

FlashVote helps you make a difference in your community

Survey Results: Chickens and Bees

Survey Info - This survey was sent on behalf of the City of Plymouth to the FlashVote community for Plymouth, MN.

These FlashVote results are shared with local officials

1491

Total Participants

1219 of 1930 initially invited (63%)
272 others
Margin of error: ± 3%

Applied Filter:
All Responses

Participants for filter:
1491

Response Time (ho...

Started:
Feb 2, 2021 11:09am CST

Ended:
Feb 4, 2021 11:00am CST

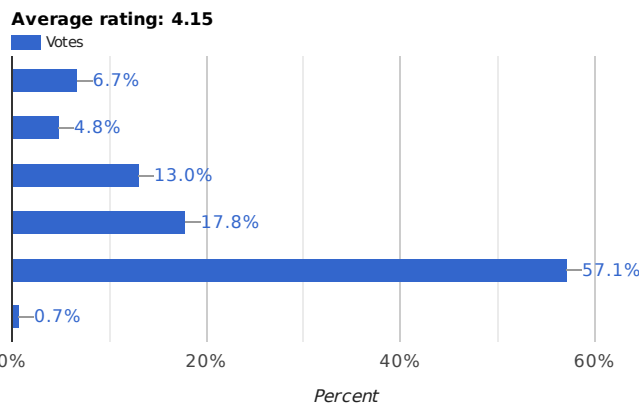
Target Participants:
All Plymouth

Q1 The City of Plymouth is seeking input on allowing backyard chickens and/or bees in single-family zoning districts. Chickens and bees are currently regulated as farm animals and only allowed in areas zoned for future development, which make up a small percentage of the city.

If the city were to allow backyard chickens, would your household get chickens?

(1486 responses)

Options	Votes (1486)
Definitely Yes (1)	6.7% (99)
Probably Yes (2)	4.8% (71)
Maybe (3)	13.0% (193)
Probably No (4)	17.8% (264)
Definitely No (5)	57.1% (848)
Not Sure	0.7% (11)

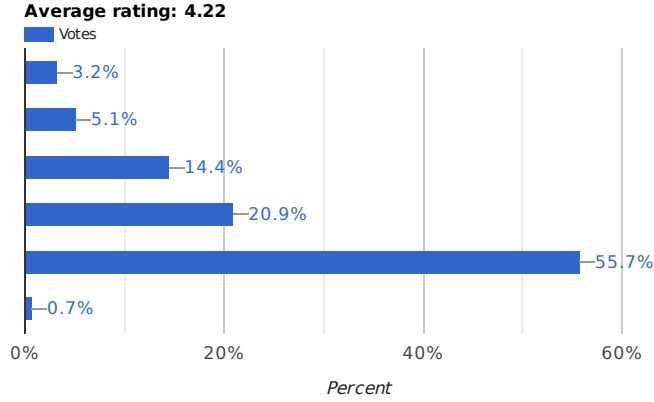


Q2 If the city were to allow backyard bees, would your household get bees?

(1476 responses)

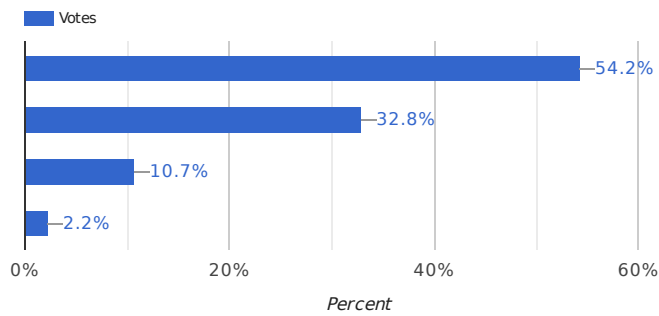
Options	Votes (1476)
Definitely Yes (1)	3.2% (47)

Options	Votes (1476)
Probably Yes (2)	5.1% (76)
Maybe (3)	14.4% (212)
Probably No (4)	20.9% (308)
Definitely No (5)	55.7% (822)
Not Sure	0.7% (11)



Q3 Would you support your neighbors having up to four chicken hens (no roosters), if they had proper independent training and a licensing process to make sure they obeyed all ordinances?
 (1479 responses)

Options	Votes (1479)
Yes	54.2% (801)
No	32.8% (485)
Not Sure	10.7% (158)
Other:	2.2% (32)



requirement confined training
 loose **need license** property
 proper **chicken** okay fenced absolutely
 hens **yes** much
 setback

lot support neighbors even work roosters without

No need for license

Absolutely not, no chickens.

