association of REALTORS® believes that the odor and noise standards of the Hen Ordinance are so subjective and vague that they are unenforceable as a practical matter. We must also point out that whether a particular level and type of noise or odor causes discomfort or is disturbing or annoying is not an objective standard and would lead to inconsistent interpretation and application. The Association would like to know whether the City has considered the risk that enforcement actions under Section 6.09.060 may be vulnerable to challenge under the “void for vagueness” doctrine.

⁵⁷ Hen Ord. § 6.09.060.A (emphasis added).

⁵⁸ Hen Ord. § 6.09.060.B (emphasis added).

⁵⁹ *People v. Superior Court (J.C. Penney Corp., Inc.)*, 34 Cal.App.5th 376, 399 (2019).

Issue: The Hen Ordinance has not undergone an environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act.

One of the concerns raised by the Bakersfield Association of REALTORS® in previous comments on this subject, is that the Hen Ordinance has not undergone an environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”). The purpose of CEQA review is to provide decisionmakers with information about environmental impacts of proposed projects prior to granting approval and to allow the public adequate time to comment on the impacts of proposed changes in their community.⁶⁰ Proposed amendments to zoning ordinances are among the types of public agency actions that are subject to review under CEQA.⁶¹ This is because a zoning ordinance can result in a reasonably foreseeable change in the environment caused by the conduct or activity that the zoning ordinance proposes to permit.⁶² This concept was recently reaffirmed by the California Supreme Court.⁶³

The backyard hen ordinances adopted by other California cities have undergone CEQA review. For example, before its city council reviewed and voted on an ordinance permitting the keeping hens in residential zoning districts, the City of La Mesa did a CEQA review.⁶⁴ During the initial study process, La Mesa determined that the proposed hen ordinance would not have an impact or would have a less than significant impact on aesthetics, air quality, land use and planning, noise, and other environmental considerations.⁶⁵ After conducting an initial study in compliance with CEQA, the La Mesa Planning Commission concluded that the proposed hen ordinance did not have the potential to create significant adverse impacts to the environment and prepared a Negative Declaration for the City Council’s consideration and adoption.⁶⁶

Other examples of recently adopted backyard hen ordinances that also were subject to an initial study under the CEQA include Placer County⁶⁷ and the City of Santa Rosa.⁶⁸

⁶⁰ “CEQA Basics,” California Office of Historic Preservation (available online at https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21721).

⁶¹ See CEQA § 21080(a).

⁶² *Union of Med. Marijuana Patients, Inc. v. City of San Diego*, 7 Cal. 5th 1171 (2019) (finding that a proposed zoning amendment to allow for marijuana dispensaries in the City was a “project” that triggered CEQA review since it was foreseeable that the ordinance could cause indirect physical changes to the environment due to the potential for new construction.)

⁶³ *Id.*

⁶⁴ See “Environmental Initial Study Domestic Poultry General Plan and Zoning Ordinance Amendment” (available at <http://www.cityoflamesa.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/4459?fileID=10528>).

⁶⁵ *Id.*

⁶⁶ *Id.*

⁶⁷ Placer County adopted a Negative Declaration under the CEQA based on a finding that the proposed ordinance would not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. See https://www.placer.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11684/bosd_110208_03_p3_p154-PDF.

⁶⁸ City of Santa Rosa hen ordinance reviewed in compliance with the CEQA. See <http://www.westernfarmcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/santa-rosa-city-chicken-ordinance-3994.pdf>.

There is no indication that the City of Bakersfield did a CEQA analysis of the adopted Hen Ordinance. Neither the text of the Hen Ordinance nor the supporting materials prepared by City staff, including the City Attorney's September 4, 2020 memorandum and the Administrative Report on "Urban Hens" dated July 19, 2020, contains any mention of a CEQA study having been done in connection with the Hen Ordinance.

The Hen Ordinance is a zoning ordinance that arguably has the potential to cause a direct or indirect physical change to the environment. Other municipalities considering the adoption of similar hen ordinances have conducted an initial study in compliance with CEQA before adopting their ordinance.

We urge the Council to repeal the Hen Ordinance and conduct a study to determine whether an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or a Negative Declaration should be prepared, before bringing another proposed ordinance to your Council for consideration. In addition, we recommend that *if* a new proposed ordinance is brought back before your Council after a CEQA analysis, it be done in a manner that allows for adequate public participation. One of the previous issues the Bakersfield Association of REALTORS® had with the current ordinance is that it underwent a rushed public process, during a time when the public had limited access to participate in the public hearings.

In short, we believe this is first and foremost a zoning issue and should be treated as such, including setbacks that would be measured from the property line rather than from the location of an offsite residential building. We also believe the proposed standards for regulating noise and odor generated by hens are too subjective and would be difficult to enforce, leaving the City vulnerable to challenges. The fact that the Ordinances will potentially impact over 85,000 properties and over 200,000 residents is reason to require a full CEQA analysis, which has not been completed for this matter.

On behalf of our Associations' leadership and members, we thank you for your leadership and consideration of our feedback on this matter. Given the concerns raised, we urge the Council to repeal or amend the ordinance per the above recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Newport", with a stylized, cursive script.

Ronda Newport
President, Bakersfield Association of REALTORS®

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Jenifer Pitcher](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Bakersfield Association of REALTORS Comments on Item 8 F on City Council Agenda 2-3-2021
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 6:12:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Jenifer,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Jenifer Pitcher [mailto:jenifer@bakersfieldrealtor.org]

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:58 AM

To: City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>; Eric Arias <ariaseric7@gmail.com>; PD-PIO Council Member Gonzalez <andraeg3000@gmail.com>; ken@weircpa.com; Robert Smith <Bob@smithtechusa.com>; Bruce Freeman <freebmorton@yahoo.com>; Patty Gray <patty@dreammakerbakersfield.com>; PD-PIO Council member Chris Parlier <chrisparlier@sbcglobal.net>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Cc: Christian Clegg <cclegg@bakersfieldcity.us>; Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro <vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us>; Kim Huckaby <kim@bakersfieldrealtor.org>

Subject: Bakersfield Association of REALTORS Comments on Item 8 F on City Council Agenda 2-3-2021

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh and Members of the City Council,

I would like to respectfully submit the attached comment letter from the Bakersfield Association of REALTORS in regards to the Rescission of the Backyard Hen Ordinances (agenda item 8F) on the February 3 Bakersfield City Council Agenda.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this item. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 661-331-0484.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenifer Pitcher

Bakersfield Association of REALTORS

2300 Bahamas Dr.

Bakersfield, CA 93309

P|661.635.2052 F|661.405.0020 C|661.331.0484

From: [Jennifer Clayton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding the Chicken Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:21:49 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

We strongly oppose rescinding the reasonable and fair chicken ordinance that was passed by the City Council last year. To allow an anonymous group and meritless lawsuit to bully the Council into rescinding this ordinance sets a precedent that the people of Bakersfield can not trust their elected City Council members to support them. This ordinance was written and passed in good faith and people believed that our council, who represents us, would continue to support it.

Please do not vote to rescind this ordinance.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Clayton

From: [Jennifer Constantine](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:39:19 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I've been following with interest the details of the hen ordinance. I am opposed to you rescinding the ordinance. I also would not like to see city dollars used to pay the attorney fees of the group who is opposed. This issue was decided.

Thank you,

Jennifer Constantine

--

Jen Constantine Jennconstantine@gmail.com 661-619-2504

From: [Jennifer Kirstine](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:45:16 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

Soli Deo Gloria

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Jennifer Kirstine](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance (Jennifer Kirstine)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:16:09 PM

Good evening, Ms. Kirstine,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Jennifer Kirstine [<mailto:jennkirstine@gmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:49 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

Soli Deo Gloria

From: [Jennifer Leflar](#)
To: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 5:08:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

From: [Jennifer Phillips](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Regarding hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:28:13 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support back yard hens ! Thank you

Name: Jenny Sanchez

Number: (661) 348-1667

Message: I am calling to support the backyard hens. I believe people should have the freedom to have these special animals with the benefit of eggs, responsibility and reliability.

From: [Jeremy Doyle](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:00:48 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I have been a resident of Bakersfield since 2003. I love this city. I love raising my family here. It is a farm land and I would love to have a few chickens in my yard so that my kids can learn how to take care of them. Please pass the chicken ordinance and let us have just a few.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone
Jeremy Doyle

From: [Jessica Cadena](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: City Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:17:34 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
Jessica Cadena

From: [Jessica Regal](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose the rescinding of the hens ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:12:08 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the rescinding of the hens ordinance. My children are interested in caring for hens, raising them and enjoying the eggs produced. Do not rescind the ordinance for hens; they are beneficial for gardens, educational and allow for some home-grown protein for families. Hens are not loud and can be kept contained in coops. The residents want this ordinance and have asked for it for years.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for respecting the wishes of many families who would like to raise a few hens.

Jessica Champlin
Bakersfield Resident

From: [Jessie Fowler](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen initiative
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:19:10 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Sincerely,

Jessica Fowler

From: [Jill Burdick](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:59:46 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jocelyn Wolter](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT BACKYARD HENS
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:30:46 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good Evening,

Please stand your ground and respect the decision that was originally passed. Stand behind moving forward with the backyard hen ordinance. Do NOT bend to the threats of a few nameless cowards. Show them that the council sticks to its word. I know many people have sent fact, etc. of why you should approve backyard hens. Hens have many helpful benefits that outweigh any negative. I know several people in the neighborhood with hens, they have never caused any issues. I support my neighbors in their hobby, they should not have to live in fear of losing pets that are like family members.

BAKERSFIELD CITIZENS SUPPORT THE HEN ORDINANCE!!!

Thanks,
Jocelyn

From: [City Clerk](#)
To: jcoronado@tdhintl.net; [City Clerk](#)
Subject: RE: Feb. 3 - City Council Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:21:14 AM

Dear Johanna Coronado,

The City of Bakersfield prepares Action only minutes which only reflect the decisions, votes and referrals made by the Councilmembers and none of the discussions. We also include a brief summary of each public comment received.

Regards,

Julie Drimakis, CPMC, CMC | City Clerk
City of Bakersfield
email: jdrimakis@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3073

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

From: jcoronado@tdhintl.net <jcoronado@tdhintl.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:05 AM
To: City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Feb. 3 - City Council Comment

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City Clerk,

I want to bring to your attention that the City Manager's statement concerning Ms. Macias' January 20th public statement on sidewalks was not included in the minutes.

This is what the City Manager stated in both English and Spanish:

English: "We will do so."

Spanish: "Lo haremos."

I will appreciate your consideration on this matter.

Best,

Johanna Coronado

--

Johanna Coronado
Public Affairs Associate
TDH Associates International
Email: jcoronado@tdhintl.net

From: jcoronado@tdhintl.net
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Feb. 3 - City Council Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:05:19 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City Clerk,

I want to bring to your attention that the City Manager's statement concerning Ms. Macias' January 20th public statement on sidewalks was not included in the minutes.

This is what the City Manager stated in both English and Spanish:

English: "We will do so."

Spanish: "Lo haremos."

I will appreciate your consideration on this matter.

Best,

Johanna Coronado

--

Johanna Coronado

Public Affairs Associate

TDH Associates International

Email: jcoronado@tdhintl.net

From: [John Franke](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Right to Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:37:39 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can

Sincerely,
A chicken advocate

From: [John McCoy](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens!
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:37:05 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Sincerely,

John McCoy

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [John McCoy](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Support Backyard Hens!
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:56:43 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Mr. McCoy,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: John McCoy [mailto:johnmccoy1998@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:37 AM

To: City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>; City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>;
bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Support Backyard Hens!

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The

process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Sincerely,

John McCoy

Name: John Vanauken

Number: (661) 747-4277

Message: This is about keeping hens in backyards in Bakersfield. My daughter has chickens but she lives on a farm. If anybody says chickens are quiet and clean if taken care of properly, is lying. They're always squabbling and fighting over food. They molt, fly and wander wherever they want. Have you got enough code enforcers to remove roosters because they'll never stop crowing? My name is John Vanauken. 8908 Bakersfield, California. Thank you.

From: [Jonathan Hawes](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Public comment for next city council meeting
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:43:22 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good evening. My name is Jonathan Hawes. I served as El Monte City Clerk from 2013 to 2018. Since 2015 I have been a whistleblower on Andre Quintero and Team El Monte's embezzlement of \$10 million from the El Monte Promise Foundation scholarship fund. I have interviewed dozens of El Monte residents who have privately confirmed that Promise funds were used for fraudulent trips to Vietnam and Haiti, a bogus consultant in Salt Lake City, house repairs, and other criminal activities. I have myself been interviewed by the FBI about two dozen times. Documents proving the embezzlement have been submitted to the FBI and the District Attorney's Office and are now available to the public online (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1v434alh1dkikaj4TCNZLMsZkhfmtA8f/view?usp=drive_web). I am asking the Bakersfield City Council to call out these crimes and protect the vulnerable residents of one of the poorest cities in southern California. El Monte children, who should've been provided with college scholarships, were robbed. Andre Quintero and Team El Monte members must go to prison. If you have any questions, please call or text me at (626) 863-2149. Thank you.

Name: Jordan Kennedy

Number: (661) 979-0338

Message: I support backyard hens and the right to use your own property in a way that is reasonable, safe and enhances quality of life experience for families. Thank you for honoring your already-passed City ordinance. Jordan Kennedy. This is a general public comment.

From: [Jorge Talabong](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:11:18 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens in Bakersfield. Thank you.

Jorge Talabong
661-778-9340

From: [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
To: [Joshua Lewis](#)
Cc: [Julie Drimakis](#)
Subject: Re: hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:26:29 PM

Thank you Mr. Lewis for the email.

By cc to the City CLerk, I am asking her to make your comment part of the public statements and official record of Wednesday's Council meeting.

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 1, 2021, at 10:57 AM, Joshua Lewis <joshuallewis@gmail.com> wrote:

**Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield.
Think before you click!**

Dear Ms. Gennaro,

I respectfully ask that you stand by the council's decision to allow backyard hens. Regardless of how one feels about the issue, this is now much bigger than mere chickens. I am all for people pursuing wealth but the depth of one's pockets should not afford them an inflated voice in the political process. Do we really want a Beverly Hills lawyer coming to town at the behest of a few angry and wealthy men? This is a horrible precedent. On Wednesday you have an opportunity to demonstrate what the political process should be and stand up to those who would undermine it. Please...do the right thing.

All the best,
Joshua Lewis

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Joshua Lewis](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:59:05 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good morning, Mr. Lewis,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Joshua Lewis [mailto:joshuallewis@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:56 AM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: hen ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh,

I respectfully ask that you stand by the council's decision to allow backyard hens. Regardless of how one feels about the issue, this is now much bigger than mere chickens. I am all for people pursuing wealth but the depth of one's pockets should not afford them an inflated voice in the political process. Do we really want a Beverly Hills lawyer coming to town at the behest of a few angry and wealthy men? This is a horrible precedent. On Wednesday you have an opportunity to demonstrate what the political process should be and stand up to those who would undermine it. Please...do the right thing.

All the best,
Joshua Lewis

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: JPHampton@bak.rr.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose The Rescinding of the Bakersfield Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:00:31 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

My name is JP Hampton and I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Please do what is right and uphold the democratic process. Bakersfield is a leader in agriculture, so let's show it.

JP Hampton

From: [J'Resah Keeney](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:45:53 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.
Thanks,

J'Resah Keeney
Daughter of God
Grateful Believer in Jesus

From: [jtarula627](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:32:39 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens!

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [Julia Castillo](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: In favor of chicken ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:58:48 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Thank you,
Julia Castillo

From: [Justin Ader](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:56:05 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Justin K. Ader

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
- Romans 12:12

From: [Kailan Carr](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Opposition for rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:43:31 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I oppose rescinding the hen ordinance that was fairly and legally voted on and approved in October.

