

Backyard Chickens

Tuesday, May 22, 2015

598

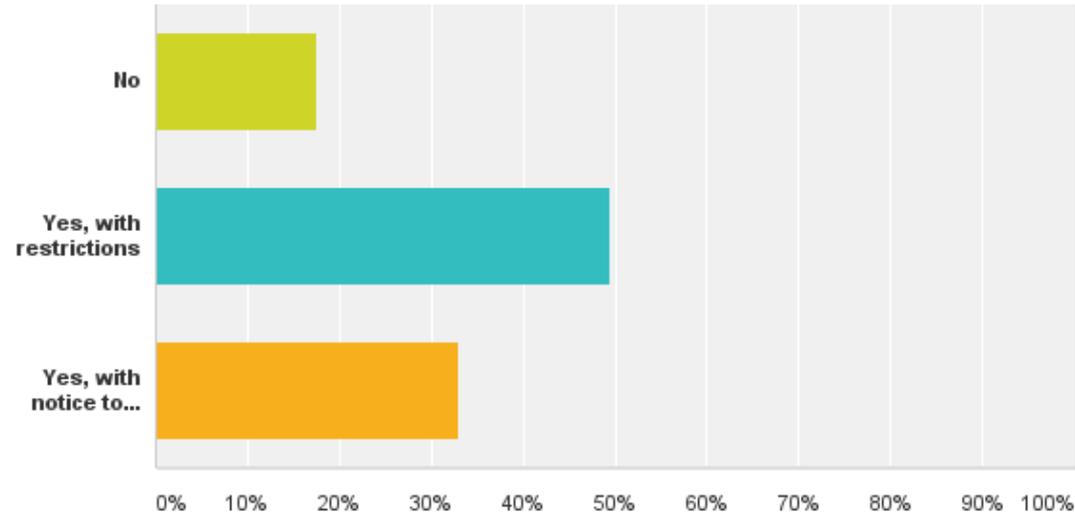
Total Responses

Date Created: Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Complete Responses: 535

Q1: Should the City of Sherwood change its policy to make it easier to allow backyard chickens?

Answered: 522 Skipped: 76



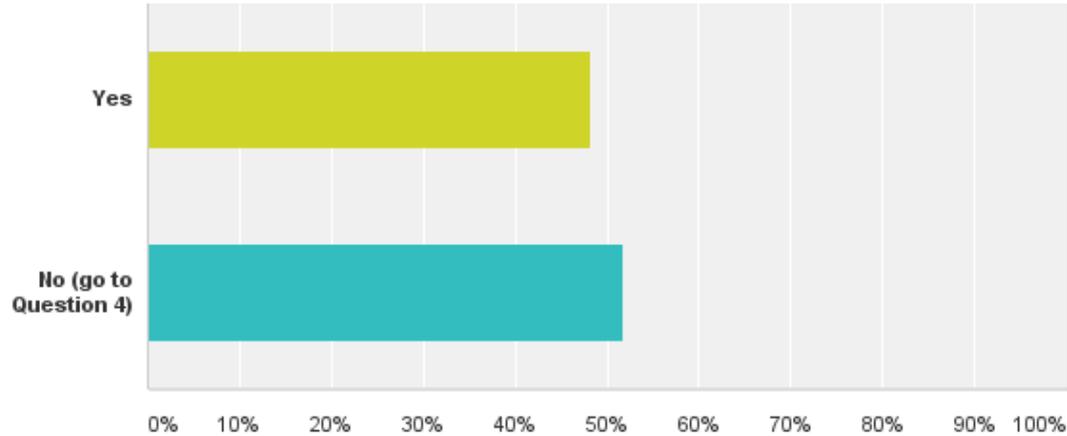
Q1: Should the City of Sherwood change its policy to make it easier to allow backyard chickens?

Answered: 522 Skipped: 76

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	17.62%	92
Yes, with restrictions	49.43%	258
Yes, with notice to neighbors	32.95%	172
Total		522

Q2: If backyard chickens are allowed, should residents be required to get a permit from the City? (This could be a change from the existing requirement to obtain conditional use permit)

Answered: 531 Skipped: 67



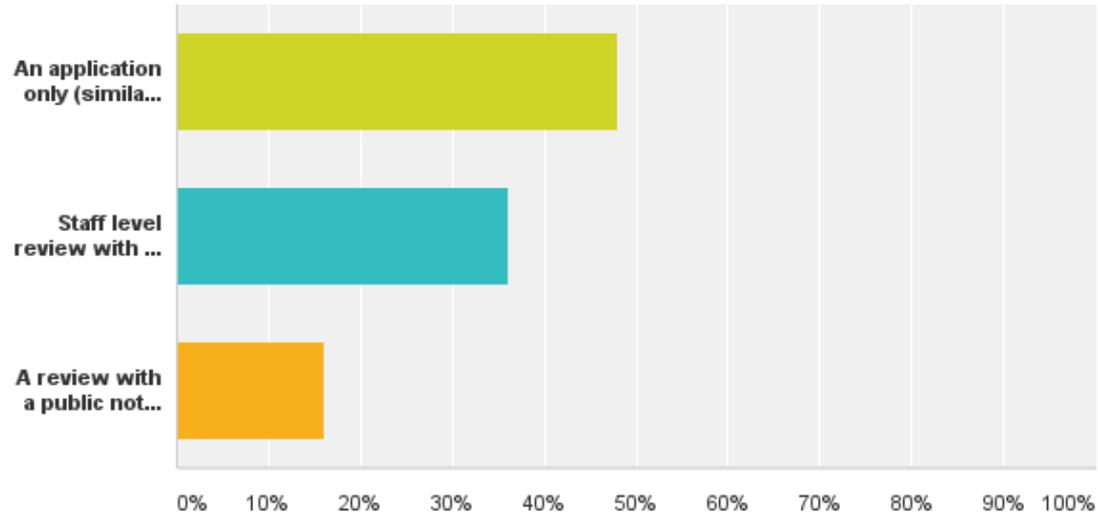
Q2: If backyard chickens are allowed, should residents be required to get a permit from the City? (This could be a change from the existing requirement to obtain conditional use permit)

Answered: 531 Skipped: 67

Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	48.21% 256
No (go to Question 4)	51.79% 275
Total	531

Q3: If a backyard chicken permit is required, what level of review should an application have? (check all that apply)