They just need to keep the hens confined so they don't run loose.

Yes, but ensure proper management of anything that could cause transmission of diseases, etc...

Depends on acreage

I would support my neighbors having up to four chicken hens even without proper training or license

Yes, but no licensing needed

My largest concern is around predators. We have small dog.

Chickens would need to be confined to the owners property. Chickens on the loose are a big mess.

If the pen was screened from my view

I need to know much more about how much impact this could have on close neighbors

If there's a 50' setback from the property line and a requirement to be fenced in, I would be OK

I would be okay with 2-3

I doubt my HOA would allow it even if the city does

Only bees

What happens if they are not cared for and maintained?

Hens only. No roosters.

ABSOLUTELY NOT!!

Yes but without licenses.

I worked support my neighbors having chickens but I don't need them to have proper training or lice

If they were fenced in and had no roosters it would probably be fine.

Yes, if they are securely contained in the neighbors yard.

fully support chickens; do not support training or licensing requirements; creates excessive burden

I'm okay with my neighbors having hens and roosters without all the bureaucracy.

Drop license requirements

I think these requirements are more stringent than necessary

I would like to see a minimum lot size for chickens. IE 20000 to 30000 sq. ft. and PL setbacks

Would support As long as not noisy or smelly

No need for training or licensing. Chickens are not dangerous.

If I had a bigger, more private lot, I would not mind.

In a townhouse community so n/a.

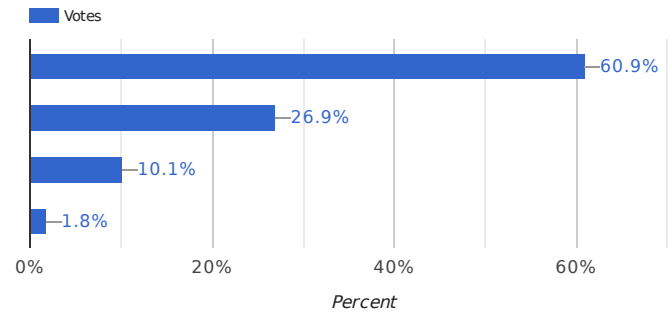
Why is government getting involved? Neighbors can talk to each other and work it out.

Q4 Would you support your neighbors having up to two honeybee hives, if they had proper independent training and a licensing process to make sure they obeyed all ordinances?

(1479 responses)

Options	Votes (1479)
Yes	60.9% (901)
No	26.9% (398)
Not Sure	10.1% (150)

Options	Votes (1479)
Other:	1.8% (27)



family depend property native
 without **license** training make
 absolutely **bee** neighbors teenagers
 ok hives **need** protect
 around **support** required
 Allergic to bee stings. A definite absolutely not.
 umn allergies much

- No. One only, if that. My family raised bees. Hives don't belong in the suburbs.
- Put hives in lower density areas. Now that West Hwy 47 is being over-developed, I'm not sure where.
- Depends on the amount of acreage.
- It would depend on the size of the property.
- Yes, but no licensing needed
- No need for a license!!!! And Yes, I would support them. Good for the ecology.
- Absolutely not, no way in hell!!!
- protect wild bees, not honey bees. Stop mosquito spraying!
- I need to know much more about how much impact this could have on close neighbors
- I support it but worry about those with serious allergies with more bees around
- If there's at least a 30' setback from the property line, and protective fencing around hives: OK
- I'm not opposed but if we're trying to save native bees this is not the best solution.
- Should be limited based on this from UMN: <https://www.beelab.umn.edu/bees/helping-bees>
- Only if safe (people have allergies, willing mowing make them angry, teenagers being teenagers)
- Yes but without licenses.
- I would recommend they plant native pollinator habitat instead
- I think training important. Licensing should be very little. Don't need to make an issue of fees
- I would support my neighbors having bees without training or licensing
- Yes as long as they have enough space so the bees won't bother me in my yard.
- fully support bees; do not support training or licensing requirements; creates excessive burden

No licensing or training required. OK to get bees.

