



Proposed Ordinance

BACKYARD BEEKEEPING

March 19th, 2015
Public Staff Hearing
CPC-2015-578-CA
ENV-2015-579-EAF

BEES

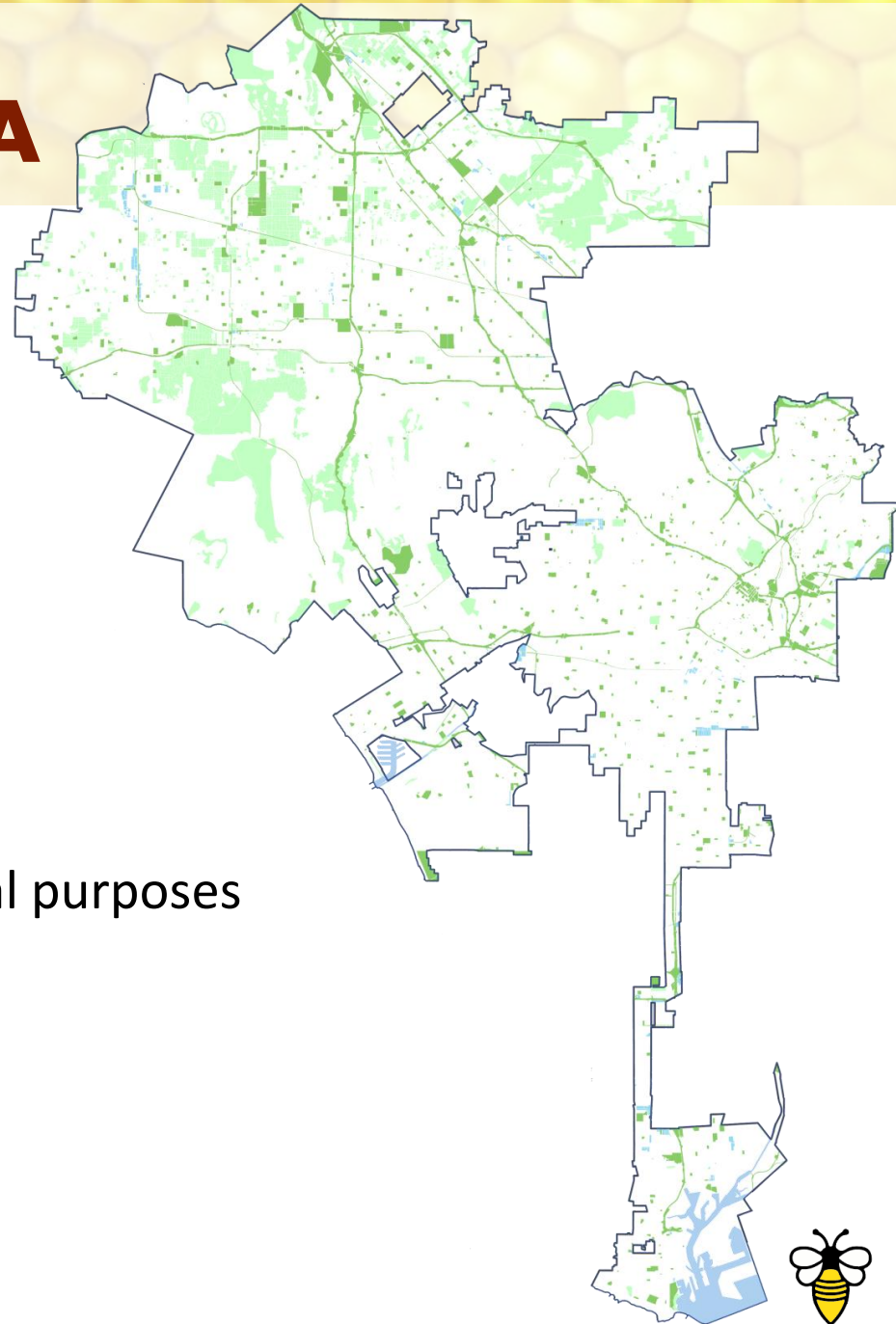
- Concern for health of bees and impact on food system
- Backyard beekeeping legalized in cities around the country and world over the last several years
- Allowing backyard beekeeping supports bees; regulating it ensures health of bees and health and safety of human neighbors



BEEKEEPING IN LA

Currently Allowed In:

- Agricultural zones (A1, A2)
- Industrial zones (MR1)
- Public Facility (PF) for educational purposes



CITY COUNCIL MOTION

- City Council Motion introduced on May 12, 2012
- City Council Motion directed Planning to prepare a report, in consultation with Animal Services, regarding the feasibility of allowing beekeeping in R zones

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
Interim City Clerk

When making inquiries relative to this matter, please refer to the Council File No.

February 18, 2014

To All Interested Parties:

Office of the CITY CLERK
Council and Public Services
Room 396, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012
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ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

as attached, under Council File No. 12-0785.