19 out of 35 cities in CA use the common sense CEQA exemption for backyard hens and 35 cities allow hens and no full "environmental review" has ever been done.

Hen supporters of Bakersfield are willing to work toward modifications on the ordinance.

This has become more about the democratic process than hens. This anonymous party is trying to strong arm the council and it will set a detrimental precedent for the future.

There IS legal precedent for the city to fight the case. Please support the many families who choose to have hens (again, not even roosters) so they can collect their own eggs.

Kailan Carr

From: [Kara Flockton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:50:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I am in favor of being allowed to choose for myself whether or not I want to raise hens for eggs. As a resident of the city of Bakersfield, at 11310 Pacific Shores Dr, I am asking you to allow city residents the option of raising hens if they so choose. Bakersfield has long supported self sufficiency and this is exactly that. Do the right thing for the people of our city and continue to allow us this choice.

Sincerely,

Kara Flockton
661-706-8911

From: [Karen Ash](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:12:06 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Attention Bruce Freeman,

This email is regarding my initial opposition to the Hen Ordinance which is now being resubmitted for the Council's review due to the fact that thousands of property owners/home owners were not informed and had no knowledge that this was up before the board in November of 2020. The council took it upon themselves to vote on this and now it's up for reconsideration.

I'm still opposed to this ordinance and have submitted a list of homeowners that are opposed to this ordinance also (2 images with names attached). If I had more notice, I could have submitted an even longer list of people in opposition of this issue.

In fact, 2 council members, Jacquie Sullivan and Willie Riviera, were not seeking reelection and their terms were up within 3 months and should not have voted on this issue for their constituents. Plus, Jackie Sullivan lived in a gated community and should have abstained from voting since it would not impact her residence.

The majority of property owners should have been surveyed and notified by mail.

Please vote to rescind this ordinance!

Sincerely,
Karen Ash
661-835-7837
7400 Eliso Court
Bakersfield, CA
93309

From: [Karen Crawford](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:16:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please, no hens allowed in Bakersfield.

I have emailed the Council a few times with my concerns.

I grew up with chicken next door. They are noisy, it smells, and the flies are horrendous. Could not enjoy outside with the summer months being the worst.

Karen Crawford
karen.crawfordy63@gmail.com

From: [Karen Welch](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:29:39 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it may concern, This is in my support for the backyard hen initiative that will be up for recension at the February 3rd meeting. I am asking that the council upholds its obligation with the previous ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. It is only right that the city upholds it's previous vote against this silly lawsuit. There is no basis for this lawsuit since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense waiver" and this is a terrible manipulation of the environmental protection law. Please, uphold the ordinance and uphold vote for November 2020 for legalizing hens for city residents. Thankyou

Sincerely, Karen Welch

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Karla Herrboldt](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Against Backyard Hens in Bakersfield city
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:45:16 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I was raised on a farm and I have experience with the chicken manure, disease, smell and work it takes to maintain chickens. This should not be allowed in Bakersfield city backyards. Backyards are too small and we do not have enough City personnel to oversee those who do not respect their neighbors and maintain their animals. Poultry mites/ticks are an example of this concern and may spread to humans and pets or other animals. My husband and I live in the city of Bakersfield - Laurel Glen and do not want backyard hens in our neighborhood.

Thank you.
Karla Herrboldt

From: [Katherine Winters](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard chickens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:13:07 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am in FULL support of people having the right to own their own chickens within the city limits.

I will not support or vote in the future for any city council members who try to stop the residents from owning backyard chickens.

--

Namaste,

Katherine G Winters

www.samsarawellnesscenter.com

www.whitewolfwellness.org

773.710.3518

The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any.

-Alice Walker

From: [Kathy SansSoucie](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:01:27 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to rescinding the hen ordinance and ask that you do not cower to the threats of a Beverly Hills lawyer and their anonymous clients.

The ordinance was passed and should have gone into effect in November.

Please do the right thing and stand by the original decision.

Thank you

Kathleen SansSoucie

Sent from my iPad

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Kathy SansSoucie](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: website email (Backyard Hens - Kathleen SansSoucie)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:32:50 PM

Good evening, Ms. SansSoucie,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Kathy SansSoucie [<mailto:kgsans@gmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:45 AM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: website email

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh,

I am writing to let you know I oppose the rescinding of the hen ordinance.

It saddens me that this ordinance was voted on twice and passed each time to then not go into effect because of a threat(bullying) by a Beverly Hills lawyer representing an anonymous group.

We have seen enough of these tactics on the Federal & State level and hope that you and the council members will stand by your original decision.

Thank you for your time.

Kathleen SansSoucie

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:57:14 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:45:16 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.

Mr. Ken Weir

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

Please take into consideration, everything that is written above, before you vote for chickens in the city.....Just think really hard to yourself how much you would like to look at a chicken coop in your backyard everyday.

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:57:09 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:45:16 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.

Mr. Bruce Freeman

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

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Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:54:28 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:52:22 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:45:16 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.

Mr. Chris Parlier

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with

family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

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Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:52:26 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:45:16 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.

Mr. Bob Smith

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

Please take into consideration, everything that is written above, before you vote for chickens in the city.....Just think really hard to yourself how much you would like to look at a chicken coop in your backyard everyday.

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:50:05 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: CHawks <2pc4me@reagan.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 2:45:16 PM PST
To: City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.

Mr. Eric Arias

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

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Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [CHawks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Please! No chickens in the City.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:45:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Mrs. Patty Gray

We do not want to have chicken coops & chickens in our Northwest neighborhood.

We have lived with this situation before and it was not pleasant. After months of complaining to code enforcement it was finally dismantled. Needless to say it did not make for a good neighbor situation. When we go into our backyard to enjoy our beautiful surroundings we do not want to see ugly chicken coops, smell poop, deal with more flies and listen to chicken noise. I know that you probably live in a very nice area, so I would like for you to go out into your backyard and think about what it would look like if you had a couple of neighbors with a chicken coop with chickens. I don't think you will like what you visualize, it will not be a pretty site or smell. You will also be embarrassed to have get togethers with family and friends outside. We have a big investment in our property and love our beautiful home & neighborhood.

Please take into consideration, everything that is written above, before you vote for chickens in the city.....Just think really hard to yourself how much you would like to look at a chicken coop in your backyard everyday.

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss this further.

Kathy Hawks
9711 Anaparno Court
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone # 391-8722

Sent from my iPad

From: [Katie Cerda](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Urban Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 5:32:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

My name is Katie Cerda, I am a resident of Bakersfield, and have been all my life. I am writing this email on behalf of myself and my local residents in opposition to the rewriting of the Urban Hen Ordinance. We as homeowners should be allowed to have hens raised on our property.

Thank you, Katie Cerda.

From: [Katie Copeland](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46:36 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I'm writing to voice my support for the hen ordinance which passed with a majority vote back in October. This is a meritless lawsuit that will set a precedent for future lawsuits which will cost the city more money. It is common practice to use the CEQA or common sense exemption. At least 19 other counties in California have use the exemption. I am also opposed to the city council paying for the opposition's legal fees based on such meritless claims. I believe the city council should stand by their original vote and ensure that the small percentage of Bakersfield residents who want hens can continue to raise them legally.

Thank you,
Katie Copeland

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [katie karsan](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Please have a law/ordinance letting Bakersfield residents keep chickens with no rooster. I am in favor of the legally amended ordinance to have them. Thank You Sincerely Kay Till (Kay Till - Katie Karsan)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:31:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Till,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm. (Clerk: Correspondence is in the email subject line)

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: katie karsan [mailto:katiekarsan@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:36 AM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Please have a law/ordinance letting Bakersfield residents keep chickens with no rooster. I am in favor of the legally amended ordinance to have them. Thank You Sincerely Kay Till

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Keith Shotts](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:36:11 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens for residential single family homes. The city council should stand by the decision they previously took to support the ordinance. Keith Shotts

From: [Kelly Kasperowicz Castruita](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:33:01 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Thank you for your time,
Kelly Castruita

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kelsey Doyle](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:31:40 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello! I just wanted to send a quick email to say that our family is hoping to be able to own chickens in the city of Bakersfield soon. Our son especially would love to have them as pets as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration with this!

-Kelsey

From: [Kevster Lugster](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Public Statement Council Meeting 2/3/2021
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:26:12 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing to advocate for the Backyard Hens movement. I oppose resending the ordinance and believe the decisions made last summer should be upheld.

From: [Kim Chaney](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:50:32 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am sending you this email asking you to please NOT overturn the city ordinance allowing homeowners to raise chickens in their backyards! Please do not let a small group of people ruin it for those of us who would enjoy having our own little flock running around the pen & providing us with fresh eggs! I live downtown & owning chickens is a part of the downtown culture! Please do not give in to this group who oppose the ordinance. Thank you!

Kimberly Chaney

Sent from my iPhone

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Kim Ouska](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#); [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
Subject: RE: Hen Ordinance and CA Department of Interior statement (Kim Ouska)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:02:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Ms. Ouska,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Kim Ouska [mailto:kim.ouska@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 7:22 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Hen Ordinance and CA Department of Interior statement

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council and other city officials,

I am writing today because I would like my family's opinion and the research I have found to be read and considered when the council makes their decision about the hen ordinance and the potential lawsuit that might be coming. We ask for more time and more research to be done before deciding a future of the backyard hen ordinance.

I am including a link to a statement from California Interior Health with regards to backyard hens. I will quote the most important line from the document, "Thus, Interior Health neither supports, nor is opposed to, allowing backyard chickens within municipal boundaries, if appropriate protocols are in place and enforced." Based on this statement, our city council would be safe in using the "common sense" exemption from conducting a SEQA study.

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourHealth/HealthyLiving/FoodSecurity/Documents/Food-UrbanHens.pdf>

In addition, in all of my research, I have not found even one California City that has performed an Environmental Impact Report in order to approve backyard hens. Many cities have approved their own backyard hen ordinances using the same exemption the council has already stated. The current precedent stands with the previous decision to approve the ordinance.

I did find one city in Oregon that performed an environmental study. To summarize, their study did approve the backyard hen ordinance with specific stipulations. Here is a quote from page 4 of this study "1.4 RECOMMENDATION After considering the impacts of the three options, the preferred course of action is the Alternative Action Number One. We developed this alternative as a compromise between environmental degradation and important community values. After completing this EIA, we feel that the stipulations of this ordinance mitigate environmental impacts enough that the implementation of Alternative Ordinance Number Two, completely banning chickens, is unnecessary."

From pages 1-2, here is what they stipulated in their recommended ordinance "Alternative Ordinance Number One would entail chicken ownership through a new re-structured ordinance, limiting the number of chickens to twenty per acre, requiring that all chickens remain confined, and banning chickens in city limits that are part of the Lake Whatcom Watershed (Appendix 5.1.3). This 2 ordinance emphasizes proper waste management and acknowledges the Critical Areas Ordinance. Full disclosure of chicken ownership would be ensured by mandated permits, which would be obtained through the Whatcom Humane Society. We developed this ordinance based on the Best Management Practices (BMPs) suggested for small farms by the Whatcom Conservation District (WCD). They developed guidelines for small farmers to best mitigate manure impacts generated by chickens. We feel that the restrictions in this ordinance are an appropriate compromise between community values and environmental stewardship. Twenty chickens per acre (or five chickens per quarter acre, which is the average size of a city lot) will allow families to own enough chickens to meet their egg demand, while limiting the amount of manure produced to an amount that can be managed with BMPs."

https://cedar.wvu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1055&context=huxley_stupubs&fbclid=IwAR1wDVeb9zkoDHTtd477SXEVSUZuM6oDMnVdTVE15-xt13MfKqDPD_OJMjQ

In summary, these resources demonstrate that there is significant reason to believe that the "common sense" SEQA exemption applies to the ordinance of backyard hens in Bakersfield. We implore you to allow us more time to research and produce facts to support the city council's previous decision.

From: [KimberLeigh Womack](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:57:03 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kimberly Klaas](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:29:50 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern:

I oppose rescinding the hen ordinance. And frankly the fact that you are letting these people bully you and take control of the council in this way is embarrassing for you. Or at least it should be.

Kimberly Cuhendis-Klaas
415-299-5675 cell

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kristianna Serrano](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:10:43 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

‘I support the backyard hen ordinance’

From: [Kristina Stone](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: City Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:36:32 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing this email in support of equitable opportunity for hen ownership within the city limits of Bakersfield, CA. Though I am not in a position to own hens, I do not support the rescinding of our local hen ordinance and I fully support our local hen community in their journey to become self sufficient homesteads. Denying this opportunity to the entire city is an additional governmental control once again infringing on personal freedoms.

As a taxpaying constituent, I ask that the recent hen ordinance voted in by the counsel remain.

Thank you

Kristina Clark
817 Quail Ln, Bakersfield, CA 93309

From: [Larry Bright](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb 3. Item f (hen ordinance).
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:03:20 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to allowing backyard hens in Bakersfield. R-1 has never allowed hens in backyards in Bakersfield. It is simply not fair to change the rules after the fact.

From: [Larry Brown](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:15:33 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I don't agree with the council rescinding the hen ordinance.

Sent from my iPhoneLLB

From: [Leah Carr](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:23 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I oppose rescinding the hen ordinance that was fairly and legally voted on and approved in October.

19 out of 35 cities in CA use the common sense CEQA exemption for backyard hens and 35 cities allow hens and no full "environmental review" has ever been done.

Hen supporters of Bakersfield are willing to work toward modifications on the ordinance.

This has become more about the democratic process than hens. This anonymous party is trying to strong arm the council and it will set a detrimental precedent for the future.

There IS legal precedent for the city to fight the case. Please support the many families who choose to have hens (again, not even roosters) so they can collect their own eggs.

From: leeandgenise@aol.com
To: city_clerk@bakersfieldcity.us <city_clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:56:19 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello! Please vote to approve Backyard Hens!!! They are fun, clean, quiet, and produce the best tasting eggs! Thank you.

From: [LETICIA PELAYO](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:14:14 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern, we support backyard hens. We currently have 5 hens my children would be devastated to have to give them up. Coops are cleaned weekly, no smell, hardly any noise, I have used our chickens to teach my children about responsibility, life, and so many other lessons. During these uncertain times they have become such a huge part of our day and life, They are members of our family and we love them.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Linda Banducci](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: backyard hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:21:20 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please no chickens in residential neighborhoods! Several years ago, my sister and her husband had a few chickens on their property. She developed a debilitating illness that left her lethargic and with respiratory issues. After a year or so and many doctors who couldn't determine the cause, one inquired whether she kept chickens or birds. When getting rid of the chickens, she quickly and completely recovered. I found that I also have the allergy to chickens, as does our 3rd sister. The symptoms are severe enough to require medical attention as they affect the respiratory system and cause face, neck, and neck hives. Like many here in Bakersfield, I spend all Spring, Summer, and Fall enjoying backyard barbeques and my pool. I would not be able to do this, and neither would many others who suffer from the same allergies if our neighbors had chickens. I didn't choose to live in a rural area with farm animals. Linda Banducci 7305 Darrin Ave. Bakersfield

Name: Linda Banducci

Number: (661) 399-3227

Message: Linda Banducci, Bakersfield, CA. Please no chickens in residential areas. Several years ago, my sister and her husband had a few chickens on their property. My sister developed a debilitating illness that left her lethargic and with respiratory illnesses. After a year or so, many doctors who couldn't determine the reason for her illness. Finally, one doctor inquired whether she kept chickens or birds. When getting rid of chickens, she quickly recovered completely. I found I also have the allergy to chickens with an experience similar to hers. I spend all spring, summer and fall in my backyard. I would not be able to do this if my neighbors had chickens. Please, no chickens in backyards. Thank you.