Yes. Drop license requirements

If I had a bigger, more private lot, I would not mind.

I don't live in a single family home.

Why is government getting involved? Neighbors can talk to each other and work it out.

Q5 Any other comments or suggestions about allowing backyard chickens or the keeping of bees within city limits?

(543 responses)



I think both should be allowed. Bees are more important to earth than humans.

create a listing of neighbors who would be willing to sell fresh eggs and honey

I moved away from the country to get away from the smell and noise of barnyard animals. I do not support the noise and sanitation issues related to bringing them into neighborhoods with closely spaced houses.

Even though we probably wouldn't take advantage of this ourselves, I appreciate you considering this! I think it's a great option.

Do not allow bees & chickens. Just no

Having more bees in the neighborhood is wonderful. Having an abundance of pollinators is so important for gardens and the environment in and surrounding the area.

It would be wonderful if Plymouth allowed beekeeping - I am very interested in having pollinators for my garden.

would be okay with city lands having bee hives

I would be fine with chickens and/or bees in my neighborhood. Glad to hear that roosters would not be a part of it.

I think bees could be beneficial to the overall ecosystem. Having chickens? eh...not sure I see the point there. But, at the same time, if that is what someone wants to do I don't see it being up to me to tell them they can't. However, I'm not interested in having a rooster bothering me. If I wanted farm sounds, I'd move to the country. so, I'd definitely limit that.

There are areas of Plymouth that have traditional large lots where such things might work; but all recent housing developments with cookie cutter homes on tiny lots should not be allowed to have such things.

The only deterrent is that chickens and roosters are loud. I have small children. I do not want the noise nor the problem of bees near my children playing.

Encourages more home activities; great opportunity for children to learn

my neighbors can't even do their own lawn mowing, I don't want to see/hear/smell chickens that they stop caring for when the novelty wears off

Please, Plymouth, please, please, please! DO NOT allow chickens in residential areas. They stink, they're dirty, they will attract flies and mice and are probably full of fleas. Besides, if you watch for sales at Hyvee's and Aldi's, eggs are really cheap. And the coyotes and foxes in our area will just attack them any chance they get.

Although it isn't for me I would strongly support any of my neighbors who want chickens or bees. They should be handled like any other pets--deal with the small minority of people who don't comply with the rules but don't block the people who follow the rules.

Houses are close to each other in my neighborhood and I would not like the noise chickens would bring. They would probably be ok for neighborhoods where people have really large backyards. Bees are fine either way!

allow it!

I would like the ordinances for both to have setbacks from property lines as well as structures on other property. Also, periodic renewals of licenses.

Live in a TH Association, this would not be allowed with our By-laws...

What are we waiting for? Other, larger and more urban, cities allow this with minimal issues.

Chickens are too noisy.

Keep any training and licensing requirements minimal

I get people's individual desires to have these animals/insects, however this is for rural spaces not cities and suburbs.

I LOVE the ideas of bees, for the environment. I don't see the benefit of chickens and worry about their cleanliness/smell; I would be apt to a neighbor having chickens if my kids could visit them.

Like this opportunity for families to raise eggs and keep bees

Nice idea!

Four chickens is not enough to be considered a flock. Why is permit and education required for chickens and bees when it is not required for dogs or cats?

This would be a nuisance to neighbors - do not support.

Backyard chickens and bees should NOT be allowed within Plymouth. I have seen this first hand in other cities and it was a disaster. Chickens are meant to live in a farm environment for a reason. If someone would like to have chickens or bees, they should move out to a more rural area. The fact that the idea has been entertained this long, is scary. DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO MOVE FORWARD.

We would absolutely not be in favor of allowing this. Outside city limits is what this is for.

I like that the City is considering these as we may need to sustain ourselves locally more often. The safety of the national food supply systems appear to have weakened over the past two decades.

Great for the environment (bees are pollinators and chickens help reduce populations of bad grubs) and great outdoor activities for kids that help teach them science and responsibility. As a gardener and parent, I'm very enthusiastic!

I definitely think Plymouth should join our neighboring cities in permitting backyard chickens and bees, particularly bees as our ecosystem depends on their survival.

How and who would regulate to make sure if this happens that people are following the laws and rules. How would you make them get rid of either if they prove to be irresponsible and abuse either the animals or regulations?