Answered: 288 Skipped: 310



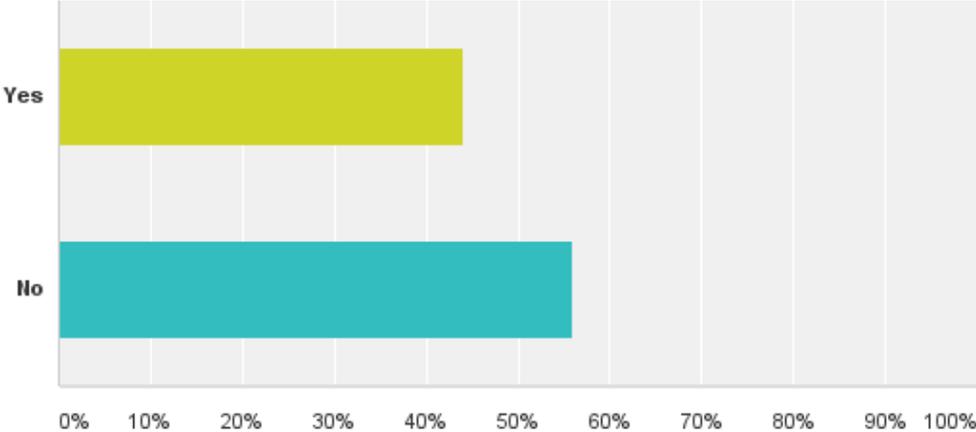
Q3: If a backyard chicken permit is required, what level of review should an application have? (check all that apply)

Answered: 288 Skipped: 310

Answer Choices	Responses	
An application only (similar to a license or registry)	47.92%	138
Staff level review with a clear set of requirements	36.11%	104
A review with a public notice and public hearing	15.97%	46
Total		288

Q4: If your neighbor wanted to have chickens would you want to be notified?

Answered: 530 Skipped: 68



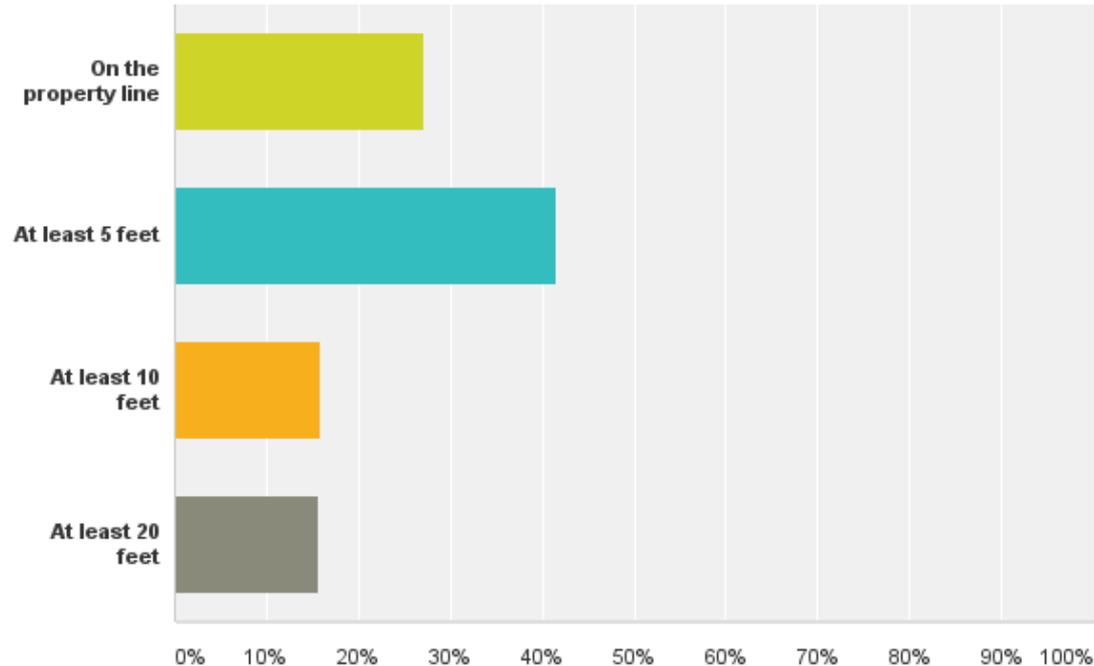
Q4: If your neighbor wanted to have chickens would you want to be notified?

Answered: 530 Skipped: 68

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	44.15%	234
No	55.85%	296
Total		530

Q5: We currently allow accessory structures in the backyard. We would consider chicken enclosures an accessory structure. How far from the rear and side property lines should the enclosures be allowed?

Answered: 526 Skipped: 72



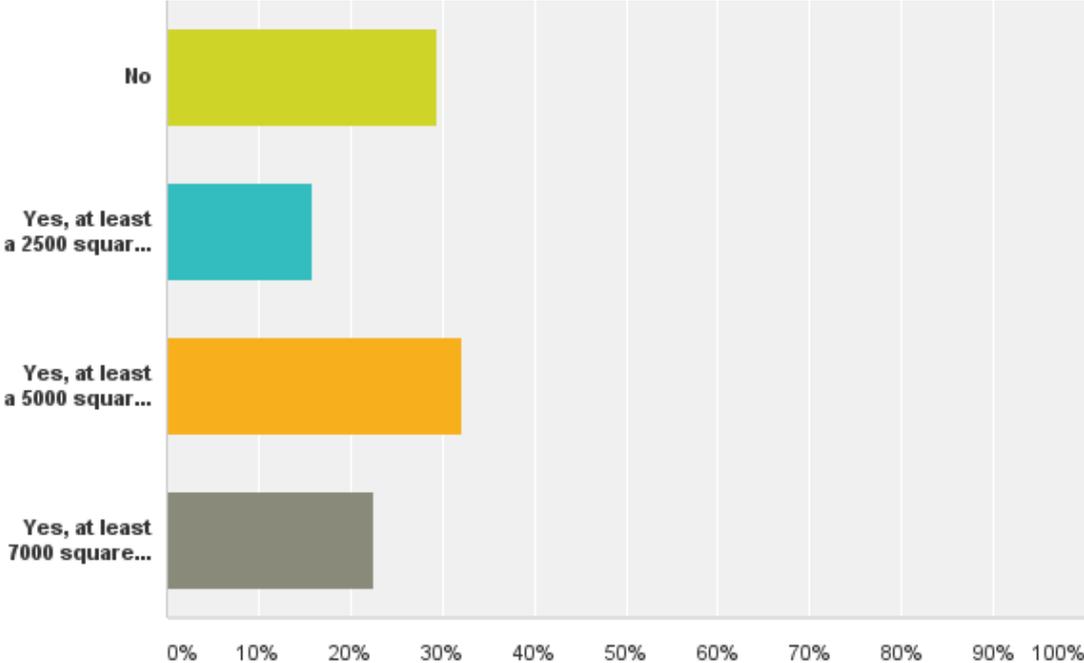
Q5: We currently allow accessory structures in the backyard. We would consider chicken enclosures an accessory structure. How far from the rear and side property lines should the enclosures be allowed?

Answered: 526 Skipped: 72

Answer Choices	Responses
On the property line	27.19% 143
At least 5 feet	41.44% 218
At least 10 feet	15.78% 83
At least 20 feet	15.59% 82
Total	526

Q6: The lot size is the total land area of your property. Should there be a minimum lot size to have backyard chickens?