From: [lisa chatterton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:44:01 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please support backyard hens

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa Smith](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:52:27 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: In favor of chicken ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:18:05 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

The reason for this email is to show my support in favor of the chicken ordinance!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:35:28 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

From: [Lois Ashe](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Back yard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:13:34 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!



I am opposed to you rescinding the backyard hen ordinance. My hens teach my grandchildren responsibility (daily care as well as planning for future events), respect for our food sources, protecting the environment and so many other things.
Lois Ashe

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [lakayes](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:33:35 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I have done what I can so let's hope that our voices are heard. I have shared, sent texts, signed and contributed to petitions, left a voicemail and below is my email.

Hears to hoping they do what is right.

Hello,

I am writing this email on behalf of all residents in Bakersfield who support the Backyard Hens Initiative. I am saddened to know that all it takes is a lawsuit with no merit, to cause our City Council to go back on their word. This ordinance was voted for the RIGHT way with a vote, and because an anonymous group decided they are is against it and did not accept the outcome of said vote, the rest of Bakersfield may lose their opportunity to have this element of self sufficiency taken from them forever?

I really cannot understand how this is being entertained by our Council. If we allow this to happen we are allowing our freedoms and our right to be heard, to be taken. We are further proving that the mentality of being "sue happy" is tolerated as well as feared upon without as much as even a full evaluation of the merit.

Hens not only contribute greatly to the well being of homeowners alike, they connect us to our food. They require responsibility, understanding, and teach you how to benefit from your efforts.

In my neighborhood, we have had neighbors with pigeon and dove coops for over 25 years. A few chickens would be no more bothersom and they produce edible eggs.

A few bullies with the means to sue should not control the city.

I sincerely hope that our Council hears our voices and takes their job seriously. Please do your research, know what you're options are, and do not shy away from something that has no merit. If this is revoked I will have no choice but to believe that our Council does not hope for a better, healthier, and more self sufficient City.

Sincerely,
A born and bread Bakersfield Resident

Lori A. Kayes

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: dee5876@yahoo.com
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:39:00 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I read that you're reconsidering the ordinance to allow chickens. I would like to say to you, YES! Please undo this ordinance.

I raised chickens when I was younger in a semi-rural area with half acre lots. Chickens are more work than people think and can stink up quite a large area if people don't take care of their pens. Chickens are noisy even without roosters. Chickens will attract rats, mice, raccoons, and opossums.

I do not want chickens in my neighborhood! Please do rescind the chicken ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lori Barnett, Northwest ward.

From: [Lori Park](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: OPPOSE RESCINDING backyard hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:59:11 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I strongly oppose rescinding the backyard hen ordinance at the upcoming meeting. The supporters of this ordinance deserve the council either uphold and defend their prior vote or arrange for mediation between the parties involved. Doing a sudden 180 at the threat of a lawsuit does not seem to support a good democratic process.

Sincerely,
Lori Park

From: [peachesincali28](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: hens in the backyard
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:28:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I have the email addresses that will help in reaching them. This email goes to all the councilmen:

City_council@bakersfieldcity.us

We are also sending emails to our city attorney, mayor and city manager.

City atty :

vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us

Mayor:

Mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

City manager:

cclegg@bakersfieldcity.us

Thank you so much.

Dear Council Members or Dear Mayor Goh or Dear Ginny Gennaro or Dear Christian Clegg
Just address it to whomever you're sending it to.

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you
(Lori Rodriquez)

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Luis Valladares](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:42:13 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am writing this letter to lend my full support behind keeping backyard hens. Hens are not a problem when kept properly. When properly maintained, they produce less noise and waste than a dog, yet we do not have any rules against keeping a dog in our backyards. Hens will allow us to teach our kids about raising animals, help us produce our own eggs and cut down on insects like mosquitos, flies and garden eating worms which are favorite foods of the hens. Please do not take away our ability to keep hens in our yards.

Sincerely,

Luis Valladares

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Lynda Leopold](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hens at Home
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:06:32 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good Morning,

I am pleased that the Council is revisiting the hen ordinance. I live on Century Drive and have two neighbors with chickens. At best I am annoyed by the noise. I would encourage you to repeal the ordinance. Not only are the chickens noisy, but they also attract flies and stink.

Thank you,
Lynda K. Leopold

From: [Macario Visto](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:30:22 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

Please do not kill the ordinance supporting backyard hens.

Notwithstanding the merits of the lawsuit, we trust in your best judgement as elected officials to tackle the issue the proper way and put forward the interest of the backyard hens community over a few unidentified or anonymous group who oppse the Ordinance.

Macario Visto
661-497-7054

From: [Mackenzie Jordan](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:06:30 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.
-MB

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Madison Antonell](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:48:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I'm writing in in response to the lawsuit trying to change the city ordinance when it comes to backyard hens. Me and my fellow voters used our voices to be allowed to have access to fresh eggs among other things in a time when going to a store can be less than safe. I do not want to see my right striped away by a few disgruntled citizens that clearly have the money to move if they have the money to bring forth a lawsuit.

Please do not allow this change to be made. We want backyard hens and shouldn't have to face a fine.

Sincerely,
Madison Antonell
10818 Trentadue Dr
Bakersfield, Ca

From: [Dane Jensen](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:42:13 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly oppose rescinding the Chicken Ordinance that was passed by the city council last year.

Makenzie Jensen

From: [Mallaurie Vermillion](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:32:42 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you
Mallaurie Vermillion

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marci Nissen](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08:53 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose the City Council's rescinding of the hen ordinance.

Sincerely,
Marci Nissen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marci](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:47:29 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance!

Marci Scott

From: [Marco Flores](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Pro Democracy : Chickens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:12:11 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

The City Council voted to allow the people of Bakersfield raise chickens. May I mention there is a pandemic going on people are broke .

GREAT DEPRESSION BROKE WHILE THE RICH GET RICHER

The people just want to be allowed to to raise chickens to be able to EAT.

Since the stay at home order has been lifted the Governor Newsom then I believe the City Council should have in person meetings with people from the public allowed to sit and watch and speak. This to comply with The Brown Act of California.

Whomever sued anonymously are cowards.

City Council it is common sense to allow the hungry people of Bakersfield to raise chickens.

Be prepared for a huge protests if you do not allow chickens in the city
think BLM

Occupy

Protesters at Kern BOS when they tried banning cannabis use and sales

Marco Antonio R Flores JR

From: marcotapia93@gmail.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: For backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:37:24 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Leave the backyard hens alone! It is not about chickens as much as it is about how people can bully the council into going against their constituents.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Margaret Hudgens](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Opposed
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:51:58 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please accept this email as an official oppose to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Thank you
Margaret Aguilera
661-303-0890

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Maribelle Guerrero](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:38:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Thank you,
Maribelle Guerrero

--

Thank you, Maribelle Guerrero

From: [Mark Perral](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:27:02 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens in Bakersfield.

Thank you.

Mark Perral
630-254-7286

From: [Marta Solitaire](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support Backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:18:15 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I do not agree with withdrawing the backyard hen ordinance. People can benefit from hens and increase the protein in their diet by producing their own eggs.

Thank you.

Marta Spaeth

From: [Mary Anne Blanchard](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:12:18 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning! I am in agreement with the hen ordinance. Backyard hens are essential for many people, fresh eggs for one, teaching children how to care for them, and something to look forward to at the end of a crappie mask wearing day!! They do not make any more noise than the neighborhood dog that barks all day! Please consider voting in favor of the ordinance!! The hens of Bakersfield are counting on you!

Sent from my iPhone

Name: Matt Kennedy

Number: (661) 342-1170

Message: This is a general public comment. I support backyard hens and the right to use your own property in a way that is reasonable, safe and enhances the quality of life experiences for families. Thank you for all honoring the already-passed Bakersfield City ordinance. Matt Kennedy.

From: [Matt Kennedy](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: SUPPORT BACKYARD HENS
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:33:28 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us,

My family and I SUPPORT BACKYARD HENS and right to use your own property in a way that is reasonable, safe, and enhances quality of life experiences for families.

Matt Kennedy family

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [bakersfield_mayor](#)
To: [Matt Pelishack](#)
Cc: [neverbelacking@gmail.com](#); [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Bakersfield's Chicken ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:45:11 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good morning, Matt,

Thank you for your email. I do remember your daughters speaking at Council. It's great to see young people engaged in the civic process. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

I'm sorry to hear about the COVID challenges at the station. My prayers are for a speedy recovery. Stay safe!

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Matt Pelishack [mailto:Matt@kaxl.com]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08 AM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Cc: neverbelacking@gmail.com
Subject: Bakersfield's Chicken ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi Mayor Goh! Hope you've been doing well and staying healthy. Half of our small staff at the station got Covid, so I'm holding down the entire station by myself at the moment.

I wanted to add my voice in favor of the chicken ordinance. You may remember my daughters

speaking at the Council meetings last year. I would ask that the city stand strong against the lawsuit. Those in favor of the ordinance all agree to keep reasonable standards in place, as determined by the Council, and in a city based in agriculture, I think it's important.

To be honest, the lawsuit strikes me as being on a very weak premise, and bullyish. I don't think families, especially during a pandemic, should be denied an easy course for sustainability within reasonable guidelines.

I've always trusted our City Council, having the pleasure of getting to know some of them. Since they have already made the approval, I hope they won't allow an anonymous lawsuit bully them into changing their decision.

Thank you for your time Mayor Goh. I really appreciate everything you do!

Matt Pelishek
88.3 Life FM

From: [Matt Pelishack](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Cc: neverbelacking@gmail.com
Subject: Chicken ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:26:51 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I wanted to add my voice in favor of the chicken ordinance. I would ask that the city stand strong against the lawsuit. Those in favor of the ordinance all agree to keep reasonable standards in place, as determined by the Council, and in a city based in agriculture, I think it's important.

I've always trusted our City Council, and even when I've disagreed in the past, I've seen the reasonable approach the Council has taken to arrive there. In this case, the Council once again earnestly navigated both sides of the issue, and clear due diligence was done, and the decision was made. I hope the Council will stand strong, and not be bullied by an anonymous lawsuit. It undermines the work and wisdom of the Council, as well as the people who have stood up for this cause. I don't think families, especially during a pandemic, should be denied an easy course for sustainability within reasonable guidelines, and they are very open to letting the Council set those guidelines.

In a city supported by farming, where kids are encouraged to raise animals, and when a pandemic is raging, I feel this lawsuit is frivolous, and an attempt to use money to force (due to false, pre-concieved notions) the will of a few over the will of the majority. I feel that allowing a lawsuit to cancel the decision of the Council would indicate that anyone with enough money can change the course of any decision they disagree with.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Matt Pelishek

Name: Matthew Mills

Number: (661) 201-2543

Message: Yes I'm calling about the protest about the chickens in the backyard. These people that are protesting - their houses are in the outlying area of Bakersfield, are built over where chickens used to be, so they're sitting on manure piles. And also, they're worried about the clean-up. Do they own dogs? They have to clean their backyard or else the dog will attract flies, smell and everything. So there's a lot that they are protesting against that they don't realize what they're protesting against. Thank you very much. Bye.

From: [Matthew Ouska](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23:10 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing to show my support for the backyard hen ordinance that was already passed, and litigation should not change that.

Many other cities in California have already approved urban hen ordinances, has the city council reached out to any of those cities to see if they have environmental issues? Why are you ignoring the precedence that other cities have set by using the CEQA exemption? The lawsuit has no basis when looking at these other cities - what would make Bakersfield any different? What do you expect of your residents that already built coops and got chicks when the ordinance was approved? Are they just out the money and time invested? Not to mention the personal attachment to the animals - do they need to rip these animals away from their children because the city council is afraid of possibly spending money? (Which is unlikely since the precedent is on our side). The council knew that this lawsuit was a possibility, and yet decided to approve the ordinance. Why would you change your mind now? Many of the poorer families in Bakersfield are looking at this as a way to provide healthy food for their families - should that be taken away because a few people have money to hire lawyers?

Supporters of backyard hens are more than willing to help the city adapt the ordinance even further to mitigate any potential environmental impacts (fewer hens according to the size of your lot) - and yet this anonymous group is not willing to find a solution - clearly demonstrating that they are not really concerned with the environment. The city council should proceed with the ordinance, even if legal defense is required.

-Matthew Ouska

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Matthew Ouska](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Hen Ordinance (Matthew Ouska)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:30:03 PM

Good evening, Mr. Ouska,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Matthew Ouska [<mailto:matt.ouska@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23 PM
To: City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Hen Ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing to show my support for the backyard hen ordinance that was already passed, and litigation should not change that.

Many other cities in California have already approved urban hen ordinances, has the city council reached out to any of those cities to see if they have environmental issues? Why are you ignoring the precedence that other cities have set by using the CEQA exemption? The lawsuit has no basis when looking at these other cities - what would make Bakersfield any different? What do you expect of your residents that already built coops and got chicks when the ordinance was approved? Are they just out the money and time invested? Not to mention the personal attachment to the animals - do they need to rip these animals away from their children because the city council is afraid of possibly spending money? (Which is unlikely since the precedent is on our side). The council knew that this lawsuit was a possibility, and yet decided to approve the ordinance. Why would you change your mind now? Many of the poorer families in Bakersfield are looking at this as a way to provide healthy food for their families - should that be taken away because a few people have money to hire lawyers?

Supporters of backyard hens are more than willing to help the city adapt the ordinance even further to mitigate any potential environmental impacts (fewer hens according to the size of your lot) - and yet this anonymous group is not willing to find a solution - clearly demonstrating that they are not really concerned with the environment. The city council should proceed with the ordinance, even if legal defense is required.

-Matthew Ouska

From: medianman@netzero.net
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:25:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

“I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.”

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From: [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#)
To: [Melinda I. Avila](#); [Christian Clegg](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Cc: [Julie Drimakis](#)
Subject: RE: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:58:28 PM

Thank you for your email.

By cc to the City Clerk I am asking her to make your comments part of the public statements and official record for this Wednesday's Council meeting.

From: Melinda I. Avila <MAvila@RFKJDLC.COM>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:56 PM
To: Christian Clegg <cclegg@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro <vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: FW: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. I think it's only fair that the ordinance should remain the same since it was already fairly and legally passed.

Thank you
Melinda I Avila

From: [bakersfield_mayor](#)
To: [Melinda I. Avila](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:37:55 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Avila,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Melinda I. Avila [mailto:MAvila@RFKJDLC.COM]

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:56 PM

To: Christian Clegg <cclegg@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro <vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: FW: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. I think it's only fair that the ordinance should remain the same since it was already fairly and legally passed.

Thank you
Melinda I Avila

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Michael Garcia](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:57:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Mr. Garcia,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Michael Garcia [mailto:gigglesmainman@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 2:31 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mayor Goh,

I am a resident of the City of Bakersfield, as a hard working US Disabled Military Veteran (Desert Storm), and productive member of our community, I wanted to share the following grievance sent to our City Council members today. I hope after reading what was sent, we can have your continued support on this ordinance.

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold

your obligation.
Thank you
Michael Garcia

From: [Michael Harp](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support of backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:31:58 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing in support of the City Of Bakersfield Backyard Hen initiative. Our members have been devastated by ordinance may be revoked by the efforts of a few disgruntled people. One particular one person in question. That is Mr. Terry Maxwell. Mr. Maxwell had always been unhappy with the City Council no matter whether it was the hen ordinance or the 24th Street project. Mr. Maxwell tries to thwart your efforts every step that you do. This is not about backyard hens which was a well written & carefully researched ordinance. It is about politics and about one persons efforts to control the City Council's decisions. There has always been bad-blood between him & the city council.

We in our group have been more than willing to compromise on the ordinance & possible amend it? We would even be willing to pay a \$50 dollar a year permit fee & also any inspection that the City deemed necessary. It is also not true that most real estate agents oppose this ordinance. We would also propose that they not be free-range but must be contained in a coop or run. There was absolutely no need for a CEQA study. Other larger cities proved this. People use chicken & beef manure all the time to fertilize their gardens & flower beds.