Do the chickens generate a smell? Would the chickens attract foxes and would dogs/cats affected? That would be a neighborhood concern.

I think property lot size it should be taken into consideration. In our neighborhood the homes are so close together I can't imagine having chickens or bees within a few feet of my property line. And especially given the number of people who are allergic to bee stings, that is extremely concerning.

All for Bees, Totally against chickens.

Bees in higher density areas could pose an issue for neighbors with bee allergy problems. Chickens would simply be a nuisance.

IF my neighbors were not following the ordinance I would expect the city to handle the issue, and not be told that it's best if neighbor speak to neighbor.

The time for bees and chickens and livestock in Plymouth has passed. We are a heavily populated suburban community. Neighbors have complaints about dogs. Imagine what it'll be with chickens and bees and perhaps other farm animals in the future.

I would not want this in our neighborhood due to the close nature of our homes. I do think these things should be allowed with enough spacing. Not within small lot neighborhoods. Seems like you would need at least an acre of land or more to allow bees and a larger space for chickens.

So much depends on the size of the lot. Not sure if my quarter acre lot would really allow to have bees as my wife flowers. A lot will depend on how serious the City would monitor things with both.

While this has become more popular over the years, I think this belongs in a large acreage or rural setting. We regulate the number of dogs/cats and other animals in residential zoning - this would go too far and open up possible neighbor/neighbor complaints. I also imagine HOAs would have to activate in this space and look at covenants.

This is long overdue

Do it

Thanks for asking for our opinion!

chickens where I live would attract more coyotes. I'm allergic to bees so no thanks there.

If there would be regular inspections and enforcement of rules we would be willing to allow neighbors to have chickens and bees. I'm concerned about odors from keeping chickens. It seems that neighbors often put things such as rabbit hutches close to the border of adjoining properties. So enforcement of putting chicken coops and beehives within proper distance from neighbors would be critical to acceptance of them. It should be mandatory for residents who keep chickens and bees to have fencing around their property to keep neighborhood dogs, cats away and other critters away.

I think allowing people to have chickens or bees is great! They are an extension of gardening and being able to feed ones family.

While maybe not right for me, these can be healthy and sustainable home food options. Protections would be key; perhaps a requirement for a fence to reduce attracting predators; minimum set backs for hives from neighbor dwellings, etc. Bees are critical to our ecosystem.

My parents neighbors have chickens in Rochester. Live in residential and they are a nuisance

NOT SUPPORTIVE OF THIS

My neighbors let their dogs run free through my neighborhood despite the city ordinance that all dogs must be leashed. I expect they would likewise not comply with the ordinances on chickens.

I think the city should allow Think the proposal is too restrictive

Too noisy for chickens

In this day and age if someone wants to be a tad more self reliant let's go for it!

I would never want chickens near me. I hope my HOA would restrict this.

If we allow all kinds of animals, including very dangerous and biting dogs, then we should allow caged chickens and honeybees.

Allowing this, both bees and chickens, would be an asset to the community

I have had backyard chickens before, and see no problem with our city allowing up to 4 hens. All my neighbors loved that I had them, and would take turns collecting eggs during vacations, as they all wanted to! I also am a dog owner, and would have to say dogs can create way more of a nuisance than chickens.

I am not opposed to chickens, but I worry about what happens to them when people realize it's more work and mess than they are willing to handle.

Please no chickens. The lots in Plymouth are too small to allow to neighbors to have chickens without disturbing others.

Love these ideas. I support them fully.

I'm so glad to see Plymouth taking a step forward on this!

I would only consider allowing farm type animas for homeowners that had sufficient acreage, such as 2+ acres.

I live in a senior co-op so I have no option for bees and chickens. But I really like the idea of Plymouth allowing interested parties to raise them. We raised both when I was growing up and as an adult.

I have heard chickens in my daughter's Mpls neighborhood, and while I would like to support such an endeavor, I can't stand the noise. Please don't go there! But bees, that's a different story. I say go for that one!

I think it's a great idea! I'm curious how it would work with all the HOAs in the city (I would foresee a bunch of HOAs quickly moving to ban them in their HOA agreements, since there is so much NIMBYism). Natural sources of pest control should be encouraged!

It's time we address this.