Answered: 531 Skipped: 67



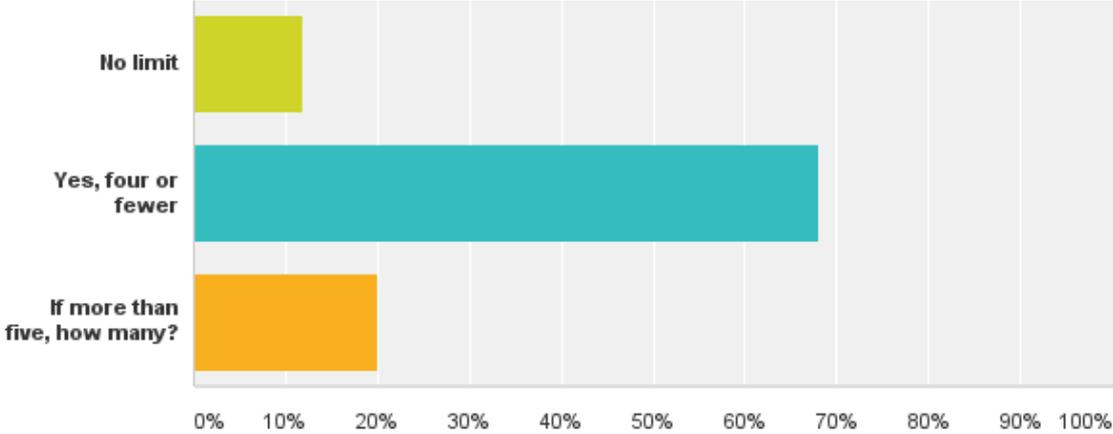
Q6: The lot size is the total land area of your property. Should there be a minimum lot size to have backyard chickens?

Answered: 531 Skipped: 67

Answer Choices	Responses
No	29.38% 156
Yes, at least a 2500 square feet lot size (townhomes or condos)	15.82% 84
Yes, at least a 5000 square feet lot size (typical single family home, with some exceptions)	32.20% 171
Yes, at least 7000 square feet lot size (single family homes in low density zones on larger lots)	22.60% 120
Total	531

Q7: Should there be a limit on the number of birds, and what should that limit be?

Answered: 530 Skipped: 68



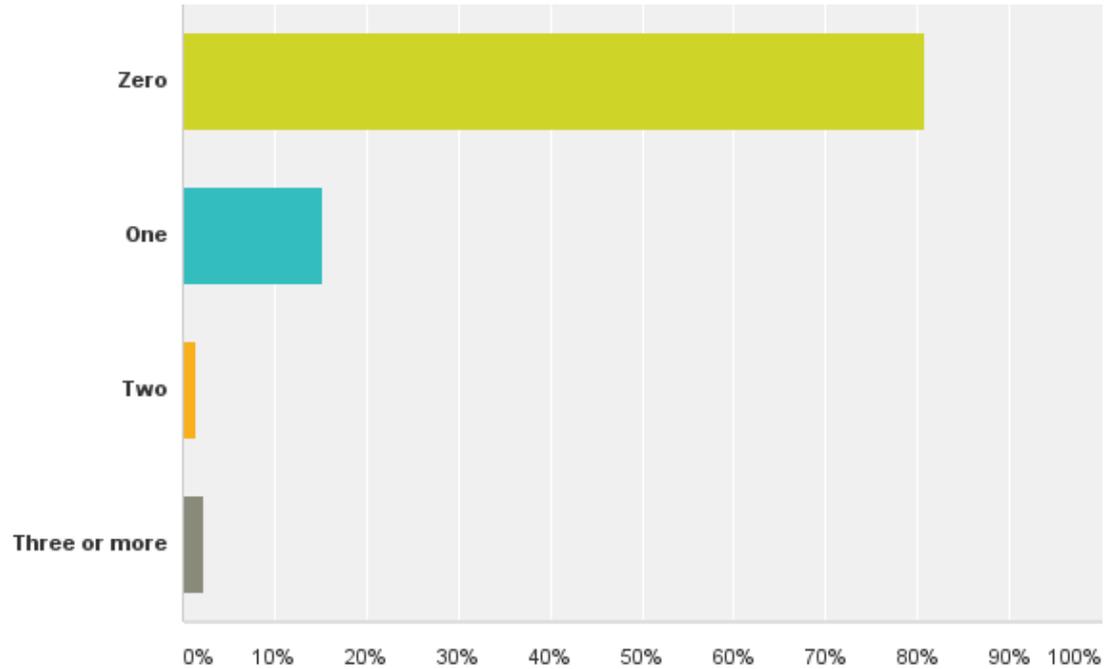
Q7: Should there be a limit on the number of birds, and what should that limit be?

Answered: 530 Skipped: 68

Answer Choices	Responses
No limit	11.89% 63
Yes, four or fewer	68.11% 361
If more than five, how many?	20.00% 106
Total	530

Q8: How many roosters should be allowed?

Answered: 528 Skipped: 70



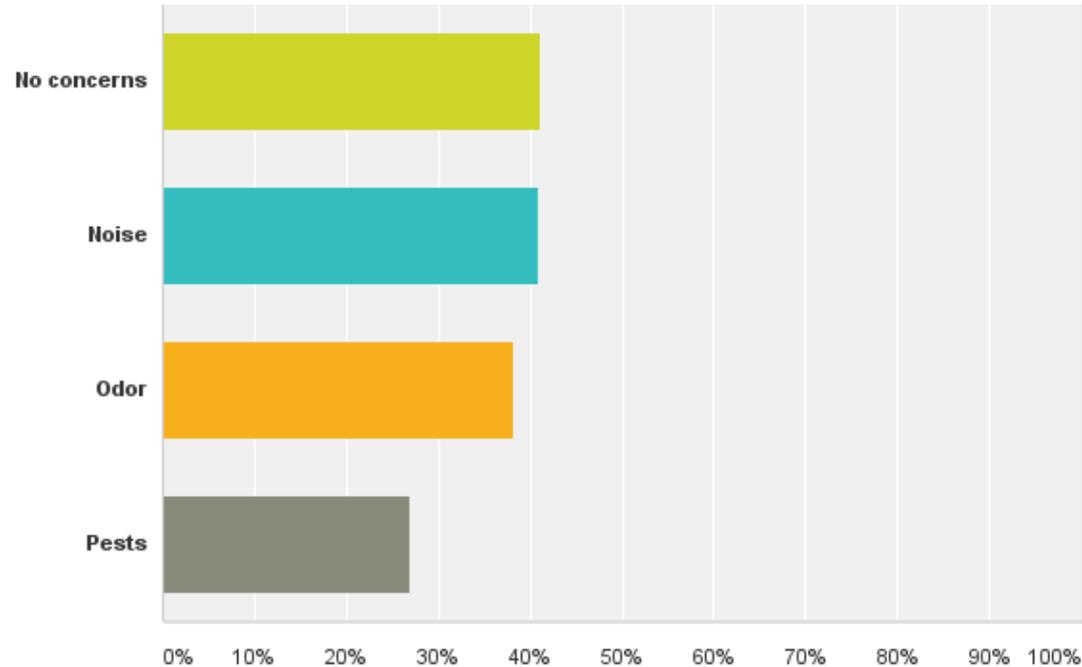
Q8: How many roosters should be allowed?