Many of us have already spent thousands of dollars in coops & concrete slabs when the ordinance was passed. Already there in talk among many of us of seeking our own attorneys under basis of the first amendment or other civil violations. A friend of mine who is a retired local judge has been following these proceedings has suggested that the council may have violated the Brown Act? We really hope this doesn't come to this? Our group has been more than willing to work with the City Council on this ordinance. It was a well written ordinance. We sincerely hope that the City Council seriously consider not cancelling this ordinance.

Thank You,

Michael Harp

From: [Michael Harp](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Dear City Council members
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:15:25 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing in support of the City Of Bakersfield Backyard Hen initiative. Our members have been devastated by ordinance may be revoked by the efforts of a few disgruntled people. One particular one person in question. That is Mr. Terry Maxwell. Mr. Maxwell had always been unhappy with the City Council no matter whether it was the hen ordinance or the 24th Street project. Mr. Maxwell tries to thwart your efforts every step that you do. This is not about about backyard hens which was a well written & carefully researched ordinance. It is about politics and about one persons efforts to control the City Council's decisions. There has always been bad-blood between him & the council.

We in our group have been more than willing to compromise on the ordinance & possible amend it? We would even be willing to pay a \$50 dollar a year permit fee & also any inspection that the City deemed necessary. It is also not true that most real estate agents oppose this ordinance. We would also propose that they not be free-range but must be contained in a coop or run. There was absolutely no need for a CEQA study. Other larger cities proved this. People use chicken & beef manure all the time to fertilize their gardens & flower beds.

Many of us have already spent thousands of dollars in coops & concrete slabs when the ordinance was passed. Already there in talk among many of us of seeking our own attorneys under basis of the first amendment or other civil violations. A friend of mine who is a retired local judge has been following these proceedings has suggested that the council may have violated the Brown Act? We really hope this doesn't come to this? Our group has been more than willing to work with the City Council on this ordinance. It was a well written ordinance. We sincerely hope that the City Council seriously consider not cancelling this ordinance.

Thank You,

Michael Harp

From: [Mikaela Beatrice Lontoc Cardenas](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:23:57 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard hens. Please do not rescind the Ordinance. Thank you.

Mikaela Cardenas
661-889-6887

--

Mikaela Beatrice Lontoc Cardenas
University of California, Irvine | Program in Public Health
Public Health Science Major
mikaelbc@uci.edu | 661-889-6887

From: fabfam@bak.rr.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Wednesday's Council hearing regarding hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:38:34 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My wife and I would like to express our feelings on the proposal to repeal the hen ordinance passed last September. We feel strongly that it should be repealed. If we wanted to live in the country around folks that have livestock and chickens, we wouldn't have bought our home in Silver Creek over 10 years ago. I'd bet that many other Bakersfield residents feel the same way. Anyone that claims that chicken manure doesn't smell bad, especially in Bakersfield's summer heat, should have their heads examined.

It's gotten bad enough around town with the homeless vagrants loitering about and sleeping in bushes outside of people's homes. And let's not forget about the mobile street vendors setting up shop just about wherever they want, including residential areas, so they can hawk their cheap junk and flowers. Oh, and then there's the ever-present panhandlers standing out on busy traffic medians asking for handouts for whatever. It's an eyesore and it's embarrassing for this city.

You want to improve Bakersfield's image? Do something about the above issues and don't open a proverbial "can of worms" with this ill-advised hen ordinance. Please repeal it Wednesday evening! Thank you for your consideration.

Mike and Linda Fabrizius
Bakersfield, Ca.

From: [Miranda McCoy](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for my backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:39 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

Miranda McCoy

From: [Miranda McCoy](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support for my backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:40 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

Miranda McCoy

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Miranda McCoy](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Support for my backyard hens (Miranda McCoy)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:08:55 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. McCoy,

Thank you for your email regarding the rescission. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Miranda McCoy [mailto:mirandakelleymccoy@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41 AM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Support for my backyard hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

Miranda McCoy

From: [MISTY CARAAN](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: SUPPORT FOR BACKYARD HENS, Meeting for Feb 3rd 2020
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:59:40 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My name is Misty Caraan, and the purpose of this email is to express my SUPPORT for the new amendments to our city ordinances that would allow for backyard hens, with safeguards and restrictions. The ordinance that has actually passed twice now, should not be allowed to be rescinded or delayed any further simply because a group of anonymous people didn't get their way and are now threatening a lawsuit against this city.

I live in an R1 neighborhood located in ward 5., a large lot of approximately .35 acres. We are surrounded by orchards and agricultural land and right around the corner from the Buena Vista Edible School Yard. Our daughter who is now 13, spent Kindergarten through 6th grade at Buena Vista Elementary, where they would take weekly trips to "the garden". It is there where she learned all about the benefits of living a greener, more sustainable way of life. BVESY is also home to a flock of hens! The children were taught that hens are wonderful source of food as producers of eggs not to mention wonderful for recycling your vegetables scraps. It seems a bit hypocritical to include these teachings into the classes for our children, only to be told that they can't implement what they have learned.

I personally feel that just because residents would be allowed to raise chickens, this does not mean every household will want to do so. The few households that would actually be interested in raising a few chickens in line with the given restrictions, on their own property, are going to take the venture very seriously, and because there are restrictions and guidelines, more thought would go into the decision of owning hens than some would put into owning a cat or a dog. This family would be willing to pay for a permit for the opportunity to own a couple of hens.

As far as the concern of smell and noise that would come of allowing backyard chickens, hens do not produce the amount of noise that barking dogs left outside all day and all night do, nor does it compare to the noise of the neighbor kids who constantly scream while they play in the back yard. Just like all animals allowed in backyards, it only gets smelly when you don't properly keep up with cleaning up after them.

The numerous benefits of backyard hens are clear and undeniable. The concerns of nuisance and health have been found to be minimal and a non-factor. The majority

of the council has already come to the conclusion that
hens are the right thing for our community.

It is my hope and expectation that this council stands up to this obstructionist attempt of a lawsuit as well as puts in motion a process to find a workable solution, a compromise of sorts, and does not outright rescind this ordinance. Follow suit with the multiple California cities that were able to work out and come to a compromising resolution. This is a fair and reasonable request for something that will contribute to and enhance the quality of life experiences.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Misty Caraan
[661-204-9053](tel:661-204-9053)

From: [MISTY CARAAN](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: DO NOT RESCIND THE CHICKEN ORDINANCE (re: 2/3/21 meeting)
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:05:44 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My name is Misty Caraan, and the purpose of this email is to express my SUPPORT for the new amendments to our city ordinances that would allow for backyard hens, with safeguards and restrictions. The ordinance updates that have actually passed twice now, should not be allowed to be rescinded or delayed any further simply because a group of anonymous people didn't get their way and are now threatening a lawsuit against this city.

I live in an R1 neighborhood located in ward 5, on a large lot of approximately .35 acres, which would be ideal for a small flock of about 4 hens. We are surrounded by orchards and agricultural land and right around the corner from the Buena Vista Edible School Yard. Our daughter who is now 13, spent Kindergarten through 6th grade at Buena Vista Elementary, where they would take weekly trips to "the garden". It is there where she learned all about the benefits of living a healthier, greener, more sustainable way of life. BVESY is also home to a flock of hens, right here in Ward 5! The children were taught that hens are wonderful source of food as producers of eggs not to mention wonderful for recycling your vegetables scraps.

Many life changing lessons come from the care of hens, as it teaches responsibility and respect for life. It seems a bit hypocritical to include these teachings into the classes for our children, only to be told that implement what they have learned.

I personally feel that just because residents would be allowed to raise chickens, this does not mean every household will do so. The few households that would actually be interested in raising a few chickens in line with the given restrictions, on their own property, are going to take the venture very seriously, and because there are restrictions and guidelines, more thought would go into the decision of owning hens than some would put into owning a cat or a dog.

As far as the concern of smell and noise that would come of allowing backyard chickens, hens do not produce the amount of noise that barking dogs left outside all day and all night do, nor does it compare to the noise of the neighbor kids who constantly scream while they play in the back yard. Just like ALL animals allowed in backyards, it only gets smelly when you don't properly keep up with cleaning up after them.

The numerous benefits of backyard hens are clear and undeniable. The concerns of

nuisance and health have been found to be minimal and a non-factor. The majority of the council had already come to the conclusion that hens, as a backyard urban pet, is the right thing for our community.

It is my hope and expectation that this council stands up to this obstructionist attempt of a lawsuit as well as puts in motion a process to find a workable solution, a compromise of sorts, and does not outright rescind this ordinance. This is a fair and reasonable request for something that will contribute to and enhance the quality of life experiences. Many California cities, much more affluent than Bakersfield, have already approved such ordinances. Do the right thing and work toward solutions and compromises for all. People are passionate about this and it's not going to go away.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Misty Caraan
[661-204-9053](tel:661-204-9053)

From: [WebMaster](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: FW: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:05:01 PM

From: mleveroni@brighthouse.com <mleveroni@brighthouse.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:59 AM
To: WebMaster <WebMaster@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Hen ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am in favor of repealing the hen ordinance. We have a rental house and our renters are complaining of the sMell already and noise of the neighbors chickens. In theory it is not a bad idea but u cannot rely on the average homeowner to ensure his chickens are not a problem for his neighbors.

From: [Molly Foster](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:59:47 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I fully support the backyard hen ordinance.
Thank you,
Molly Foster

From: [Edwin S. Bonilla](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Patty Gray
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:18:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

MT Merickel with the backyard hen community group called to ask if the councilmember had any questions regarding the hen ordinance. You may reach him at thebubh@gmail.com.



Edwin S. Bonilla | Clerk-Typist
City Clerk Office

City of Bakersfield
email: ebonilla@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3071



From: [MT Merickel](#)
To: [Virginia "Ginny" Gennaro](#); [bakersfield mayor](#); cclegg@bakersfieldcity.us; [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support of Backyard Hens Lift the Temporary Suspension on the Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:45:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my continued support for backyard hens.

I am requesting several actions of you. Please answer my requests in writing. Thank you.

1. I am requesting that Mayor Goh extend the 15 minute limit for the February 3rd 5:15 Council meeting for public comment on the topic of backyard hens. The Backyard Hen Community and our City Council have spent months on this topic, yet in a very short period of time we have gone from an amended ordinance to a rumored closed session vote/discussion to rescind the ordinance without any opportunity for input, questions, comments, or clarification. This topic has generated much attention and it is expected that the courtesy of hearing our concerns, ideas, and solutions be provided. Otherwise, it would be a blatant show of disrespect and an unwillingness to partner with us.
2. I am requesting that the topic of "backyard hen ordinance" be taken off of consent and that the discussion on this important issue be conducted in public on Wednesday, February 3 at the council meeting. I also expect the vote to be public so each Council Member's position is clearly understood and known. The Backyard Hen Community has concerns about the closed session process that took place on Wednesday, January 20th.
3. I am asking the City to lift the temporary suspension on the amended ordinance and allow Bakersfield citizens the legal protection of hen ownership that they have asked for, worked to get, and were granted.
4. If the suspension is not lifted, I am requesting that the City keeps the suspension in place and sets a plan in motion to meet the concerns of the lawsuit while working with the Backyard Hen Community to identify common ground and a doable solution. This is the democratic process. The Backyard Hen Community is willing to compromise on the already amended ordinance and work together for the good of the City. Once that has taken place, in a timely manner, the newly amended ordinance shall be immediately put into effect.
5. If the passed ordinance is rescinded, I request that a plan be articulated to the public regarding how the City will continue to work with the Backyard Hen Community to find an alternative path to amending our current ordinances to allow for R-1 zone backyard hen ownership. It is not acceptable under these circumstances to quickly rescind the passed amended ordinance and dismiss the Backyard Hen Community without transparency or clearly explaining how the Council came to the conclusion to rescind.

6. I am requesting documentation on the procedures and policy of rescinding an ordinance. Provide examples of past practice of how this has been done.

Here are a few of my questions that I request answers to in writing:

1. Has our City Council Members discussed any alternative actions beside defending the passed ordinance or rescinding the ordinance? If so, what alternative possible actions were discussed?

2. If the City does not defend the CEQA lawsuit that challenges the City's recommendation that filed a notice of exemption for CEQA, does this mean that the City will not defend future challenges of CEQA lawsuits? If the City intends to defend future CEQA challenges to their actions and policy, explain why they are not doing so with this ordinance amendment.

3. Are our Council Members aware that numerous other cities in CA have used the CEQA notice of exemption when passing their cities' urban backyard hen ordinances? If so, what was the discussion that took place to come to the conclusion that the exemption is not valid for our amended ordinance? If they have not had this discussion please explain why. This is especially confusing when during a previous Council meeting it was stated that the City believes the exemption is valid.

4. Has the City had discussions regarding their responsibility to environmental concerns as it relates to backyard hens now that it has come to their attention with the lawsuit from an anonymous group? The RS zone which starts at less than twice the size of my R-1 lot has unlimited chickens (roosters and hens). The Backyard Hen Community is now concerned for the environment as we want to be good stewards of our natural resources. We have factual studies that show evidence that backyard hens are beneficial to the environment. We have found this to be true with our own experiences as well. However, if our City is permitting a practice that is potentially damaging to our community and residents, we believe the City has a responsibility to reassure us that the practice is safe and not harmful. If the City has not had these discussions when will they? How will the public be informed of the conclusions of those discussions and possible actions taken? If no action is taken, we expect an explanation on how unlimited chickens on a RS zone family lot that is less than half the size of my R-1 lot is not an environmental concern when 1 to 12 hens on my lot is?

5. Who are the Bakersfield residents that the Council Members are concerned about not being able to or not willing to be responsible with regards to the amended ordinance? The Backyard Hen Community that have attended Council meetings and have made public comments were told by a Council Member, in session, that is also on record of voting no for the amendments to our current ordinance, that he believes they are responsible enough to own hens. I am requesting clarification from the Council Members, Weir, Parlier and Freeman (and possibly Arias and Gray depending on their vote on February 3rd), of who they do not trust or believe are not responsible enough to own backyard hens while following the safeguards and restrictions that have been established and passed. If the Council Members are unwilling or unable to provide clarity on this topic, let it be known that

it makes no sense to not allow a community a right to use their property when they have demonstrated that they are capable of doing so. I remind you, only approximately 10 annual complaints that are mostly rooster related are made. In 2012-2013 the Council used a wrong assumption that chicken nuisance reported issue would continue to rise when in fact the Backyard Hen Community has decreased an already low amount to an even lower amount of complaints. Why would this Council not lift the temporary suspension on the amended ordinance that aligns the Bakersfield residents' respectful and responsible practices and beliefs with the law? The Backyard Hen Community would appreciate an explanation that explains why Council Members would make criminals out of people that they say are responsible enough to follow an ordinance.

6. Please provide evidence of your work that looked into the defence of the unwarranted lawsuit. If no evidence is available, why was there no inquiry made to properly investigate the merits of the claim that the notice of exemption to CEQA requirements is not defensible?

I look forward to reading your responses to the Backyard Hen Community's questions and concerns. For the Council Members that have been backyard hen supporters, thank you for your continued support. For the Council Members that have been opposed, I trust that you will be reflective people that take the time to understand a different point of view. The Backyard Hen Community has demonstrated that the practice of hen ownership in an urban setting is safe, reasonable, and that there are established successful ordinances in many communities in California. What we have asked for, worked with the City to get amended, and have been granted, enhances the quality of life experiences for families.