Backyard chickens should not be allowed if the neighbors object. An objection from a neighbor or someone who hears or smells the animal should be enough. Allowing backyard chickens is a really bad idea. Home developments in Plymouth are not a farm. The lots are not that large.

Bees in a neighborhood with children and pets (not to mention other humans) is NOT a good idea.

We don't live in the country so no chickens please

If you open the door to chickens and bees, it would surely lead to some neighbor issues. Just let it alone and it will be one less thing for neighbors to fight about.

Absolutely YES for bees!

Many other cities have allowed bees and chickens without problems. Good for residents, good for environment and good for the city's reputation -- we can add this to the list of reasons to live in Plymouth. Also appreciate removing one more

unnecessary government barrier.

Laying hens only. Bees are fine

No to chickens but yes to bees given how important they are to the ecosystem and their dwindling numbers due to pesticide overuse.

The people who are thinking chickens would be fun, have no idea what is involved.

This seems like a win for the city and community. Pollinators are needed, and chickens help to reduce pests. I fully support this and believe that the city setting ordinance based on this would help to ensure proper care and treatment of these beings as well as safety of the community at large.

For bees, consideration of offset to property lines is a must to make sure it doesn't creat an issue where the bee hive and therefore bees end up making someone else's property unusable

Do not want to hear chickens crowing at 5 am, like you hear in Mexico, I know of a couple of people who have a serious allergy to bee stings.

Nope, have at it.

Perhaps they should live in the country if they want to be farmers. We have enough trouble with barking dogs, owners not picking up after their dogs, etc.

Neighborhood notifications would be nice so if there is an allergy in the family folks could be made aware. I have no allergies and fully support this change to the zoning.

Get real. Most people aren't responsible enough to handle chickens and bees in city or suburban settings.

I am shocked that anyone ever thought of illegalizing hens and bees in the first place. Roosters, that I get.

Consider allergies to bee stings. Consider any enforcement of making sure the chickens are being taken care of humanely.

Keep AS IS

I don't currently have a backyard so I would not be able to own either chickens or bees, but in thinking about my future home, if Plymouth were to allow these then that would be a favorable factor when considering location.

If managed properly through the education requirement and licensing chickens and bees would not adversely change a neighborhood.

Bees could be a danger as kids might instigate them and get hurt. Chicken feathers always fly to neighborhood areas and hard to get rid of them.

I live in a townhome association. The chickens and bees would have to be kept on our common property.

Not sure how the city would enforce ordinances .

Seriously! Turn us into China at the same time so you can more easily transmit bird to human viruses.

I don't think you need training for bees and chickens, we have chickens and had no training, they were great

No chickens or bees on residential property please.

I think lot size should be a factor in approval. If you live on a rural lot (multiple acres) I'd support chickens or bees, but a standard 1/3 acre residential lot would likely cause issues with neighbors. I'd also like to see the permitting process require approval from neighbors.

I think chickens are more containable and could be less of a nuisance. I would like bees....but do not know enough about them to know if they can be a nuisance in a city environment and would not want to lose the ability to hang on my deck or cause that issue with my neighbors

If people want this in their backyards - does not bother me. Personally, don't want to take care of them, but definitely supportive of others.

I love the idea of both! We likely wouldn't get them, but I would support others who felt up to the task!

Please allow!

Do NOT allow back yard chickens. Do NOT allow back yard bees.

I am allergic to bee stings. No way. Chickens and dogs you are asking for trouble. Eggs are about \$1.30 a dozen.

No chickens. We have a hard enough time with neighbors and their gardens attracting pests and rodents.

Chickens can help keep snake populations in check which we have a major problem with on our property. We fully support both chicken and bee ownership for residents.

Both need laws to limit negative impacts to neighbors. Hens still can make some noise and smell, and having bees around can be problematic for those allergic to their sting. My other half will simply not spend much time outside, which is not

necessarily right.

Bees are bae

My neighbor is exactly the kind of person who would love to have chickens and bees...he cannot be trusted to bring his trash can up from the street for 3 -4 days after trash service. Do you think he'll keep up with a chicken coop or keep an eye on how things are going in his back yard? This is a disaster waiting to happen, please don't allow this!

Only concern--chickens, would there be a bad odor, Bees--concern of them getting loose and stinging people/pets

I think this all sounds very cute and homey for the people in older parts of Plymouth, but I really can't imagine it going over well with the expanding New-Build population. I'm a pretty open-minded person but I really am not into this becoming part of suburban life - absolutely NOT the chickens.