Answered: 528 Skipped: 70

Answer Choices	Responses
Zero	80.87% 427
One	15.34% 81
Two	1.52% 8
Three or more	2.27% 12
Total	528

Q9: If the City were to allow backyard chickens what would be your primary concerns? (check all that apply)

Answered: 529 Skipped: 69



Q9: If the City were to allow backyard chickens what would be your primary concerns? (check all that apply)

Answered: 529 Skipped: 69

Answer Choices	Responses	
No concerns	41.21%	218
Noise	41.02%	217
Odor	38.19%	202
Pests	27.03%	143
Total Respondents: 529		

Backyard chickens survey comments

May 22, 2015

I really hope chickens are allowed in Sherwood. I hope you will allow it. Thank you for your time!

Chickens are not harmful and provide happiness to families!

Yes, with the following restrictions: - no roosters - lot size restrictions (many lot sizes in Sherwood are too small for chickens not for the chicken's sake but for neighbors) lot sizes less than 10k square feet would not work. - hoas must have the ability to reject chickens entirely - the permit fee should be reduced to a reasonable fee, but not so cheap that just anyone can add chickens without serious consideration. In other words, not \$50 but perhaps somewhere in the \$500 to \$800 range. - chickens must be in a penned or fenced yard, both for the safety of the chickens and the neighbors. - limit the number of hens, perhaps based on lot size?

Just let people have their hens, but require a registration or permit just to make sure they have the space and means to keep them humanely. But there should be no payments to the city involved besides perhaps a nominal admin fee for researching an applicant's space. That's just ridiculous to charge outrageous fees for such things.

Yes, with no restrictions. (3)

Yes. As in most progressive cities municipalities are discovering that small flocks with no rooster pose no problems in urban neighborhoods. In fact, their presence is bringing communities together.

Yes, but it shouldn't be anyone's business what someone wanted to do on their own property.

No restrictions (except for roos), no notification.

Restrictions should only for small land residence, no rosters allowed

Make a max # allowable without neighbor consent.

Absolutely. Neighbors don't need notification either.

No restrictions or notice to neighbors needed!

Yes...no notice required.

Neighbors should be notified - but they shouldn't decide the outcome. The application process should.

No fees if neighbors approve

As long as your neighbors approve, and it is registered with the city, that should be enough. My neighbors don't care but I would never pay anything to the city to have chickens.

I think having chickens is a superb idea. An application with approval from bordering neighbors and clear guidelines as to how many can be had would ensure harmony in the neighborhoods.

I think that citizens of Sherwood should be allowed to have chickens within their backyards with a small fee for a permit and possibly notifying the neighbors out of respect.

I worry about backyard chickens becoming a sort of "nuclear bomb" in neighbor disputes. While the city says it complies with all applicable ordinances, neighbor a disapproves of neighbor b's landscape scheme, for example. Neighbor b declines to make any changes. And so, as a retaliation or as a "bargaining chip," neighbor a decides to get some chickens.

Neighbors should also be notified, but the biggest help in making it easier would be a more reasonable permit fee. Tualatin, for example, only charges \$50 as long as the requirements are met and neighbors are notified about it. I know this because I own a home in Tualatin and my renters have backyard chickens. I think Tualatin's requirements are reasonable and Tualatin can be looked to as a model and resource for Sherwood as it is a nice, somewhat upscale community.

Portland allows for up to 3 chickens without a permit. Follow this model.

Please take time to consider how important it is to allow self-sufficiency to raise and grow food sources. Over \$4k for a permit restricts access to lower income that would greatly benefit from raising chickens. The fee for a permit in areas that require it like Portland is \$31.

Look at Portland, it works there. Go for it. Too often small cities that were once rural or boarder rural lands forget their heritage. Chickens pose no harm and bring a multitude of positive attributes to communities.

I'm super-excited that the city of Sherwood is considering allowing backyard chickens. I think Multnomah county allows three chickens in the backyard which seems reasonable. The issue is responsible pet ownership. Chickens are quieter than dogs, produce usable waste (garden), provide eggs, and are truly great pets. Believe it or not they have unique personalities and are smarter than people think they are. Thank you for considering this sustainable idea!

Check out Newberg. A great balance allowing chickens and keeping everyone happy

The city should not be involved with this \$4312.00 is bs just a way to control the people 4611 dollars for a permit insane!!

The current fee is outrageous and the process ridiculous. Smacks of rule-making to justify the need for rule-enforcers.

Charging 4600 for backyard chickens is one of the dumbest things I've ever heard. Dogs are a bigger nuisance and create more problems (on land and with neighbors) than almost any amount of chickens would.

I think it's a great idea. I would be first in line to have my own chickens but cannot afford over \$4000 to make it happen. Self sufficiency is a wonderful thing that all people should be able to attain.

Fees. Why do we charge someone to feed their families. Property taxes are insulting enough. Too much government at every level

I have successfully kept chickens in Sherwood, my neighbors enjoyed them also and I don't have them now solely due to the ridiculous fee.

The current \$4,611 conditional use permit application fee for backyard chickens is ludicrous, and an embarrassment to the city.

I think it is awesome. I am glad this is coming to the council. I have wanted two or three chickens for fresh eggs for some time but couldn't afford nor justify the 4k fee.

It should have some restrictions but not have such a high cost for a permit. \$100-\$300 would be good. Not over \$4000. That's way too much

It's moronic you have to pay over \$4500 if you want to have chickens

I have no problem with roosters crowing, but others might. Get rid of that encumbersome permit. Ridiculous

The permit should be less expensive.

The permit fee should be minimal.

Remove the permit fee.

No permit needed, cap on amount of chickens and no roosters.

Even if the permit was a reasonable cost, like the cost of a dog license is reasonable.

I think it should be less cost prohibitive, but restriction should be tight and neighbors should receive notification.

With restrictions to numbers, cooping requirements, and limit on number of days a rooster is allowed. Those animals get loud!

Offer chicken ownership classes to provide education on humane and neighborly chicken keeping.

Must follow certain guidelines for proper maintenance.

What would be the process to have the chickens removed if they become a nuisance?

There should be clear guidelines that if violated would preclude keeping your chickens.