Sincerely,

MT Merickel

thebubh.wixsite.com/bubh

From: [myrriah collins](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:39:51 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly support the backyard hen initiative. I have friends who raise backyard chickens and the benefits I have seen strongly outweigh the perceived downsides. The hens are quiet and provide fresh organic eggs, and I have seen their children learn about responsibility and self reliance due to them helping their parents raise hens. Whatever misconceptions others may have who are against this need to educate themselves about the benefits rather than filing a lawsuit against the city.

Thank you,

Myrriah Collins

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Nancy Romero](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:58:49 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Ms. Romero,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Nancy Romero [mailto:nancyr1250@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:44 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Support on Bakersfield Urban Backyard Hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you
Nancy Jean Romero

From: [Edwin S. Bonilla](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Patty Gray
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:58:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Nicholas Rhodes called to voice his disapproval of the hen ordinance. You may reach him at 661 573 6270.



Edwin S. Bonilla | Clerk-Typist
City Clerk Office

City of Bakersfield
email: ebonilla@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3071



From: [Nichole Sabo](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: City hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:17:48 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:

I hope this finds you well. I am writing to you in regards to the upcoming decision to rescind the Backyard Hen Initiative. I reside in the county so while this decision does not affect me personally, I have many city friends who are affected by this upcoming decision. I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to own hens. My own children learned many lessons about not only raising chicks but also how to care for an animal, to be appreciative of where some of our food comes from and more.

I wanted to offer my support to my fellow Bakersfield city residents. I believe they should have the opportunity to have backyard hens.

Sincerely,

Nichole Sabo

From: [nick swaim](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:28:06 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support allowing home owners to have hens if they so choose thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: niccel16@hotmail.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:12:50 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you today because I oppose the city council rescinding the hen ordinance.

My daughter is a part of 4-H and FFA. I am a 4-H poultry leader. We are fortunate enough to live in the county and we are able to have backyard poultry. I see first hand by watching my children and the kids in my 4H group, how owning and raising poultry instills good work ethic. It helps families bond over working together and being responsible in caring for their pets.

Please give Kern County's youth another opportunity of something bigger they can be a part of. Not only should every responsible citizen be able to have farm fresh eggs, but please don't forget how this can impact our young people. Being able to be part of 4-H or FFA builds camaraderie, leadership skills and knowledge.

Thank you,
Nicole Rickett

From: [Nikki](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose Rescinding Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:08:26 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
Nikki Kirstine

Name: No Name Provided

Number: (661) 742-8681

Message: Hello, this is a general public comment in support of backyard hens. I do not agree with any group's ability to negate hardworking Bakersfield property owners' rights and privileges. The ordinance for backyard hens was already legally passed by the Council. Do not dismiss the democratic process and allow any unrighteous group with a hidden agenda to negate what's right in the eyes of the beholder. Please uphold my right and my freedom as a Bakersfield City property owner to use my property in a way that is reasonable, in a way that is safe, in a way that clearly enhances quality of life of American families. Thank you.

Name: Name Unavailable

Number: (661) 301-5998

Message: I'm phoning about hens in the City limits. I find hens to be productive, they give people food, they are quieter than dogs, they don't come over and mess up your yard because they're allowed to run free. They don't have to be gathered up by the Animal Protection Services because they're causing a nuisance, and it helps a lot of people have better nutrition. Thank you, bye.

Name: No Name Provided

Number: (661) 324-6482

Message: Hello, I'm calling regarding the chicken issue. If people want to raise chickens, they should move out to the country. We already have dirtiest air in the nation and you want to add chicken poop and feathers to the mix? Please no hens in this City. Thank you.

Name: Name Unavailable

Number: (661) 871-6689

Message: I'm calling about the chicken problem and I just want to say that voting is for the protection of the majority of the homeowners. I think it should be kept in place as it is and I wanted to tell you I lived with my grandmother. She had chickens, the hens were dirty, they cackled, they were noisy, they leave droppings everywhere, they peck you, they jump fences, and it's hard to clean up their waste. We'll be wasting a lot of water just cleaning up these coops and their droppings. I think people should purchase property where you can have chickens to start with instead of making other people change their plans and their lifestyle. Thank you.

From: [ochoball83](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:29:54 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support backyard Hens!

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: FW: Backyard hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:56:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Please see below.



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770



From: bakersfield mayor
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 3:47 PM
To: 'Olinda Garcia' <giggles287@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Backyard hens

Good afternoon, Ms. Garcia,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen Goh



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770



From: Olinda Garcia [<mailto:giggles287@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 1:27 PM
To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Backyard hens

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Mayor Goh,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
Olinda Garcia

From: [Olinda Garcia](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 2:42:22 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you, Olinda Garcia

From: [Olinda Garcia](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for backyard hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 2:40:47 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Councilman Smith,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you, Olinda Garcia

From: [Paige Loya](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Ward 6 Backyard Hen Support
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 3:21:53 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello Councilwoman Gray,

As a resident of your ward (I live by Grissom Park), I would like to express my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for recension at the Feb 3rd meeting. I've been a supporter of this initiative since it began over 6 months ago when the City Council first heard it come before them.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 30 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 11 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

As a graduate from CSUB with degree environmental resource management, it is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. Many are willing to raise funds to cover monies necessary for an environmental impact report or other steps needed. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you for your time,

--

PAIGE LOYA

SAFETY & HEALTH PROGRAM ADVISOR

ARTHUR & HANSEN

[4130 ARDMORE AVENUE STE. 201](#)

[BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309](#)



From: patpetersen@gmail.com
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Previously Passed Hen Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:39:48 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to opposition the rescinding of the PREVIOUSLY PASSED Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and ANONYMOUS lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is unbelievable. It has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is ridiculous that it is even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE OUT OF TOWN BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

Sincerely,

Pat Petersen

From: [Pat Wadman](#)
To: [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Rescission of Hens in R-1 Zone Areas.
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:29:38 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is in regards to amending 6.08 of the municipal code relating to fowl and rescission of 5032 which created chapter 6.09 relating to hens in the R-1 zone.

I'm sure there are responsible owners of hens who will be diligent at keeping the hens and the coops up to appropriate standards. However, there are those that will take advantage and have many more hens than allowed (and probably roosters) which will lead to complaints from neighbors. Slaughtering will most likely take place also. This situation does not belong in the back yard of a R-1 area. Just not a good idea.

Pat Wadman
5310 Greystone Ct. 93306

Name: Pat Wadman

Number: (661) 549-3172

Message: This is in regards to rescission of Ordinance 5023 amending Section 6.08 of the Bakersfield Municipal Code relating to Fowl and Rescission of Ordinance No. 5032 which created Chapter 6.09 relating to Hens in the R residential 1 zone. I do not believe those animals belong in an R-1 residential area. I see it eventually becoming abused and I'd like to state that fact. Pat Wadman 5310 Greystone Court, Bakersfield, CA. Thank you.

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Pat Wadman](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Rescission of Hens in R-1 Zone Areas. (Pat Wadman)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:02:15 PM

Good afternoon, Mr. Wadman,

Thank you for your email about the rescission of hens. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Pat Wadman [<mailto:patrick.wadman@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:29 AM
To: City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>; City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Rescission of Hens in R-1 Zone Areas.

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is in regards to amending 6.08 of the municipal code relating to fowl and rescission of 5032 which created chapter 6.09 relating to hens in the R-1 zone.

I'm sure there are responsible owners of hens who will be diligent at keeping the hens and the coops up to appropriate standards. However, there are those that will take advantage and have many more hens than allowed (and probably roosters) which will lead to complaints from neighbors. Slaughtering will most likely take place also. This situation does not belong in the back yard of a R-1 area. Just not a good idea.

Pat Wadman
5310 Greystone Ct. 93306

From: [Patricia Pierce](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Initiative
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:16:37 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you,

Patricia Pierce

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Maxwell](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens ordinance
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 4:13:59 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please send this email to ALL the City Council as I wish my opinions to be heard.

I don't appreciate that you should spend one more dollar of my tax money on allowing a few people putting pressure on you as a board to have chickens in a zone that is R1. This has as far as I know always been zoned R1! You should represent all of your constituents on this subject. It is your responsibility not to make a pressured one sided decision to the squeaky wheel. It has not been a problem to many homeowners as they have gone to their neighbors and asked first if they would mind. It only doesn't work for the people who don't take into consideration their neighbors' health issues, noise, and smell. The squeaky wheel can go before you all day long but I can tell you many don't take care of their animals, much less chickens. If they wanted chickens they should have first checked it out before they bought or rented the home they are in. They are trying to get you to change something for selfish reasons like their wants are more important than anyone else's. We have roads that are in horrible condition, homeless that have destroyed or damaged peoples businesses, homes, vehicles. For several years we have not had enough police for people to feel safe. As it is if you call 911 you might as well forget it unless someone is shot. It's foolish again to spend any money on changing an ordinance that currently works, unless you don't like what you neighbor says or you don't have a good relationship with them.

Respectfully,

Paula Maxwell

paula@pmcoffice.com

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46
BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021

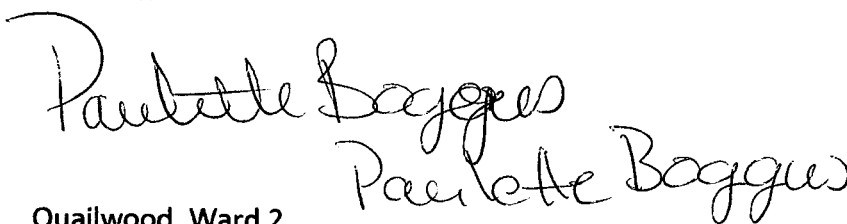
Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,


Paulette Bagges

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Paul](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:32:42 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to rescinding the hen ordinance.

Sent from my iPhone

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

BARBERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021


Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,



Pete Baggus

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Pete Leveroni](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:02:36 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

My neighbors had hens in their back yard for a few months and it was a nightmare.

The smell was terrible and the hen poop drew clouds of flies. The hen feed attracted rats and we would see them walking along the fence.

Hens have no place in a residential area. Please do not pass this ordinance.

Thanks!

Pete Leveroni
5817 Sky Ranch Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93306
661-332-3054

From: [Phylliss Sims](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Cc: [City Council](#)
Subject: Rescinding Hen Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:43:03 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing in support of the Bakersfield Backyard Hen Ordinance. I respectfully request that all council members honor their previous votes in favor of establishing a backyard hen policy through this ordinance and vote against the rescission.

I do not personally own or plan to raise any hens on my property. However, I completely support citizens who are trying to provide their families and neighbors with healthy alternatives to supermarket products and perhaps a little child gets a new pet to love in the process.

I believe it is an excellent opportunity for parents to teach their children the responsibilities of caring for something other than themselves and realizing the fruits of their labor. With limited interaction allowed because of the Covid-19 restrictions, it is a healthy alternative to sitting around watching TV or playing video games alone.

In addition, how is this fair to the residents who worked consciously and lawfully with the City Council to obtain the necessary votes to pass this initiative, invested the time, labor and expense of developing their little backyard hen projects for their families only to be told, after the fact, that it could all be taken away?

Please consider all the positive possibilities and vote in favor of allowing a few Backyard Hens to those families who are only trying to survive their current circumstances.

Thank you,

Phylliss Sims

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

2021 FEB 21 PM 1:46

January 29, 2021

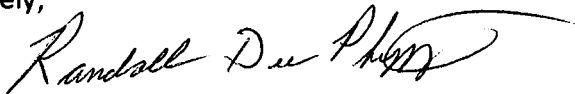
Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randall D. Phipps". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randall Phipps

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Randy Scholl](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:44:52 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please uphold the ordinance that was passed in regards to the Backyard Hens. Families should have the right to use there own property in a reasonable and safe manner as long as it does not disrupt others.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [rebecca lowe](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:14:36 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance.

Thank you!

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [Regina Deaton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinded the hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:43:24 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [renee nelson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Cc: [Renee Nelson](#); [AdmMgr](#); [Shared admatt](#)
Subject: Opposition to Repeal of Ord.5032
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:26:54 PM
Attachments: [City of Bakersfield Opposition to Repeal 2.2.21.pdf](#)

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please find my letter with comments, corrections and proposed recommendations regarding Ordinance 5032

I am requesting that City Manager Mr. Clegg, City Attorney Ms. Gennaro and City Council members, including but not limited to, Mr. Bob Smith and Mr. Kenton Weir, be given copies ASAP. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please acknowledge receipt of this email as well.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Renee Donato Nelson

Renee Donato Nelson
12430 Backdrop Court
Bakersfield, California 93306

2/1/2021

City of Bakersfield
Attn: City Council
1501 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Attn: Julie Drimakis
City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us

RE: Oppose Rescinding Ordinance #5023 (Backyard Hens in the R-1 Zone)

Dear Ms. Drimakis,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. This letter is in opposition to the staff recommendation to repeal the approved ordinance regarding the right to keep backyard hens in R-1 zoned lots, which is an expansion of the existing right to keep hens in other designated zones.

First however, there is an error in the agenda packet in the Administrative Report, Meeting Date 2/3/2021, Consent – Minutes a. the date of the message is 12/11/2020. Perhaps a typo but all the same, in need of correction since the meeting being referenced happened on 1/20/2021.

If the City Council should decide to repeal the approved Ordinance, first and foremost, this item must be removed from the consent calendar. This shall serve as a formal request for the removal and that the item be opened to public comment at that time. Californiacities.org states that the process to repeal is the same process used to pass an ordinance, granting “equal dignity”.

The written document must be given two reading. The Ordinance to repeal must then be published 15 days in whole or a summery depending on the City Charter in a general circulation newspaper. Although I could not find this procedure in the Charter itself, I don't recall seeing the original Ordinance published. The timeline provided in the minutes did not mention the publication. Please provide proof of this necessary action.

The decision to vote on the repeal in closed session is a violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, in that ligation may be discussed, terms of a settlement offer included in that discussion and the ability of the City Council to either accept, reject or make a counter offer are acceptable. The council may not do the peoples business behind closed doors. The council must openly debate the merits and the downfalls of the action at hand in the regular Council meeting.

The minutes state that the vote was to “ consider the repeal of the so-called Backyard Hen Ordinance, which **passed** (emphasis mine) 4-3 by City Council in September [9/2020] at the next council meeting February 3 [2021]”.

If you intend to consider, then why was this item placed on consent? Another error in need of correction? Although the minutes also state that the plaintiffs will dismiss the lawsuit if the conditions of the recision are met, along with an appropriate environmental document and payment of \$9,151.36 in attorneys fees, what guarantee does the City have that the plaintiffs will not file another CEQA suit after the environmental document is complete? What do they consider to be an appropriate environmental document? Is this a part of the settlement? If not it should be included.

If the ordinance is repealed, as written, does it mean that all residential zones, including those previously approved, would be precluded from owning hens?

Additionally, the City told the community that if the City placed a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) instead of having it court ordered, the plaintiffs would not charge the City the attorney fees for time spent in drafting the TRO request. So just what cost \$9,000 plus in fees? Papers were mistakenly sent to the wrong address for the Plaintiffs attorneys, Channel Law Group, but that cost would be born by the City anyway.

I am requesting that the City Council keep the Ordinance in place, as is, and continue to keep the TRO without any further enforcement actions while an environmental document is prepared.

No new hens would be allowed but people with hens now would not be penalized for having them. The City, in issuing the TRO, did not notify the public in R-1 zones directly and therefore, many people bought materials to build coops and purchased hens. If I am wrong about the notification system used by the City, please correct me with documentation of said notification.

The settlement as stipulated in the minutes does not quantify what type of document must be used. I would offer that only one other city in California, the City of Stockton, used an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that was prepared when they updated their General Plan, and not as a stand alone document for their ordinance. Unfortunately, for the City of Bakersfield, our General Plan has not been updated in many years, although we have been talking about it for the last 3 or 4 years at my request, both in committee and through phone calls. That means that the EIR is also out of date and would be considered flawed by the courts.

That would indicate a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) would be appropriate, in consideration of the current litigation.