1/4/14
File No. 12-0785

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the feasibility of allowing beekeeping in the R~~X~~ zones as a practice to foster a healthier bee population.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Rosendahl - LaBonge):

1. INSTRUCT the Department of City Planning (DCP) to prepare a report, in consultation with the Department of Animal Services, relative to the feasibility of allowing beekeeping in R~~X~~ zones as a practice to foster a healthier bee population.
2. DIRECT the DCP and the Department of Animal Services to report back to Planning and Land Use Management Committee in 60 days.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis on this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

Support Proposal: Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council
West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Palms Neighborhood Council
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
Los Feliz Neighborhood Council
Hollywood United Neighborhood Council
Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council

Summary:
At a regular meeting held on December 10, 2013, the Planning and Land Use Management Committee considered Motion (Rosendahl - LaBonge) relative to the feasibility of allowing beekeeping in the R1 zones as a practice to foster a healthier bee population. After an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council approve the recommendation in the Motion and direct the departments to report back in 60 days. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,
PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOICE
HUZAR	YES
CEDELO	YES
ENGLANDER	YES

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS.

JAN 14 2014 - CONTINUED TO FEB. 4, 2014
FEB - 4 2014 Continued to Feb. 12, 2014

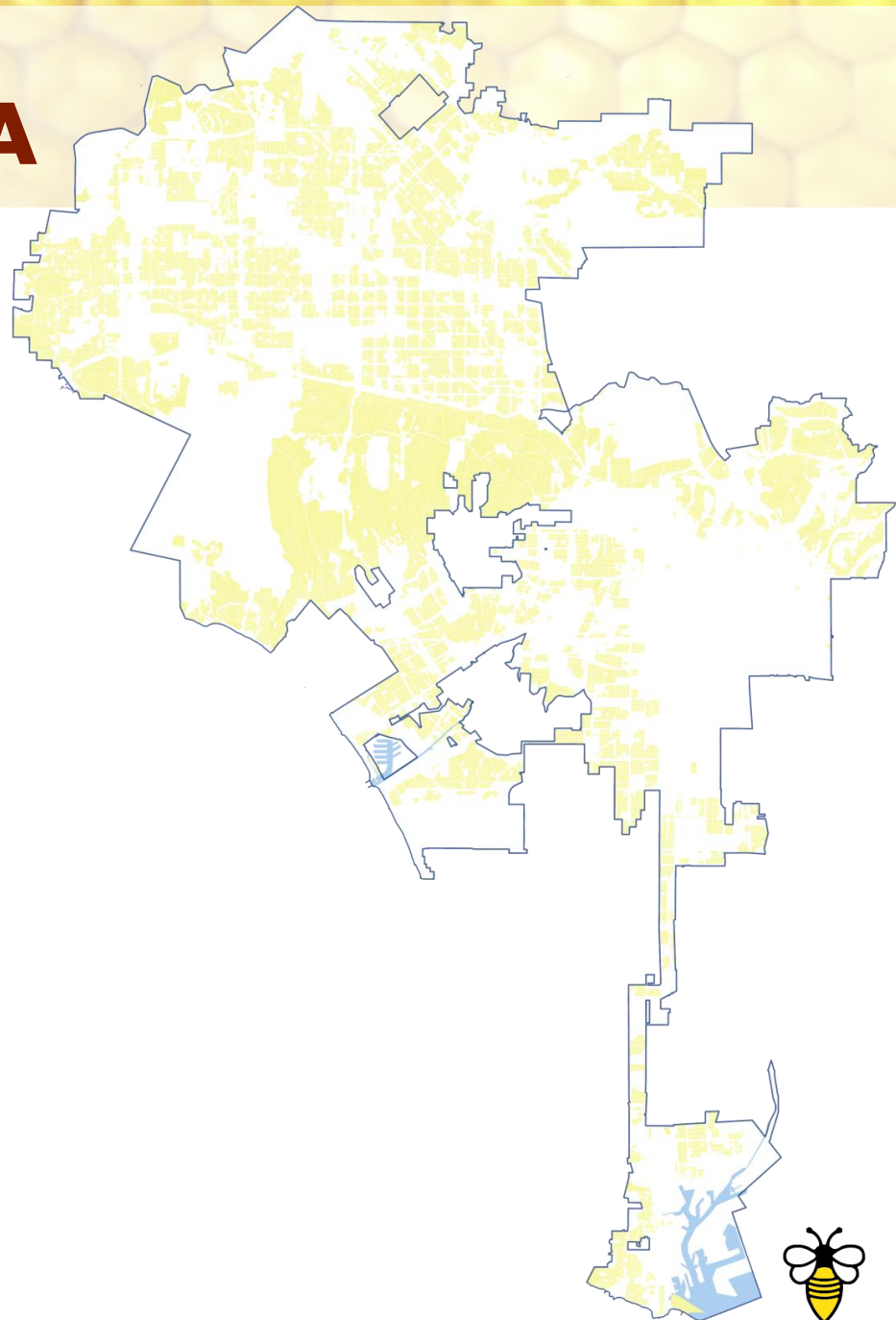
ADOPTED
* as amended
FEB 12 2014
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
FORTHWITH



BEEKEEPING IN LA

Proposed to be Allowed In:

- Single-Family Zones
(RA, RE, RS, R1)



OTHER CITY/COUNTY ORDINANCES



City of Santa Monica (2011)

- 2 hives maximum per lot
- At least 5 feet from all lot lines
- 6 foot tall barrier, unless hive is 8 feet above grade
- 1 violation in 4 years, no reported problems

City of San Diego (2012)

- 1-2 hives: outside setbacks/15 feet from ROW, lot lines
- 3+ hives: 100 feet from ROW; distancing from neighboring lots, 600 feet from neighbors' residential buildings
- 6 foot tall barrier, unless hive is 8 feet above grade



SUMMARY

Regulations

- Maximum number of hives
- Minimum distances between hives and lot lines (neighbors)
- Fence, wall or hedge between hives and adjacent lot lines
- Hive positioning

Guidelines

- Hive management (maintaining hives, providing water, equipment storage, etc.)



Photo by Tristan Ferne / [CC BY](#)

REGULATIONS SUMMARY

Regulations

- Register as beekeeper with County of Los Angeles
- Maximum of one hive for every 2500 square feet of Lot area
- Hives minimum 5 feet from lot lines, 20 feet from public right-of-way/private street
- Hive entrances face away from or parallel to nearest lot line
- 6 foot wall or vegetative barrier between hives and adjacent lots, or placement of hives minimum of 8 feet above grade (ground level) of adjacent lot

Definitions

Apiary The keeping or maintenance of Bees in a collection of Hives or colonies

Bee Any stage of the common domestic honey bee, *Apis Mellifera* species

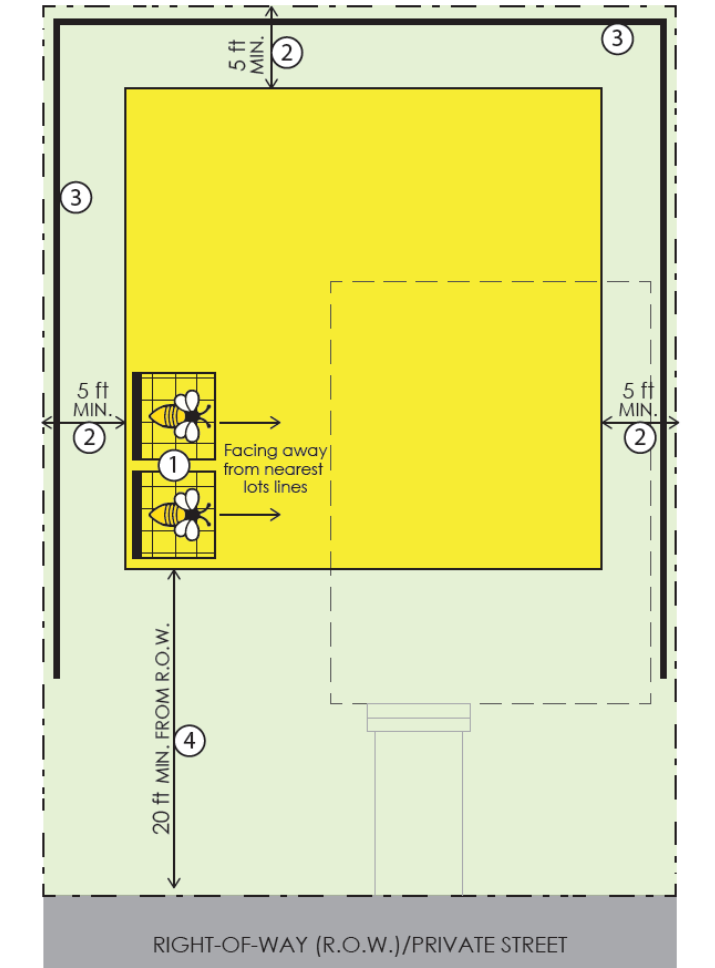
Beekeeping, Backyard The keeping or maintenance of an Apiary in a Hive as accessory use




Hive A structure for the housing of a bee colony



REGULATIONS SUMMARY

Example: 5,000 Square Foot Lot



- LOT LINE
-  BEE HIVES
- WALL, FENCE OR HEDGE
- - - SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING
-  PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY/PRIVATE STREET
-  ALLOWED AREA

- ① Maximum 1 hive per 2,500 square feet of Lot Area, facing away from nearest lots lines
- ② Minimum 5 ft distance from hives to Front, Side, and Rear Lot Lines
- ③ 6 ft wall, fence, or hedge between hives and nearest lot line, or hives are placed at a minimum of 8 ft above ground level
- ④ Minimum 20 ft distance from hives to the public right-of-way or private street





PROPOSED GUIDELINES

- Hives kept in sound and usable condition
- Water source provided on lot where bees are kept, to discourage bee visitation at water sources on adjacent public or private property
- Hive maintenance materials or equipment stored in sealed container or within building or enclosure



NEXT STEPS

- **Last day to submit comments:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015
- **City Planning Commission** (public hearing): May 14, 2015
- **Planning and Land Use Management Committee** (public hearing)
- **City Council** (public hearing)





QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

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