I believe that the city needs to monitor living conditions to insure ethical and humane treatment of the animals

I like the idea of a permit so the person registering can obtain a clear set of expectations and perhaps local resources. I also think there should be a way for neighbors to get

involved if noise/smell/abuse are a problem. I live on the urban growth boundary and the neighbor behind us has a bunch of roosters the size of bulldogs! They crow 24/7. We don't like that but know it's the trade off. (seriously, why does he need so many roosters??)

Part of the permit procedure should be education and testing of the knowledge and skills required for keeping healthy poultry. All applicants should have a plan for swiftly dealing with sick or injured birds. Facilities should be inspected prior to issuing the permit, with a focus on proper ventilation as well as predator and pest protection. Facilities should be located closer to the permit-holder's residence than to any neighbor's residence. Considerations for other types of poultry (ducks, quail, turkeys) should be included in the new policy.

We live in a neighborhood that would require us to pay the \$4000. My 12 year old son is in 4h for he loves farm animals but we have to find a family outside the city to house our animals for us. He wants to raise a couple of hens for eggs at our home. He has a garden for his vegetables and will soon own a rabbit. We would like to have the ability to raise a few chickens for this experience for him. I think you should limit the number of chickens to less than 4, but allow households to raise their own hens and eggs

The fee should not be so exorbitant that it prohibits a family from producing eggs for their own consumption.

There shouldn't be a fee to have backyard chickens. The current standards are outdated and overbearing

Low fee!

I can't believe anyone ever paid over \$4000 to be allowed to raise hens for eggs. The city should be ashamed

Citizens should be able to raise chickens, if they desire, however the regulations shouldn't be fee-based, the regulations should require a minimum lot size (e.g. 3/4 acre).

I think this is great that the city is considering this. The number of chickens allowed could be based on the net available square footage of the lot. Net would be lot size minus house footprint and minus hard surface area. It benefits no one to have too many chickens in an area.

I personally think there should not be any chickens allowed on property less than 2 acres. Chickens do not belong in neighborhoods, they belong on farms.

Allow more chickens with a permit. Or allow an increased # according to lot size

My concerns could be mitigated by tying the number of chickens allowed to the size of the yard - the bigger the yard, the more chickens. I don't see a problem with smaller yards having one or two chickens as long as there are regulations in place to ensure they are kept properly (although I don't know how you will regulate/enforce that. It certainly doesn't seem like anyone is checking that dogs and cats are kept/cared for properly.).

Yes some restrictions will make sense. A limit to the number of hens. And a minimum square footage of yard. I know I could easily keep 4 well cared for hens on a 7k square foot

yard. I do not like the 100 foot from any dwelling restrictions that some cities have. It pretty much eliminates almost every home from being able to have chickens.

And other restrictions including minimum lot size allowed, buffers to neighbors, and maintaining a quiet, clean, odor-free environment.

I think that people within city limits we a large enough enclosed lot size should be able to raise chickens in order to promote growing and eating local. Chickens alone barely make any noise or create a disturbance. They are less noisy than most dogs in the neighborhoods. I think this issue should most definitely be reviewed and corrected.

The number should be tied to the size of the property

If people have them there should be at least three. Chickens are a social animal and will wither and die if there is only one or two.

Chickens should be allowed with very limited restrictions. Three hens with no restrictions at all, roosters prohibited & an inexpensive, easily obtained permit for keeping additional hens should be in place. Hens help connect people to their food & can help teach people how to create a small simple symbiotic system in their own back yard. My husband & I moved away from Sherwood when we bought a house in part because chickens are restricted.

Do not allow roosters. (noise pollution)

Perhaps just restrictions on the number of chickens

5 is a good amount. Max should be 10

2

3 (3 respondents)

Even less than 4.

5 (14)

5+ with permit

6 (37)

7 (2)

8 (7)

People should have no more than 10.

10 (11)

12 (2)

15

Less than 20

I think the number should be dependent on lot size

Limit based on square footage of lot.

Depending on lot size bigger the lot the more chickens

Ratio of three chickens per resident

Depends on size of property. Should be allowed at least 6

Ten or less with no permit, additional birds with a permit.

Amount contingent on lot size

As many as can live clean and healthy (plenty of green grass, etc. not a mud pit with tons of birds)

Depends on the size of the lot. A 5,000sqft lot should start with 6.

Depends on size and type of bird (chicken, duck, quail, turkey) and facility (coop, run, etc.).

Depends on the size of the property.

Depend on available space, and other restrictions like type of structure, health conditions.

1 bird/quarter acre

Limits should be based on yard size 2 chickens for 5000 square foot yards, 4 chickens for 7000 square foot yards. Etc..

Should be tied to the size of the lot

Four or fewer for 5,000 sq. ft. lots and 1 extra hen per 1,000 sq. ft. above 5,000 and capped at 10 hens maximum.

I just think with the cost of food it wouldn't be bad to allow for at least three chickens.

Definitely no roosters... They're super loud. Chickens don't really have much odor

If someone wishes to have more than 5 chickens a permit process should be considered. Why is this process any different than cats and dogs?

There should be a limit on number of chickens and some type of regulation on roosters crowing

Limit the number of chickens. No roosters.

My comments are for the majority of homes in the city. My concern is for those owners who have unusually large property and might need more than four birds, a rooster etc.

Absolutely no roosters!

I'm really for this!! Just a little apprehensive about roosters waking us up early.

Hens but not roosters

No roosters, limit number of hens...something similar to other large cities

The only restriction I would support is that roosters not be allowed in the city. They make too much noise.

No males.

I am concerned about the noise of roosters.

I've been around chickens all my life and they provide many benefits to the owners. As long as there were no roosters allowed I think it would be ok to allow residents to own chickens for meat or eggs.

No roosters allowed

They are good for neighborhood just no roosters!!

Only a ban on roosters

Roosters are too loud to have on less than 1-2 acres or more. Other ordinances should cover noise, odor or smell issues. It's silly not to allow a few backyard hens!

Do we have a "no roosters" policy? I think female chickens only. Sorry dudes.

Roosters could be allowed in residential areas for a certain number of days to allow breeding, growing up if hatched in yard, etc. But not all year around or past a certain age because they are loud.

If most of my neighbors can't keep their dogs quiet, how will they keep their cocks from crowing at ungodly hours?

My concern would be chickens too close to fencing where they could disturb neighboring pets. I am not opposed to roosters, however would not want noise from crowing. Also would prefer regulations that no slaughtering can be done within city limits.

Yes should people be allowed to kill them for meat if it's their chicken of course

I think they are less annoying than other animals

We seem so worried about noise (rooster), yet there is always noise from garbage trucks, landscapers, people at the senior center all before 6 am etc. Rather hear a rooster!