Of the approximately 35 cities in California that allow backyard hens, 15 used a Negative Declaration while the other 19 used the Notice of Exemption, as did the City of Bakersfield. This sets a strong precedent.

Using a mitigated negative declaration would enable the plaintiffs areas of greatest concern, which to my understanding are noise, odor and disease, to be addressed in a circulated document. This is not to imply that the ordinance itself did not address those areas of concern, but that the plaintiffs didn't feel they had participated in an appropriate public forum.

If the Ordinance needs to be changed after the MND, it can be amended as necessary. Why re-invent the wheel? Much time and effort by staff, the City Council and the public went into the drafting of the amended Ordinance.

If the City Council should decide to repeal the current Ordinance, please provide a timeline to the community for the creation and circulation of the environmental document.

Regarding the plaintiffs, it seems odd that no named plaintiff was required to establish standing. The person most qualified should be identified. The group as a whole does not need to be named, but surely it is important to the court and the City to have an individual person that can be held accountable for the agreements the city is intending to enter via the mandatory settlement process. Any potential future litigation should not allowed by yet another anonymous member of this group.

Ultimately, this is a property rights issue. You gave people a right and just as quickly you took it away. Of the 85,000 plus lots in the R-1 zone, nowhere was it delineated how many were in a Homeowners Association and precluded in their by-laws from keeping hens. Not everyone is going to want hens.

For the people that do want hens, for what ever the reason, from a pet that brings comfort to an autistic child to a clean food source in this time of food insecurity for so many in our community, it is right for us to make it available to them. It is shameful for a City that prides itself on it agricultural roots to not allow people to own, care for and love chickens. And yes, my family had chickens when I was a child. Fresh eggs are the best!!

Please do the right thing.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Donato Nelson

cc: Virginia Gennaro, City Attorney
Christian Clegg, City Manager
Bob Smith
Kenton Weir

From: [Rex Estoque](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:13:16 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly support backyard hen in Bakersfield City.

Rex Estoque
(661)703-3012

From: [Rhiannon Solorzano](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens Ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:08:13 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Greetings!

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard chickens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, every day citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Rhiannon Solorzano
661-717-8762

From: [Richard Rodriguez](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Ward 5
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:04:38 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mr. Freeman,

We are writing in regards to the problems we have had with a direct neighbor who housed chickens at his residence, 216 El Tovar Court. Fortunately, the hastily passed ordinance allowing a change in zoning to allow for the noise and odor associated with our previous exposure will be reconsidered this week. We are truly flabbergasted that after 30 years living at this same location, that this is being allowed.

We feel that this ordinance should have never been passed in the first place, and if left to stand, will subject us once again to a lifestyle we never imagined to be exposed to within city limits. Please vote to rescind this ordinance.

Sincerely,

Richard & Cheryl Rodriguez
301 Montalvo Drive
Bakersfield, 93309

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Richard Rodriguez](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Ward 5 (Backyard Hens - Richard & Cheryl Rodriguez)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:14:12 PM

Good evening, Mr. and Mrs. Rodriguez,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Richard Rodriguez [<mailto:cms1960@mac.com>]
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:05 PM
To: City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>
Cc: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Ward 5

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Mr. Freeman,

We are writing in regards to the problems we have had with a direct neighbor who housed chickens at his residence, 216 El Tovar Court. Fortunately, the hastily passed ordinance allowing a change in zoning to allow for the noise and odor associated with our previous exposure will be reconsidered this week. We are truly flabbergasted that after 30 years living at this same location, that this is being allowed.

We feel that this ordinance should have never been passed in the first place, and if left to stand, will subject us once again to a lifestyle we never imagined to be exposed to within city limits. Please vote to rescind this ordinance.

Sincerely,

Richard & Cheryl Rodriguez
301 Montalvo Drive
Bakersfield, 93309

From: [RJB](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chicken Ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:02:15 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I think chickens are important resource for people to have. Especially in uncertain times.
It is not ok to bully in order to change what the people want.
The people want chickens.
RJ

From: rsheldon@bak.rr.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: chickens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:37:26 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,
I am a resident of Bakersfield residing at 5004 Crow Ct, 93312 and want to register my vote AGAINST allowing chickens in backyards.
Thank you,
Robert B. Sheldon

From: [Robert Eichar](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Keep the chickens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:52:20 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly oppose rescinding the fair and reasonable chicken ordinance that was passed by the city council last year. If an environmental impact study needs to be done then complete it, but the city should always be on the side of allowing its citizens more freedom and more economic security especially in these times. Backyard hens can provide a source of food for both humans and animals in a household.

Name: Robert Flitcraft

Number: (661) 201-1664

Message: This is a general public comment. We are in support of backyard hens. Thank you.

From: [Robert Johnson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: We Support Backyard Hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:02:25 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern:

We would like to voice our support for the "backyard hen initiative" which will be up for reconsideration at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the City Council uphold the ordinance that was duly passed. It is our hope that the City Council will uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit and only serves as a gross manipulation of the Environmental Protection Law. Please up-hold the ordinance as it was originally designed.

Thank you for your consideration!!

Robert Johnson
Bakersfield California 93313

From: [Robert Sheldon](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Consent Agenda f.1
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:22:51 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to express my desire for the Board to rescind the ordinance allowing chickens within the city boundaries. I do NOT want chickens in my neighbor's yards. My wife and I agree so this represents two votes in favor of rescinding the chicken ordinance.

Robert Sheldon

From: [Robin Ablin](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Cc: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance, 2-3-21 City council Meeting Agenda Item 8.f.1.
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:41:39 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning City Clerk, Honorable Councilman Freeman and all Council Members,

I hereby express my support AGAINST amending City ordinances to allow the keeping of hens and or chickens in established areas of R-1 zoning. The historical rights of property owners who acquired their property knowing the existing zoning of that property and relying on that same zoning going into the future as to their effects on the quiet enjoyment of their property are the foundation of property rights and the express purpose of zoning laws. The Council has a duty to protect that which the vast (though mostly silent) majority have knowingly and justifiably relied upon.

The passions and motivations of the vocal and small minority of property owners in R-1 zones who desire to change their zoning are no doubt well intended, but none the less, they are a small minority and, obviously, should not hold sway over the overwhelming majority on this matter. There is no extremely pressing or urgent need for, no overarching or emergency public need or policy to be served by, no unforeseen or unanticipated events to justify, modifying the clear and correct intent and purpose of the existing zoning ordinances on this matter.

Do not forget or discount the fact that the very people that now want to change their zoning originally, willingly and knowingly purchased property in R-1 zones, no doubt relying upon the very same zoning protections as their neighbors. While their desired use of their property has changed, those of the majority of their neighbors have not; and the zoning on their property not changed either. Additionally, there are other remedies available for those desiring to keep hens and chickens. They are already free to do so on property currently zoned for this use.

I urge you to NOT adopt and or to RESCIND the proposed ordinance(s) regarding the keeping of hens and or chickens in R-1 zones.

Respectfully submitted,

RA

Mr. Robin Ablin
RSC Realty Company, Owner & Broker
2205 Haggin Oaks Blvd.
Bakersfield, Calif. 93311
rablin@rscrealty.com

www.rcrealty.com

Cell: 661-809-1910

Cal. BRE Lic. 00996751

From: [Rueben Canales](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:18:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I just wanted to let you know that I oppose rescinding the backyard hen ordinance. Bakersfield should not be intimidated by specious lawsuits. I don't even want to own a chicken myself. The opposition to the chicken ordinance just seems silly. Thanks for reading.

Rueben Canales



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [Ryan Carr](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:12 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning,

I am writing to voice my displeasure that the council may rescind the ordinance on allowing backyard hens. This was fairly, and legally, voted on and approved in October of 2020.

Please stand up for our city and for the democratic process that was legally followed back in October. Don't let an anonymous group and their attorneys strong arm the council with a meritless suit.

Sincerely,
Ryan Carr

From: [Ryan Dembosky](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for BACKYARD HENS
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:50:55 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

RE: Support for Backyard Hens

Honorable Mayor Goh and City Council Members,

Though it pains me to be writing yet another letter of strong and ardent support for Backyard Hens and though it may be redundant – I will spare you the reasons why the Bakersfield Backyard Hens Initiative was lobbied for and passed. Ultimately, we have moved beyond the point of why we feel Backyard Hens should be legalized – I would remind the Council that we currently have an ordinance on the books that should and must be honored.

Last years initiative push was transparent and in good faith with the residents of the City of Bakersfield and the Council as a whole. By a process of mutual discussions – the members of the organization (and the vast majority of the community) were pleased to see the City of Bakersfield pass the ordinance. Though our organization would have liked to convince all Council Members that this was in the best interest for city – we were not blind to the fact that certain distractors were in place and in many cases, we were fighting an anti-chicken campaign based on in many cases feelings and not facts, or as in the case of former Council Member, Terry Maxwell and his radio platform – intentional lies and miss-truths. Unfortunately – several Council Members who ultimately voted against the initial ordinance even willfully failed their own constituents - who overwhelmingly supported the creation of a legalized path to Backyard Hen ownership in R1 zones.

Long gone is the time to have the discussion of “if we should allow” backyard hens. This has been passed and should be honored. The City of Bakersfield as a whole is standing on the precipice of a decision far greater than Backyard Hens. This issue has become one of the obstructionists to government movement. The City faces a decision – on one hand to honor the ordinance and stand by legislative precedence for the *Common Sense* CEQA language to be protected and honored (as it has been done over and over in countless cities in the State of California). Or – to bow down to an anonymous group – for fear of doing what is right and correct.

Finally **(AND THIS IS EXTRTEMELY IMPORTANT)** – I would remind the Council Members that initially voted AGAINST this ordinance for one reason or another: this is not the time to take action AGAINST Backyard Hens simply because you were on the losing side of a legal vote. Your responsibility and duty as a Council Member – at this EXACT MOMENT – is to honor the ordinance as it stands. This is due to the fact that the CEQA threat is wholeheartedly baseless, without merit and is a slap in the face to the legislative precedence that our city relies upon in its decision-making matrix when it comes to all kinds of issues.

Ryan Dembosky, Resident of the City of Bakersfield

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Ryan R. Dembosky

"'Conducting' is when you draw 'designs' in the nowhere - with a stick, or with your hands - which are interpreted as 'instructional messages' by guys wearing bow ties who wish they were fishing."

~Frank Zappa

From: [Ryan Dembosky](#)
To: [bakersfield mayor](#); smorgan@bakersfield.com; [City Council](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for BACKYARD HENS
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:38:04 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

RE: Support for Backyard Hens

Honorable Mayor Goh and City Council Members,

Though it pains me to be writing yet another letter of strong and ardent support for Backyard Hens and though it may be redundant – I will spare you the reasons why the Bakersfield Backyard Hens Initiative was lobbied for and passed. Ultimately, we have moved beyond the point of why we feel Backyard Hens should be legalized – I would remind the Council that we currently have an ordinance on the books that should and must be honored.

Last years initiative push was transparent and in good faith with the residents of the City of Bakersfield and the Council as a whole. By a process of mutual discussions – the members of the organization (and the vast majority of the community) were pleased to see the City of Bakersfield pass the ordinance. Though our organization would have liked to convince all Council Members that this was in the best interest for city – we were not blind to the fact that certain distractors were in place and in many cases, we were fighting an anti-chicken campaign based on in many cases feelings and not facts, or as in the case of former Council Member, Terry Maxwell and his radio platform – intentional lies and miss-truths. Unfortunately – several Council Members who ultimately voted against the initial ordinance even willfully failed their own constituents - who overwhelmingly supported the creation of a legalized path to Backyard Hen ownership in R1 zones.

Long gone is the time to have the discussion of “if we should allow” backyard hens. This has been passed and should be honored. The City of Bakersfield as a whole is standing on the precipice of a decision far greater than Backyard Hens. This issue has become one of the obstructionists to government movement. The City faces a decision – on one hand to honor the ordinance and stand by legislative precedence for the *Common Sense* CEQA language to be protected and honored (as it has been done over and over in countless cities in the State of California). Or – to bow down to an anonymous group – for fear of doing what is right and correct.

Finally **(AND THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT)** – I would remind the Council Members that initially voted AGAINST this ordinance for one reason or another: this is not the time to take action AGAINST Backyard Hens simply because you were on the losing side of a legal vote. Your responsibility and duty as a Council Member – at this EXACT MOMENT – is to honor the ordinance as it stands. This is due to the fact that the CEQA threat is wholeheartedly baseless, without merit and is a slap in the face to the legislative precedence that our city relies upon in its decision-making matrix when it comes to all kinds of issues.

Ryan Dembosky, Resident of the City of Bakersfield

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Ryan R. Dembosky

"'Conducting' is when you draw 'designs' in the nowhere - with a stick, or with your hands - which are interpreted as 'instructional messages' by guys wearing bow ties who wish they were fishing."

~Frank Zappa

From: [Sam Digilio](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:52:46 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you
Samuel Digilio

From: [Sam Digilio](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:44:13 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you

Samuel Digilio

From: [Sandi Kallenberger](#)
To: cityclerk@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:54:37 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I write to you today to let you know that that I do not support rescinding the hen ordinance. I demand you, and others to stand up to these bullies who are attempting to persuade to overturn a 4-3 vote in favor of the citizens you represent.

Best regards,

Sandi K.

From: [Sandi Kallenberger](#)
To: city.council@bakersfieldcity.us
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:53:39 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello Council members,

I write to you today to let you know that that I do not support rescinding the hen ordinance. I demand you, and others to stand up to these bullies who are attempting to persuade to overturn a 4-3 vote in favor of the citizens you represent.

Best regards,

Sandi K.

From: [bakersfield_mayor](#)
To: [Sandi Kallenberger](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Hen ordinance (Sandi Kallenberger)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:42:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon, Ms. Kallenberger,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Sandi Kallenberger [mailto:bellestar25@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:45 AM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Hen ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello MayorGoh,

I write to you today to let you know that that I do not support rescinding the hen ordinance. I demand you, and others to stand up to these bullies who are attempting to persuade to overturn a 4-3 vote in favor of the citizens you represent.

Best regards,

Sandi K.

Name: Sandra Descary

Number: (661) 834-3507

Message: This is Sandra Descary, Ward 2, and I'm calling regarding the Consent Calendar Item 8.f. 1 and 2. I support the Council's rescinding the hen ordinance. The current ordinance has a ridiculously short setback and it's taken the approach of allowing the majority of owners to have hens instead of protecting the quality of life of vast residential homeowners who have no interest in hens. The seeming lack of resistance to the ordinance is primarily due to the lack of information about the adoption of the ordinance. Most R-1 zone residents will remain unaware of the ordinance until a neighbor has a backyard coop that's populated with hens and realizes that there is a problem now. Again, I support the rescinding of the backyard hen ordinance.

From: [Sandra Descary](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: All Council
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 3:13:40 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support the Council's rescinding the hen ordinance. The adopted hen ordinance is onerous and intrusive to standards expected for living in urban residential areas. If my closest neighbor chose to have hens he could have six (6) hens roaming his yard just eight (8) feet from where I'm trying to enjoy a peaceful pleasant meal and beverage at my patio table. It is absolutely absurd to think of hens clucking, unpleasant odors and the gathering flies while I'm trying to enjoy my yard. Instead, I'm being held hostage by my neighbor's hobby or possible desire to have fresh eggs because of his fear of food insecurity. People who want more farm or agricultural environments need to move to those areas of the city or county that are zoned for meeting their needs.

The current ordinance with ridiculously short setbacks took the approach of allowing the majority of homeowners to have hens instead of protecting the quality of life of vast residential homeowners who have no interest in hens. The ordinance is substandard and grossly inadequate compared to other cities whose ordinances provide reasonable setbacks, lot sizes, number of hens allowed, cleanliness standards, licensing and animal control provisions.