The reason I vote no to both chickens and bees is pass experience with the city of Plymouth and their handling of a neighbor who had chickens. This neighbor came from a city that allowed chickens and assumed that Plymouth did too. It took the city 4 plus months to get them to get rid of the chickens. Frustrating for us. Thank you.

I live in a townhouse so I'm pretty sure the association would not allow either.

Reasonable limits is one thing, but I hope Plymouth doesn't make the process of getting approved to have chickens reasonably complicated or expensive!

I grew up on a farm. I really don't feel that farm animals belong in backyards. I think people might like the novelty of it but then might become negligent and not take proper care of them. It takes a strong commitment to raise bees and chickens. We raised both and I had many beestings as a kid without provocation. Again, don't think it is a good idea for city size lots.

Thank you for thinking about bringing the city in line with other west metro cities.

I love chickens and bees and support local agriculture and self-sustenance. Everything about allowing bees and chickens is good for the world around us, please allow this.

With viruses jumping species, the whole point of living in cities is to be away from animals and zoonotic viruses. Moreover, chickens make a lot of noise, dirty yards and can spread bird flu and other viruses.

let those who want to raise chicken or bees buy a farm. this is a thin edge of the wedge, what next cows, pigs?

I think of space and quality control, especially when it comes to sanitary conditions for a chicken coop and proper disposal of waste or taking care of a hive when the owners leave the home.

1. Statistically, will only people who love or hate chickens or bees respond? 2. Medicine Lake is choking to death; plastic bags are choking French Park; our drinking water contains microplastics; and we're asking about chickens? Really?

These are bad ideas where people have at most 1/3-1/2 acre lots. If people who live in areas with bigger lots want to do this, so be it. But in nearly all Plymouth neighborhoods, you can't escape the smell, noise or eyesores coops and hives will be in your next door neighbor's yard. My vote is a vehement NO for both chickens and bees.

I think there should be a minimum land acreage to have chickens and bees. I would support homes having them as long as there was a good amount of space between homes. Maybe impose a 1 acre minimum for example.

can it be only designated zones so not all single family zoning

Bees are very important! I support people having them.

Bees and chickens are great for the environment!

If someone wants chickens/bees I highly recommend moving to a farm.

I support gardening to attract bees, but not sure about hives.

This is awesome and so important to help plymouth families be more self sustaining and help out environment! Thank you!

Would love to see both of these approved!

Absolutely NO to chickens or bees in single family residential areas. We move into these neighborhoods because of the farm free setting. They should be in rural areas only!

No, no, a thousand times no!!!!

I do not support. Have had problems with illegal chickens in the neighborhood in the past.

chickens - proper containment would be very important. The coyotes would love the chickens, maybe it would keep them away from my dogs. . .or else attract more coyotes to the area.

I would think a town with bees and chickens would be a charming place to live, and the bees in particular are good for all the plant life.

Very slippery slope as far as people being careful to follow "rules" etc.

Chickens should be based on acreage.

The more bees the better. Chickens will help to feed the the hawks, fox and coyotes.

People can move out to the country if they want farm animals. They have no place in the suburbs and will only serve to cause disruption and decrease property values.

I must be very careful around bees as I will react to the sting. But I do think there are areas in Plymouth where bees can be taken care. Example is the city property near the Luce Line trail west of Vicksburg.

If this were allowed, there should be enough distance so that neither chickens or bees could affect others (neighbors) nearby.

Houses that have associations and covenants should not be allowed to have either.

I would support a communication effort to promote widespread community understanding of the safety measures put in place to allow this change to happen w/o negative, unintended consequences (if there was training and ordinance following as suggested in the survey). Many people do not support this change because of information/"knowledge" that may not be accurate.

I'm not sure who to report to but a neighbor has roosters.

Don't know enough about safety and management of bees

I have lived in a suburb prior to moving here where my close neighbor had 4 beehives. My flowers and vegetables thrived as never before. I am strongly, 100% supportive of allowing chickens and beehives in Plymouth neighborhoods. I see it as a positive for our community on so many levels. Voting yes to this initiative shows prospective residents that Plymouth leadership makes educated decisions.