I am sorry, but what is the big deal? Dogs are louder and their poop is bigger and smellier (is that a word) :)

When I lived in Eugene, my neighbors had chickens. They aren't noisy or smelly. I myself, would love to have a few chickens, fresh eggs... Yum!

We moved from Eugene where chickens were allowed and common. We had chickens in our back yard. They are not noisy or smelly and didn't bother the neighbors. We now live in Sherwood on one acre and would like to have chickens again.

While as a neighbor, my biggest concern is noise, I feel the main overall issue is ethical and humane welfare.

If there noisy they simply go away.

Residents must clean up after their chickens or be charged a fine.

Must be contained, not roaming through neighborhood, clean conditions to keep odor/pests away

Getting loose and into my yard.

Adequate screening on hutches to prevent a fly problem

Our neighbor has chickens and there have been no problems. No smell, mess or pests. The noises are very low and minimal. We love seeing and hearing them

Any home owner should be allowed to keep chickens in their backyard without cost to the city. Mess and odor should be monitored by the city just like dog poop odors or any other odor problem.

Must be clean and poop removed on a regular basis. Weekly disposal. Must use odor control and fly control if it is a problem

Cats do more damage, and have zero leash laws, why should we not allow backyard chickens?!

Chickens are considerably less noisy than dogs and produce less mess. The only restriction should be that situations which are causing a problem (smells or true disturbances of the peace) should be resolved in a reasonable amount of time. Your current pricetag is clearly an attempt to prevent chickens, not prevent issues with them.

Citizens can't be trusted to pickup their dog crap in our parks when we provide poop sacks for free. What makes anyone believe we can trust citizens to keep their chicken coup clean and odor free????? Seriously! Chicken crap has a severe stink when left unkept. Dog crap on my shoes at Snyder Park is bad enough on occasion and chicken stench every day at home is intolerable. No chickens, keep that stink in Portland.

Sherwood is a unique and vibrant community with no large negative elements like many neighboring communities. Sherwood is also very unique and does not necessarily need the same community components that many of our neighboring communities might feel works well for them. In Sherwood the old tannery site was once the huge stinking blemish on our town until it burned down one day. Now Sherwood is recognized as one of the best communities in the USA because of all of its great features including access to rural life activities. With rural areas so close if a citizen deeply wants to responsibly have chickens they can easily network with many of our local farmers or co-ops to have a community type chicken coup where several people share the responsibility of caring for the chicken flock. I've lived in communities that allow chickens in subdivision style homes and it all sounds nice and wonderful until a family goes on summer vacation in august and leaves the chickens on their own a few days in the summer heat. The stink grows exponentially each day with the heat and enforcement is almost impossible and quite honestly useless while all the neighbors suffer with the stink until the family returns. We have a respect for the idea of being sustainable, but this idea is a failure at its core in the long run. Please keep our entire community in mind and don't ruin it just for a couple people who thinks this is a new wonderful idea to raise their own eggs.

It's hard to get kids to clean a cat's litter box in the house. How are people going to keep their outdoor chicken coup clean so the neighbors don't smell the chicken feces odor that is outrageous if not well tended? We moved to Sherwood for all the great things it offers including no chickens. Our last house in a neighboring community had chicken neighbors and we lived on the down wind side. It was horrible and the realtor even asked, "what is that smell" when preparing to show our house.....it was the neighbors chicken coup. We moved to Sherwood to get away from chicken poop and now we hear one single particular city councilor named Jennifer Harris wants the smell of chicken poop in Sherwood neighborhoods. This is so frustrating for us as we are elderly and can't survive another move if chickens are living next door. Hopefully this will all blow over because we hear it's just one city councilor who wants chickens. Please hear our voice as we can't attend your meetings and we don't like to complain in public, but this situation can ruin Sherwood. No chickens!!!!

Chickens smell horrible.

If u could control the dog poop & daily noise first, then maybe chickens. Most of the families that live in Sherwood work outside the area, and cannot even control their dogs during the day because no one is home.

Manure control and insects issues are a concern. Disposal of dead fowl. Bird flu. Most people work and will not have time to properly care for the birds. It is a fad? Maybe.

Absolutely 100% no. Sherwood is a top notch community that doesn't suffer from the stinking stench of chicken poop. When people with chickens go on vacation in the summer and leave their flock unattended the heat makes the chicken poop stink like the Albany pulp mill or the Newberg sewer plant. This is the sort of disgusting odor that causes real decreases in property value. Unlike many of Sherwood's neighboring community we have unlimited rural access where if a person wants chickens they can collaborate with a local farmer to clean/tend/care for a flock. A more responsible solution to this problem that fit's Sherwood is a coordinated effort to work with a handful of surrounding rural properties owners for "community" type chicken flocks. Having chickens as a neighbor in my Woodhaven community is not the answer Jennifer Harris. Chickens stink like your idea to raise them in our town. Take your stink to another town.

Allowing backyard chickens increased the likelihood of predators in our neighborhoods such as raccoons, wolves and other hunter gathers where our children play.

I moved to Sherwood to have a suburban lifestyle. I have lived next to chickens and the noise level is unacceptable. Also, Sherwood has plenty of coyotes coming into the neighborhoods looking for easy prey, i.e. cats. Chickens will be a target as well if allowed to roam free in yards.

Being in a rural area, despite the density of housing in much of Sherwood, I think having chickens will have a strong potential of attracting predators into the neighborhood environment. We have coyotes and cougars in this area and having easy prey in backyards will only bring them closer in. I strongly feel that having backyard chickens is unnecessary and the negatives seriously outweigh the benefit.

Chickens attract rodents and skunks and raccoons. If left unattended the coup can stink of chicken poop and in the summer this odor will make your eyes water. How will the police monitor and enforce unattended stinking chicken poop houses? If we have marijuana and chickens in Sherwood in 2015 I predict Sherwood will plummet to the bottom over time in the list of "livable cities". Shameful. Hear citizens voice on this matter and keep chickens out. Tell Jennifer Harris if she wants chickens so bad to just go get her own outside Sherwood, but don't force chickens into our clean, fresh smelling neighborhoods. Please keep chickens where they belong.....on the farm.

I used to live in a city that allows chickens within city limits. It was horrible. Roosters would start crowing as early as 3:00am!! The smell is horrific! Even with good pet owners (if you want to consider chickens as pets) don't always keep up with cleaning the chicken houses. Did you know skunks love chicken eggs? We have plenty of houses in Sherwood that border fields, green space, etc. Skunks and pests would become everyone's problem, not just chicken owners! I just don't see the need to allow chickens within city limits. If some one wants farm fresh, organic, free range eggs they can easily be purchased all around this city! Just drive around...farmers have signs up all over the place! Our table co-op has them available everyday. No chickens within city limits please!!!

Waste disposal. Chicken droppings are toxic and should require proper disposal. I.e. Not in a garden or flower bed

Maybe a public service brochure on the positive aspects of chickens - like less slugs, less pests, less bees, and without roosters there really isn't a noise issue. People love healthy chickens putting around.