The hen advocates frequently use the phrase "majority of people" in their claims to promote the City's adopting the hen ordinance. Using this phrase frequently does not make it true. The seeming lack of resistance to the ordinance is primarily due to the lack of information about the adoption of the ordinance. For example, in discussing this with my neighbor yesterday, she was dumbfounded to learn that the city had passed such an ordinance. Most R-1 zoned residents will remain unaware until a neighbor has a backyard coop populated with hens.

Again, I support rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sandra Descary

Quailwood, Ward 2

From: [Sandy Lewy](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:48:02 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

My name Is Sandy Lewy. I do not live in the city I live in the county. I am sending you this email because I have to deal with chickens and hens that live right below me. I just wanted to give my opinion because they make noise 24/7. At 3 AM in the morning the rooster is crowing. He never stops. There is nothing that I can do about this because they are allowed in the county. So I am just writing this to give you my opinion that maybe it would be better if you took some time and looked at this a little more thorough. It is so annoying.

Thank you for your time.

Sandy Lewy

From: [Sandy Welch](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:23:57 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am writing to let you know that I think the hen ordinance needs to be repealed. When I bought my house 20 years ago, I knew that there would not be chickens next door to me. We raised chickens when I was young and they are messy, noisy and get diseases if not properly taken care of. We do not need anymore diseases. If someone wants chickens, they need to move to an area that they are zoned for. The people who want chickens knew when they bought their houses that they could not have chickens in the city limits where they bought a house. They are not having any changes by not being able to have chickens, however, if granted anyone living in the city limits that don't want the chickens will be having their lives changed. Please repeal the ordinance.

Thank you,

Sandra Welch

Sent from my iPad

From: [Sara Smith](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:52:37 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,
A Bakersfield Resident
Sara Smith

From: [Sarah Appleton](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:45:30 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council members,

I am writing to implore you to refuse to rescind the Hen Ordinance that was considered and passed after much thought and deliberation. Please do not give in to this frivolous lawsuit aimed at intimidating you. There is clear precedent in many cities that hens do not pose a negative environmental impact. Our community is one that promotes agriculture, independence and freedom. Allowing residents to raise hens is in support of each of these important priorities. Please do not let these bullies intimidate this governing body and set a dangerous precedent that they can overturn your decisions which have taken numerous hours to deliberate with a simple lawsuit threat. Please uphold the decision you have made to allow residents to responsibly raise a small number of hens.

With respect and gratitude,
Dr. Sarah Appleton, LMFT

From: [Sarah Elliott](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:32:56 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi,

I am in favor of keeping the recently passed backyard hen ordinance. I personally do not intend to own hens, but I believe you should respect and trust the residences of Bakersfield to be responsible.

Our elected officials rightly went through a process of putting backyard hens on the agenda, doing their own research and presentation, and hearing from both sides- for and against backyard hens. The process was not rushed, but thorough, publicized, and open to the public.

As you know, an anonymous group has caused the ordinance to be put on hold and now threatens the ordinance being rescinded. I will ask you, what's right? Is democracy right- allowing regular, everyday citizens to have a voice and going through the process of a collective, workable decision? Or, is it right to have those who can afford a lawyer shut down the whole process?

The arguments were already presented for and against backyard hens. The decision based on those arguments were already made. The point now is sticking with a democratic process. The point now is our elected officials do their job of representing the majority, not the minority with money.

There are more options than just rescinding. Many backyard hen supporters want to continue to work toward a workable agreement. I urge you do not to rescind the ordinance but stand by democracy and continue to work towards a reasonable, workable solution.

Sarah Elliott

From: [Sarah Trupe](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:51:38 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi there,

I am a Kern county resident and own a small group of backyard hens. I'm writing to oppose rescinding the ordinance that was legally voted on and approved in October.

I live in Rosedale in a county neighborhood where hens are legal. Our chicken coops are well kept and less noisy than most neighbor's dogs and cats. Our hens are also a food source and provide my family with good quality eggs. My young children have found joy and life experience in caring for our hens while they haven't been able to attend school or other hobbies.

Please consider the input from families like mine and allow other Bakersfield families to benefit from the order you already placed in motion this fall.

Thank you.

Sarah Trupe

From: [Sarah Trupe](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:54:21 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hi there,

I am a Kern county resident and own a small group of backyard hens. I'm writing to oppose rescinding the ordinance that was legally voted on and approved in October.

I live in Rosedale in a county neighborhood where hens are legal. Our chicken coops are well kept and less noisy than most neighbor's dogs and cats. Our hens are also a food source and provide my family with good quality eggs. My young children have found joy and life experience in caring for our hens while they haven't been able to attend school or other hobbies.

Please consider the input from families like mine and allow other Bakersfield families to benefit from the order you already placed in motion this fall.

Thank you.

Sarah Trupe

From: [Anderson, Scott](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:08:49 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Let responsible citizens keep hands. Thank you.

Scott Anderson
Route Representative
Tech Data
(707)580-8110

From: [Scott Waterman](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:00:33 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

From: [Shannon Christian](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for the backyard hen initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:54:57 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City Council-members Arias, Gonzales, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, and Parlier:

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting. Backyard hens are living in most of the big cities in the US. Per a 2015 review of 150 of the most-populated U.S. cities, nearly all (93 percent) allowed backyard poultry flocks. **Rather than disallowing this important food source, look to implement cutting edge public health and animal welfare policies.**

In the interim, please uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA “common sense” waiver that was also used in our city’s ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree

on any terms other than “no hens.” This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Please uphold the ordinance. Please uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Please uphold your obligation.

Shannon Christian (California native going back 4 generations)
shannonchristian1@gmail.com

From: [Sharon Scott](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:26:43 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you, Sharon Scott

Sent from my iPad

From: [Shawnda L](#)
To: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Bakersfield City Chicken Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:44:56 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it May Concern:

In accordance with the freeze of the chicken ordinance, I find it appalling that a special interest group of wealthy constituents can unhinge and utilize their financial privilege in order for their desired outcome. The issue was voted upon by representatives of Bakersfield diverse constituents and should be upheld. It is surprising that this matter is even an issue in a city that was primarily founded on agriculture and is the starting of the breadbasket of the United States. This bending of power to to wealthy and elite will have lasting consequences to our Bakersfield political atmosphere. This issue goes beyond the chicken ordinances and personally attacks our political process. And, in the politically divisive culture in which we reside, it's even more important to uphold trust in our representatives. I am against changing the bill in favor for a few group of secretive elitists whose goal is to bend the city council to their will and not the will of the diverse Bakersfield City constituents. It's embarrassing for my children, who is having doubts in the nature of our countries political atmosphere, that our City Counsel Representatives can be bullied into representing special interest groups and not their true constituents. I ask you, as my representative, to maintain the ordinance that allows hens in urban backyard settings in our city. During times of economic hardships in American history, backyard hen ownership was advertised and the push for self sufficiency in an environment of food disparity and pandemic is vital individual food security. It's easy to tell people that if they want to have chickens then to move to an area where you are allowed to have chickens. That is a financial luxury that many in the city simply cannot afford. Thus, making another "poor" tax for those who cannot afford the needed land requirements for chickens in the city. Chicken ownership is an investment that is easily comped when reaping the benefits of chicken ownership. Please maintain your ground and vote to maintain the ownership chickens for those not in farming zones. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shawnda Banks

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Shawnda L](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Chicken Ordinance (Shawnda Banks)
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:39:02 PM

Good afternoon, Ms. Banks,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Shawnda L [<mailto:srligons@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:11 PM
To: city@bakersfieldcity.us; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Chicken Ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it May Concern:

In accordance with the freeze of the chicken ordinance, I find it appalling that a special interest group of wealthy constituents can unhinge and utilize their financial privilege in order for their desired outcome. The issue was voted upon by representatives of Bakersfield diverse constituents and should be upheld. It is surprising that this matter is even an issue in a city that was primarily founded on agriculture and is the starting of the breadbasket of the United States. This bending of power to to wealthy and elite will have lasting consequences to our Bakersfield political atmosphere. This issue goes beyond the chicken ordinances and personally attacks our political process. And, in the politically divisive culture in which we reside, it's even more important to uphold trust in our representatives. I am against changing the bill in favor for a few group of secretive elitists whose goal is to bend the city council to their will and not the will of the diverse Bakersfield City constituents. It's embarrassing for my children, who is having doubts in the nature of our countries political atmosphere, that our City Counsel Representatives can be bullied into representing special interest groups and not their true constituents. I ask you, as my representative, to maintain the ordinance that allows hens in urban backyard settings in our city. During times of economic hardships in American history, backyard hen ownership was advertised and the push for self sufficiency in an environment of food disparity and pandemic is vital individual food security. It's easy to tell people that if they want to have chickens then to move to an area where you are allowed to have chickens. That is a financial luxury that many in the city simply cannot afford. Thus, making another "poor" tax for those who cannot afford the needed land requirements for chickens in the city. Chicken ownership is an investment that is easily comped when reaping the benefits of chicken ownership. Please maintain your ground and vote to maintain the ownership chickens for those not in farming zones. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shawnda Banks

From: [S.L](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:26:00 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

"I am opposed to you rescinding the hen ordinance."

Name: Stephen Winters

Number: (773) 964-3101

Message: hello, my name is Stephen. I'm a concerned citizen of Bakersfield who loves the sunshine and the ability to grow food in my backyard as well as the recent change in law about chickens. So this is about the challenge or lawsuit to make that illegal again. I'm just appalled and disgusted that somebody would dedicate their time to creating a bigger barrier between human beings, people and the food we eat, the livestock that we raise and use to feed our families. We should be able to choose as Americans and citizens of a free country to raise our own chickens within reason and with our neighbors, as long as it's clean and safe and doesn't cause a problem. There's no reason why we shouldn't be able to have our own chickens. This is ridiculous and it's just another form of government control where it doesn't need to be. And whoever is trying to make it illegal to have chickens in your own backyard should be ashamed of themselves and really question what their ulterior motives are. Why don't they want people to be able to have a few chickens in their own backyard? Why would somebody not want that, unless they can profit from other people not being able to provide for themselves? That's ridiculous and I really hope that it's not voted and I can keep my chickens. Thank you.

From: [Steve Obert](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 7:19:13 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,

From: [Steve Romero](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:33:20 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I support being able to have hens.

Don't listen to those who are trying to tell me what I can do on my property that we worked hard to pay for.

Sent from my iPhone

Name: Stockdale Elementary

Number: (661) 831-7835

Message: Hello, I'm calling to say how much I fully support the backyard hen ordinance. I am asking that you please consider letting these people have their backyard hens and letting their children have these precious little animals. Not only that, it produces food for our table. Thank you so much for your consideration. Have a blessed day.

From: str8jesus@hotmail.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Opposed
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:06:26 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am opposed to rescinding the backyard hens city ordinance!!

From: [Edwin S. Bonilla](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: All Council
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:43:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Sue Layman supports backyard hens. You may reach her at 661 900 6330



Edwin S. Bonilla | Clerk-Typist
City Clerk Office

City of Bakersfield

email: ebonilla@bakersfieldcity.us

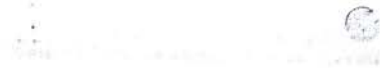
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3071



21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK



February 1, 2021

Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan E. Richardson".

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Tanja Brewer](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Oppose to rescind hen ordinance for city of Bakersfield
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:34:33 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I oppose to rescind the hen ordinance for the city of Bakersfield!

My name is Tanja Brewer,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the rescension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Tanja Brewer

From: [Tayler Bagwell](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: In support of Backyard Hens!
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:07:15 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good Morning,

I am voicing my support for the backyard hen initiative which will, unfortunately and unnecessarily, be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

Please uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed and fought for by the amazing citizens of the Bakersfield R1 zone. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

"Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority."

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs would be truly disappointing.

Thank you for your time,
Tayler

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Tea](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:05:56 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello,

I am writing this email on behalf of all residents in Bakersfield who support the Backyard Hens Initiative. I am saddened to know that all it takes is a lawsuit with no merit, to cause our City Council to go back on their word. This ordinance was voted for the RIGHT way with a vote, and because an anonymous group decided they are is against it and did not accept the outcome of said vote, the rest of Bakersfield may lose their opportunity to have this element of self sufficiency taken from them forever?

I really cannot understand how this is being entertained by our Council. If we allow this to happen we are allowing our freedoms and our right to be heard, to be taken. We are further proving that the mentality of being “sue happy” is tolerated as well as feared upon without as much as even a full evaluation of the merit.

Hens not only contribute greatly to the well being of homeowners alike, they connect us to our food. They require responsibility, understanding, and teach you how to benefit from your efforts. If you are uncomfortable with chemicals being dumped into your yard, hens can drastically eliminate weeds AND pests. If you are uncomfortable in paying \$3.99 for a squash at the store in hopes that the pretty little organic, non-gmo label is real..you can find comfort in knowing that you can enhance your own garden with chicken waste. You can grow your own produce and feed your family and friends for much less than what you spend at the store, and yes, hens contribute. You can teach children how to be compassionate, self sufficient, and smart about what they are eating.

If you or someone you know or love has suffered or is suffering from Cancer, wouldn't you like to be able to help in ensuring their food is quality? Healthy gardens produce healthy vegetables which turn you into a healthy human being. Healthy eggs come from healthy chickens who aren't caged up and pumped with hormones and feed to lay eggs and do nothing else. Eggs that are bleached and stored for months on end are not good for you. It really is common sense, and I'm appalled that we even need to lay it out this way.

I encourage you to research big farms and see where these eggs are really coming from. How these hens are really treated. The treatment of the hens trickles into the eggs that you consume and we should all be concerned about where our food comes from. Animals of all species deserve dignity, and chickens are no different. You provide them a healthy life, and they provide you with healthy eggs for your family and friends alike. What is the harm in that?

I sincerely hope that our Council hears our voices and takes their job seriously. Please do your research, know what you're options are, and do not shy away from something that has no merit. If this is revoked I will have no choice but to believe that our Council does not hope for a better, healthier, and more self sufficient City.

Sincerely,

A born and bred Bakersfield Resident.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Terrence Banks](#)
To: city_counsel@bakersfieldcity.us; [City Clerk](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Chicken Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 6:25:33 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City of Bakersfield,

I'm writing to you today to let you know that as a resident of this City, I'm outraged by the recent actions of City Council regarding The suspension of the Urban Hen Ordinance that was already voted for. A minority group threatening with lawsuits should not dictate what the rest of the majority of residents in Bakersfield do with their property. Anyone can wave \$10,000 dollars and threaten with a lawsuit. Does that mean the city will just do whatever people with money demand to be done? We urge you as a large group of residents of Bakersfield to continue on with the ordinance and allow people to exercise one of the basic rights which is do what they please with their property as long as it doesn't hurt others properties which in this case, we believe it will not. The city Council and the city serves the people not the minority Rich, let us please keep it that way.

Thank you
Terrence Banks

Sent from my iPhone

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Terrence Banks](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Chicken Ordinance (Terrence Banks)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:31:48 PM

Good evening, Mr. Banks,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen

Karen Goh | Mayor
City of Bakersfield
email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3770

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

From: Terrence Banks [<mailto:terrencebanks@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 6:25 PM
To: city_counsel@bakersfieldcity.us; City_Clerk <City_Clerk@bakersfieldcity.us>; bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>
Subject: Chicken Ordinance

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City of Bakersfield,

I'm writing to you today to let you know that as a resident of this City, I'm outraged by the recent actions of City Council regarding The suspension of the Urban Hen Ordinance that was already voted for. A minority group threatening with lawsuits should not dictate what the rest of the majority of residents in Bakersfield do with their property. Anyone can wave \$10,000 dollars and threaten with a lawsuit. Does that mean the city will just do whatever people with money demand to be done? We urge you as a large group of residents of Bakersfield to continue on with the ordinance and allow people to exercise one of the basic rights which is do what they please with their property as long as it doesn't hurt others properties which in this case, we believe it will not. The city Council and the city serves the people not the minority Rich, let us please keep it that way.

Thank you
Terrence Banks

Sent from my iPhone

From: btkloth@bak.rr.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:01:06 AM
Importance: High

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Good morning. I (Terry Kloth) have been a resident of Bakersfield since 1978. Our residence is in an R-1 Zone. My wife and I are in strong agreement to the city council's decisions to rescind the hen ordinance.

I grew up on a farm in Illinois and we had chickens and other farm animals on our farm. The chickens coops were smelly and had to be cleaned regularly to keep the smell and odors down. This waste from cleaning has to be disposed of somewhere. Disposal is no problem on a farm or in area zoned for farm animals. Both the waste and the chickens themselves are a disease problem and will generate other problems such as increased rats and mice which will increase the spread of disease.

We chose to live in an R-1 Zone for we did not wish to have chickens or other farm animals in our neighborhood. Since 1978 when we purchased our house this has not been a problem since farm animals such as chickens have not been allowed in R-1 zones.

Those people who desire to raise chickens and other farm animals need to move to areas which are zoned for chickens and other farm animals. People who have purchase homes in R-1 zones have purchased for a reason one of which is that they did not wish to have chickens or farm animals in their neighborhood.

Once again we support the city council's decision to rescind the hen ordinance. Thanks, Terry & Betsy Kloth

From: [mytiffanyrose](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: I support Bakersfield hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:27:36 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am a 9 year homeowner of ward 5 and I support the right to own chickens in my neighborhood.

Tiffany Amaya

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Timari Duty](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: oppose rescinding hen ordinance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:03:28 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the rescension at the February 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we were exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law. Up hold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation. Thank you.

Blessings,
Timari Duty

21 FEB -2 PM 1:46

BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021


Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

Sincerely,



Timothy M Johnson

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

From: [Tom Williams](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Oppose rescinding Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 3:23:35 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members, Mayor Goh, Ms. Gennaro, and Mr. Clegg:

I hope this finds you well. Those of us residents who support the Backyard Hen Initiative are deeply concerned about the consideration to rescind the previously approved ordinance that allowed backyard hens; from what we understand about the recent closed session, a majority were in favor of voting to rescind it at the upcoming meeting on February 3.

The anonymous group who has sued the city with a frivolous environmental lawsuit citing CEQA violations has subverted the democratic process that was fairly and legally completed in 2020.

This group - "Citizens for the Preservation of the R-1 Zones" - has NO history of advocacy for the environment and remains anonymous. Their lawyers in Beverly Hills have zero intention of negotiating. This is a power play. Given the legal team for these "Citizens" has indicated that as long as there are "no hens" there will be "no lawsuit", I believe this is civil extortion. And the Council is about to play their game.

Their legal team has somehow already racked up \$9,000 in legal fees, with the threat of tens of thousands of more dollars the city will pay IF the city defends the lawsuit and loses. But bow to their demands by rescinding the previously approved hen ordinance, and the lawsuit goes away.

The lawyers of this anonymous group allege that there was a CEQA violation due to the "common sense" waiver being used in the hen ordinance. This waiver has been used many times by other cities throughout California. It means that common sense says that backyard hens in the homesteads of city residents who choose to keep them will not have a significant effect on the environment. The fundamental definition of significant effect under CEQA is "a substantial adverse change in physical conditions." We believe that it's impossible for backyard hens in private homes to have a substantial adverse change in the physical environment of the city. Given the information and evidence our group of community supporters has gathered, along with the knowledge that the City has previously defended itself against similar lawsuits, we believe the potential to win is much stronger than the potential to lose. The Council should NOT rescind the hen ordinance and should fight to defend themselves in this lawsuit, as well as uphold the ethical obligation to its constituents and preserve the fair and democratic practice that is at stake here.

Obviously we are extremely disappointed given the overwhelming support demonstrated for backyard hens over the months-long, thorough process that took place to get the ordinance passed, as well as the majority council vote that officially approved the ordinance in November 2020.

The fact that one small group of disgruntled folks has put the city in the position of having to choose between fighting a costly legal battle to uphold a previously approved ordinance or caving to the lawyers and rescinding the ordinance is not only outrageous, but sets a terrible precedent for the future.

Council members are supposed to represent and serve the community. Our elected officials have a responsibility and obligation to work with the majority public. The city of Bakersfield has an obligation to do its due diligence and fight this lawsuit. The cost to the taxpayers is extremely unfortunate, but the opposition has left NO choice given that they are not willing to negotiate at all. A lawsuit from an anonymous party who is not willing to come to an agreement, entertain a conversation, or negotiate in any way seems to be one that is clearly perpetuated for the sole intent of what it's about to achieve: shutting down a policy they disagree with and flexing their muscles for

community and political influence.

Please know this: the community members who support backyard hens are willing to negotiate. We are willing to discuss reasonable revisions to the ordinance, particularly those that may be most concerning like allowing hens to free range, or the amount of hens allowed based on square footage. We believe we could all come to an agreement that serves the community, protects food sovereignty, expands on the list of current approved backyard pets, and makes a minimal impact to the city residents.

We are here to hold you accountable. I encourage the newly elected council members to review the many previous meetings that the council held where the community voiced their support, as well as read the record of letters and phone calls surrounding this issue. The workshop process first began in June 2020. The first vote approving the first draft of the ordinance took place in October 2020. At that time, there was no mention of CEQA at all; in November 2020 prior to the second and final vote, one council member became concerned with it moments before voting and did indicate they'd be faced with a lawsuit if they voted to approve it. Although this (partially) new Council may not have heard from us recently (because we believed this ordinance was, although tabled by a lawsuit, at least safe from being rescinded!), we were the majority.

It is egregious to think that our city council would not be willing to defend against this frivolous lawsuit, both for the sake of backyard hen ownership and protecting the democratic process from future muscle-flexers and political influencers.

We implore the Bakersfield City Council to not rescind the ordinance and to continue to work with the community to come to a resolution regarding backyard hens. If it must defend itself in a lawsuit, then it must. Not because backyard hens caused this, but because a few disgruntled people lawyered up and put the pressure on. Don't cave to this bad practice and the bad precedent that will follow.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of the other cities in California that allow backyard hens in homes that are less than 1 acre:

San Diego
Santa Rosa
Long Beach
Oxnard
Murrieta
Citrus Heights
Elk Grove
Stockton
La Mesa
Hanford
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Pasadena
Glendora
Chino
Rancho Cucamonga
Monterey Park
San Marino
Santa Fe Springs
Sacramento
Folsom
Porterville
San Jose
Santa Maria
San Luis Obispo
West Covina
Fullerton
San Clemente
Laguna Niguel

Roseville

I know progress can be a little slower in our big small town, but the opposition to such a simple issue allowing families to raise hens and collect their own eggs is embarrassing.

Sincerely,
Tom & Dee Williams

Blessings! Dee

From: [Tony Lopez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Stop the hen invasion!
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:00:16 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I am all for hens in the right place. I saw hens and roosters in the campus park duck enclosure. Invasive!! I oppose hen ordinance. Please repeal.

From: [Tracey Crawford](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:13:20 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Council Members,

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We're asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city's ordinance, all without incident. Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit, and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Tracey Crawford

From: [Troy J Carroll](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support backyard Hens
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:31:06 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

Though I do not live in the city proper as an owner of backyard chickens I strongly support the rights of my fellow residents to own & keep back yard chickens. They can be a great source of fresh organic eggs for your household as well as a way for children to learn the arts of animal husbandry.

Thank you for your time,

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 OUT BREAK CUSTOMERS ARE CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED IN THE FACILITY. ALL WILL CALLS ARE TO BE PICKED UP IN THE MAIN YARD. PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL IN ORDERS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Troy J. Carroll
Operations Manager
CED Greentech Bakersfield
115 Kentucky st.
Bakersfield, CA
93305
O:661-631-0213
www.Greentechbakersfield.com

From: [Troy J Carroll](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard chickens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:34:09 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To whom it may concern,

Though I do not live in the city proper as an owner of backyard chickens I strongly support the rights of my fellow residents to own & keep back yard chickens. They can be a great source of fresh organic eggs for your household as well as a way for children to learn the arts of animal husbandry.

Thank you for your time,

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 OUT BREAK CUSTOMERS ARE CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED IN THE FACILITY. ALL WILL CALLS ARE TO BE PICKED UP IN THE MAIN YARD. PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL IN ORDERS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Troy J. Carroll
Operations Manager
CED Greentech Bakersfield
115 Kentucky st.
Bakersfield, CA
93305
O:661-631-0213
www.Greentechbakersfield.com

From: [Tyler Bates](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: letter in support of domesticated hens
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:02:29 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We re asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city s ordinance, all without incident . Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit , and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

From: [Tyler Bates](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Allow Backyard Hens In Bakersfield
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 12:48:23 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for rescission at the Feb 3 meeting.

We re asking you to uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. The city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit.

Over 35 cities in California allow backyard hens in homesteads that are smaller than 1 acre. 19 cities that we know of have used the CEQA "common sense" waiver that was also used in our city s ordinance, all without incident . Furthermore, in all of the work that was done toward this ordinance, including the workshop and discovery period by city staff, the drafting of the ordinance, the committee review of the draft, the public hearing portion, and the two meetings in which this was an agenda item, the CEQA concerns were only mentioned by one private resident in open comment at the 11th hour and then reiterated by one council member moments before voting.

It is clear there is no basis for this lawsuit , and it is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

This lawsuit was filed by an anonymous, disgruntled individual or individuals who have no history of environmental advocacy. Their legal team has refused to negotiate or agree on any terms other than "no hens." This is a power play. The community supporters involved with the backyard hen initiative are willing and able to come to a resolution that is fair and reasonable for all involved. We did not bring this lawsuit on and do not appreciate our own taxpayer dollars going toward such a ridiculous claim, and we remain open and willing to work toward solutions. But we will also hold you accountable to your obligation to the will of the majority.

Rescinding this ordinance based on the fear of litigation costs in a case that can be won is bad leadership, bad practice, and sets a bad precedent.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council from November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents.
Uphold your obligation

From: [Valerie Walker](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen Policy
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:06:01 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to raise laying hens as a food source for my family. I oppose the council from rescinding the ordinance.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Vicki Tobin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [AdmMgr: DEVPln](#)
Subject: Backyard Chicken Initiative
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:07:54 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear Council Members,

My husband and I would like to voice our support for the initiative that will be up for recension at the
February 3rd meeting.

We are asking that the council uphold the ordiance that was legally and fairly passed.

Uphold the ordiance.

Uphold the vote.

Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,

John and Vicki Tobin

From: [Victoria Milligan](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:30:38 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello Mayor Goh,
I do not support rescinding the hen ordinance,

From: [bakersfield mayor](#)
To: [Victoria Milligan](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Danielle Mabon](#); [Claudia Heredia-Clarke](#)
Subject: RE: Backyard Hens (Victoria Milligan)
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:09:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good evening, Ms. Milligan,

Thank you for your email. By cc to the City Clerk, I'm asking that this correspondence be a part of the official comments for the City Council meeting of February, 3, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Best regards,

Karen



Karen Goh | Mayor

City of Bakersfield

email: mayor@bakersfieldcity.us

web: www.bakersfieldcity.us

phone: 661-326-3770



From: Victoria Milligan [mailto:lovedbyjesus14@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:31 PM

To: bakersfield mayor <mayor@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject:

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello Mayor Goh,
I do not support rescinding the hen ordinance,

From: [Victoria Williamson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Hen ordinance
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:53:34 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

To Whom it May Concern:

I live within the city limits of Bakersfield and I strongly OPPOSE the hen ordinance! If I wanted farm animals I would have purchased property in the country or within county limits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victoria Williamson
11009 Mohican Dr/93312

From: [walkingdead237](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support backyard hens
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:45:05 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Support backyard hens!!!!

From: [Walter Keenan](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: NO on Backyard Hen Ordinance
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:36:42 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I strongly urge you NOT TO ALLOW hens in residential backyards not currently zoned for such. Both sides of this issue cite credible stories of what will / might happen if such an ordinance is passed, but the potential for a myriad of problems strongly exists if this would pass and so it is prudent NOT to allow it.

We are fortunate that there is plenty of space in close proximity outside of the “city” where one could live if one really wanted to raise chickens. I specifically chose to live in the city as I did not want to neighbor with such.

you made a mistake initially in passing this ordinance but now you have the opportunity to rectify it. VOTE AGAINST The BACKYARD HEN ORDINANCE !

I will not support with my future vote any council member voting in favor of this.

Thank you

Walter Keenan

Sent from my iPad

21 FEB -2 PM 1:45
BAKERSFIELD CITY CLERK

February 1, 2021

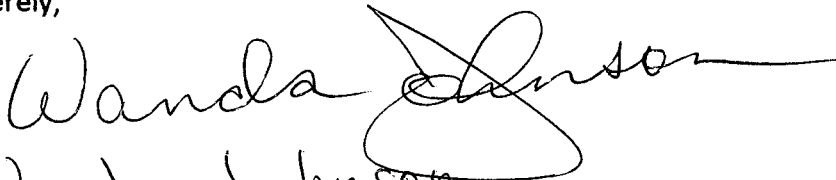
Dear Councilmember Gonzales,

I wholeheartedly support the City Council decision to rescind the backyard hen ordinance. The ordinance disrupts the existing residential quality of life and negatively impacts property values in R1 zones. The change was done without public notice and the Planning Commission process was omitted. Additionally, the ordinance proceeded during the COVID -19 pandemic when public gatherings were and still are discouraged. The impact of public speakers has been lost.

Without being rescinded a CEQA lawsuit requiring a costly EIR will be required. I do not want any tax money spent on an EIR to satisfy the wishes of a small special interest group advocating for backyard hens.

Please proceed with rescinding the backyard hen ordinance.

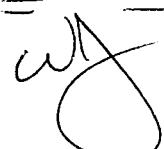
Sincerely,



Wanda Johnson

Quailwood, Ward 2

Cc: Councilmembers Arias, Weir, Smith, Freeman, Gray, Parlier

*I had a neighbor who had backyard hens which
created a huge trash problem. No hens!*


From: [Wanda Petersen](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#)
Subject: Backyard chickens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:40:25 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

This is my formal opposition to the rescinding of the previously passed Hen Ordinance. The fact that our city representatives are considering caving to a baseless and anonymous lawsuit from a law firm who isn't from our area and has no prior history of fighting for the environment is absolutely ridiculous and so incredibly disheartening. At this point, it has nothing to do with hens and everything to do with standing up for the common people who don't have money to throw away and aren't trying to bully their way into our city government. This is uncalled for and I'm disappointed that it's even being considered. DO NOT CAVE TO THE BULLIES. STAND BEHIND YOUR PREVIOUS DECISION.

From: [Wendi Kaff](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Backyard Hens
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 7:51:07 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would appreciate the opportunity for my family to have backyard hens.

From: [yousef.M.hamed](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Urban Hen Ordinance Hault
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:08:31 AM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Hello City of Bakersfield,

I'm writing to you today to let you know that as a resident of this City, I'm outraged by the recent actions of City Council regarding The suspension of the Urban Hen Ordinance that was already voted for. A minority group threatening with lawsuits should not dictate what the rest of the majority of residents in Bakersfield do with their property. Anyone can wave \$10,000 dollars and threaten with a lawsuit. Does that mean the city will just do whatever people with money demand to be done? We urge you as a large group of residents of Bakersfield to continue on with the ordinance and allow people to exercise one of the basic rights which is do what they please with their property as long as it doesn't hurt others properties which in this case, we believe it will not. The city Council and the city serves the people not the minority Rich, let us please keep it that way.

Thank you