Chickens often get lice; they are dirty. They should not be allowed in the city, period

My chickens are quieter than my neighbor's obnoxious barking dog so noise isn't an issue if you don't allow roosters. Rats can be an issue if the owner doesn't know how to set up a coop properly, but with a little education they can be avoided. Outdoor is minimal. I have an ideal, predator proof setup. Happy to share info.

They are less noisy than small barking dogs- they eat insects and slugs- overall much more pleasant than dogs to keep up after and they lay eggs

The attention it would garner for predators. My neighbors behind me have chickens and my mom saw a bobcat in the yard one day. It makes me afraid for neighborhood children's and pets.

There needs to be ongoing regulation (code compliance) regarding enclosure size, animal neglect, cruelty, noise, odor and pest control. Failure to control or correct should be subject to loss of permit.

The bigger your yard is the more chickens you can have.

It's about time. Sherwood is a farm friendly town. Chickens should be a no brainer.

Chickens should be treated like other pets, they should be allowed as long as people give them adequate space and care. Information on proper chicken keeping practices should be available. Manual or chickens keeping class would be great!

Seems kinda of silly to be having this discussion in 2015. Chickens are not the enemy.

Only concern would be if the chickens start wandering. Chickens have a tendency to escape little fences and like to roam. There should absolutely be restrictions making sure they are not allowed to roam free off property.

It's a fun and easy way for kids to connect with their food and allows families to raise protein in a small area.

They're honestly not very different from pet cats, rabbits, inside birds, and dogs. It is silly to have to go through all this.

Do the community a favor and make it as easy as possible for people to raise their own food

Besides coops, chicken tractors are a useful way to manage a couple of chickens. You get just enough eggs for a family of 4.

Given the recent upsurge in urban flocks it would be nice to have Sherwood keeping up with the times!

People should have free access to chicken raising on their own property.

Please, you allow dogs and cats, all surrounding communities allow a limited amount of chickens, please allow Sherwood residents the same opportunity.

It should be allowed to have chickens, with the option to have "welfare checks" if there was a complaint, and then be handled respectfully and appropriately.

I think a lower barrier to entry will also allow for more legal chickens... There are several illegal chickens in the city currently due to the high permit cost (along with people's choice to get chickens regardless)

A structure for complaints that is easy to access and quick to resolve.

Cleanliness of the area used.

Disease! I live in old town and strongly oppose allowing back yard chickens.

Be logical. A few chickens should be ok if their area is kept clean.

Disposal of soiled bedding. In yard debris bin?

I'm very much in favor! My neighbor's dogs are far more annoying than chickens could ever be.

Yes. If allow chickens, what are you going to do when the dogs that most of us have start barking at the chickens next door? Are you then not going to enforce that noise restriction? Or is that enforceable by the local shelter? I see this creating more problems that it solves. What about violations on the weekends when code enforcement officer is not available? How are we going to judge what odor is too offensive? What about the wind blowing the smell over so that neighbors can't keep their windows open so they don't get smells of chicken feces coming inside their home? Is it right to grant a right to a few in order to inconvenience & trump the majority of us who don't have them? We live in a city that is

housed too close together to have chickens. Most of our housing is on lots smaller than 5,000 sq. ft. & there just isn't room. Move out of the city limits if you don't like it!

My main concern would be ground water contamination. In other cities the permit is free once they inspect the run and make sure it's safe for the birds and the environment.

Ducks and other poultry should be considered as well.

Ducks too please!

I would like the term "chickens" changed to "domestic fowl" as that would give residents the option of raising ducks, game hens, quail, and so on.

People don't normally have backyard chickens to raise them and sell. They have them for the eggs. This needs to be kept in perspective!

Let us have geese too

Raising animals such as chickens would provide a great opportunity for Sherwood youth to learn about raising and caring for animals, especially those youth that aspire to have a career in the area of animal science and/or veterinary care. Other small fowl such as ducks should also be allowed in the city limits (with the same regulations as chickens) because some may prefer them over chickens.

I think that having backyard hens should be a right. They provide eggs, which is a nutritious food. I think if a person has a right to have a dog or cat, a person should also have a right to have a few hens.

Sustainable living should be our right!

We think everyone should be able to raise chickens and it shouldn't be cost prohibitive.

Allowing backyard chickens will bring even more community to the town and encourage sustainable, healthy living. Thank you for reevaluating this issue.

I truly think that backyard chickens are a wonderful addition to cities. It is a wonderful way to help feed your family. A healthy cared for chicken will not spread disease. The risks for disease are only high in large operations where the chickens cannot be individually cared for by loving owners. I'm not against some restrictions. Lot size and number of chickens and no roosters. A clean cared for coop does not smell. One of the best things to put on the ground of a coop is sand and then the top can be sifted and the manure removed from the coop weekly. Hens are reasonably quiet during the day, though some do like to call out when laying. But as most people are out at work during the day the occasional sound should not likely be thought too terrible. By evening the hens have settled into their coop and are extremely quiet, they will not disturb anyone's sleep. I would really enjoy the opportunity to keep hens in my back yard. I've kept hens before and was disappointed to hear they were essentially illegal here in Sherwood. My neighbors before loved my coop, it was built to match the architecture of our home and blended in nicely and was always clean. The hens were well socialized and cared for, I never lost a hen to sickness.

With the problems of the commercial egg production practices coupled with things like avian flu, it is prudent that cities promote local food resources. Chickens are one way to do this.

Chickens are a valuable source of food and provide free fertilizer for gardens as well as help with weeds. Everyone should have access to them if they choose.

No restrictions. Everyone should be able to raise their own food resources.

No restrictions. Barking dogs and lawnmowers are more of a nuisance. Chickens provide a way for families to raise a cost effective source of organic protein.

I would love to have chickens again! I think this is a great idea!!

Let people do what they want and don't complain about your neighbor

Sherwood is the only city in Oregon not to allow them!

This is silly! If I want chickens in my yard and they aren't bothering any one I should have, grew up having chickens my parents never had to get permission this city loves to many rules, crazy!

Allow chickens!

Please allow them!

Yes, finally!!!

The city should get out of the people's lives. This is a way to control the people. The city are the royals and the people are commoners or just something they have to scrape of their boots

Barking dogs the neighborhood but no clucking chickens. We could have neighbors that are thieves break in the houses and selling drugs from the house but no chickens. To me chickens are very peaceful to listen to. To keep the bugs out in the backyard which saves money on spray. People cooking on sale phones I see all the time you will never find a chicken that will do something against the law.

Living with chickens, under the proper restrictions, is no more of a nuisance than living with dogs. Except that chickens are more useful. It's outrageous that someone would have to pay thousands of dollars to be allowed to raise a couple of chickens in their back yard.

Every morning we hear the roosters down the street and I am constantly thinking about chicken dinner. Lol. Seriously I live in the city not in the country.

We would love to raise them!

They would cut back on pests! They eat them!;))

I feel that the current cost for growing backyard chickens in Sherwood is pretty outrageous. In fact, it is prohibitive for many people. If I were growing chickens in my backyard, it would be for the purpose of providing fresh, organic eggs for my family which I cannot afford to purchase at the market. In effect, the city is denying me quality, healthy food by imposing so much cost for doing something that no one would have thought twice about 75 years ago.

Their poo makes good fertilizer for organic gardening!

Let's get it done! This is taking Sherwood to long.

Allow chickens today. Don't deprive people of food.

Allowing chickens provides families with a sustainable source of food as well as the joy and pleasure if a pet. Chickens are certainly no noisier than the many dogs that persist in barking throughout the day in my neighborhood. The citizens of Sherwood should be allowed to raise 4 or fewer chickens.

My family crossed Sherwood off our list of possible places to live due to the chicken restrictions. I'd love to see this change for the better.

Yes, with very limited restrictions. No roosters is reasonable, as is a limit such as ten or under without a permit. Your current rule guarantees I will never live in your town.

Allowing chickens would be great. Planning on moving to your area but won't move until I find a town like mine.. We are allowed to have poultry and any miniature livestock in city limits

Would there be fees imposed for those who fail to follow the regulations and rules for backyard chickens? How would the new regulations be handled and made sure they were being followed? Where would complaints go & who would handle these to ensure residents are following the regulations?

Deal with problems as they happen like with other animals people have such as dogs, cats, etc.

I would want the home owners association to agree with these terms, and chickens allowed in Woodhaven.

We are a farming community and should be allowed to keep backyard chickens.

Chickens in high density neighborhoods are just not feasible, if you want chickens, you should have some land. I believe that even if enclosed, the chicken will get loose at some time and wonder the neighborhood. Then they become a problem to all residents. Would the owners be fined if the chickens get loose? If the chickens get loose, who cleans up the waste they leave behind? How could a neighbor enforce clean up of waste or destruction of property? Get land have chickens.

Too many concerns to voice them all. Please don't force this on citizens.

Chickens do not belong within city limits! Properties are way too close together. Even if the city puts restrictions on property size and number/sex of chickens, it would cause problems. Smell, pests, annoying rooster crowing, etc.

Chickens are farm animals that if not tended daily will generate odor and attract skunks, raccoons and other rodents. Many people can't responsibly pick up after their dogs in our parks where free bags are provided and this is hard to enforce. How would Sherwood enforce chicken standards on private property affectively?

Chickens are farm animals unlike cats or dogs. Leave them on the farm and maybe just maybe Jennifer Harris needs to be put out to pasture with this idiotic chicken idea. We just

got rid of the tannery and now Harris wants to smell chicken stink. If this passes I suggest an amendment that Jennifer Harris is required to have 5 chickens in her backyard while she is a city councilor so she has to smell the crap like the rest of us citizens. We need to smell chickens like we need a hole in the head. Dumbest idea I've heard for Sherwood in my 11 years here.

Chickens attract rats, mice and other rodents to eat their chicken feces and food. This sort of activity is better suited for urban cities that have no access to rural properties, but in Sherwood we are surrounded with rural large properties. I don't want to hear or smell chickens in Sherwood. Years ago there was a dairy where the bird refuge sits and it stunk unbelievably bad. At another time in Sherwood history the tannery stunk to high heavens and neighbors complained and property values plummeted. Only out of pure ignorance would a city councilor like Jennifer Harris who smokes marijuana for fun want to bring stinking chickens into Sherwood to ruin our wonderful little piece of heaven. Don't let chicken poop stink up our great town.

Chicken coops attract mice & rats. Sufficient space between the neighbor's property line and the coop is necessary so the neighbor doesn't have to deal with the rodents.

Needs to be limited. Farm animals don't belong in high density areas.

This is a city with mostly high density housing. No chickens or any other livestock please.

Chickens are a farm animal. Should not be allowed in the city for all of the reasons in question 9. (noise, odor, pests)

Please do not allow backyard chickens within Sherwood city limits

I wouldn't allow backyard chickens at all if possible

No chickens in the city limits please

No backyard chickens in Sherwood residential communities please. If people want farm animals, they should go live on a farm. Thank you.

This is a city not a farm. I don't think it's necessary to have farm animals in the city

This is a horrible idea to amend the code.

Not in my neighborhood, or I'll vote against any sitting council members!

They are not meant for suburban neighborhoods they are a rural animal or are we going to allow goats too

Move to a rural area if you want chickens! They should not be allowed in neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering the needs of both the backyard chicken advocates and the needs of the chicken-free backyard enthusiasts!

This is a dumb idea!!!

In today's world this is a good idea. People should have an option that doesn't cost them thousands of dollars. The price tag right now is ridiculous, especially in a suburb like Sherwood.

I'm good with hens but not good with roosters in back yard.

There should be some requirements as a condition of having chickens that owners keep the coop clean and free of pests...licenses should be able to be revoked if they don't follow cleanliness or pest rules.

Most residential homes have CC&Rs against farm animals. Chickens are not allowed. Chickens should not be allowed because of people complaining until the city gives in. We live in a city not in a rural area. If they want chickens let them move to a farm. When you live in a city you need to be considerate to your neighbors. Do we allow dog kennels in residential area - no. The city should respect that chickens are not a good fit. Make the right decision.

Please don't regulate this - more than a regular pet like dogs. It is such a beneficial Eco system and great for kids and families:)

Chickens belong on farms not in residential neighborhoods. I do not have confidence that the city respond appropriately. Many homes have CC&R cides that state NO farm animals. That includes chickens. There should be absolutely no chickens within city limits unless you live on farm zoned areas. If residents what chickens they should move to the country where it will not effect neighbors piece if mind and home values.

Having a fee for people to be able to grow a life sustaining product on their own is ridiculous! Get rid of the fee.

Clear rules and processes for handling complaints (with funding)

Any adjoining property owner ought to have veto power over the chickens. It's represents a nuisance to their property and possibly a diminution of value to them. As is I have raccoons, possums and skunks cross our yard at night, and coyotes within a few blocks away. Chickens could draw vermin, and their droppings can be a health hazard. In addition I had Lyme disease from ticks in my back yard last year and one of my neighbor contracted it from the nature center. Chickens can carry ticks. It's an idiotic fad to allow chickens in a developed urban area.

Just say NO!!!

Raising chicken is great and I consider them less nuisance than dogs and cats. They are gentle, quiet and provide family with fresh eggs. I moved here last year from New Mexico and I had chickens over there. I hope city of Sherwood will reconsider to allow residents to have chickens in backyard. Thank you!!!