Neighbors currently don't follow city limits/restrictions for other pets (dogs, cats) so limits for chickens and bees will not be followed. How will the City of Plymouth monitor and enforce?

I love this idea! Even if we couldn't have them, our whole family would love to know there were chickens in our neighborhood!

We think allowing chickens and/or bees is a wonderful idea, and would fully support changing City regulations.

I live in a townhome, so this would not likely affect me.

Live on a hobby farm with acreage if you want chickens or bees.

Bees could migrate onto another's property, but I recognize the importance to the ecosystem. Hens- not sure I would like the coop visible- unless lots of codes for appearance and upkeep, could be bad for property values of neighbors.

My husband and I have purchased a home outside of Plymouth and are moving. We have been frustrated by the amount of nimbysm and land restrictions in an are with such large lots. Plymouth's current land use policy is out of step and unappealing, so we left and are moving back towards to city. The fact that we couldn't have chickens or bees felt out of step with how we wanted to live- sustainably.

as long as neighbors following reasonable city guidelines - we should afford them flexibilities in a home they have purchased

Can I have a clothes line in my yard?

We can't even get our neighbors to keep their dogs on leash and not poop in our yard or jump on our children. I don't trust my neighbors with something more wild and loud with potential for more nuisance.

If people want a farm they should live in the country not in Plymouth

Bees and chickens on large properties away from homes yes. On .25acre properties no.

Should be allowed

These are two very different animals. I think it is stupid to consider them under one heading. How about elephants and ants. What is the policy there.

I nearly died as a child from bee stings in 50s plymouth oppose chickens and bees in suburbia

With chickens , it becomes a noise and manure issue. Bees are good for the environment.

There is no way to keep bees in your own yard and out of your neighbors space. Chickens are noisy and smell. If you want to raise chickens you should purchase a hobby farm with acreage where chickens can be properly kept away from your neighbors.

Chicken feed, straw and waste bring in rodents, raccoons, weasels and other vermin into the neighborhood. I don't want to smell them on a hot, humid day while I'm enjoying a BBQ with my family. I moved to the city and expected not to be around farm animals and the waste they bring with them. Let's keep Plymouth clean.

Please don't do this.

I think it would be great to add chickens and bees back into our landscape, as long as steps are taken to ensure they don't turn into a nuisance.

I support both of these ideas wholeheartedly. A push for bee-friendly lawns/yards would be a great thing to pair with a new ordinance on bee-keeping.

Nobody needs a license to have chickens. We can always report to the city if we hear roosters. My family has a bee allergy - hell no we don't want anything that could make us go to the hospital.

I would not chickens in my neighborhood.

THIS IS NOTHING SHORT OF DISGUSTING!! IF EITHER ARE DESIRED, MOVE OUT AND AWAY! SOON!

A license? Really? More stupid government oversight. For thousands of years, people did not need licenses. It's just a way to grab more money! Can you just let people be? That being said, I do expect proper management of chickens. But then again, I come from a generation where people applied COMMON SENSE and gentle guidance for concerns. But you're not going to listen to me anyway.

I love that Plymouth is moving in the right direction to approve chickens and bees. A majority of our surrounding cities allow them and we have been missing out (Edina approves!). Thank you for moving to approve with proper training and no roosters.

How will the city regulate bee/ chicken owners? Follow up to make sure regulations being followed will be key for owners and neighbors.

Just don't do it!

No roosters

I would love to see this pass, we should be permitted to use our yards to benefit the planet!

Buy a farm

Who will be tasked to enforce the regulations? From where will the City probably otherwise needed sources pull? In my opinion already enough time wasted on this subject because of some Parents that are bored out of their mind.

I love the ideas of chickens and bees in our community. Bring them in!

We have lost prime habitat for many species as Plymouth has developed. Small corrective measures like these are to be encouraged.

The very definition of urban or suburban is that it is not rural. The very motivation and purpose of paying the cost of a suburban home site is for it to be not rural. Those who chose rural ways must move there. (We have bees, and they are not kept but do their work anyway.)

would love if all publicly owned land had pollinator plants, would love buying local honey and eggs from neighbors

Bees are a potential threat to the immediate neighborhood especially to kids. Chickens will be a nuisance.

4 chickens is too few. Should be up to 6 or even 8.

Bees are critical to human survival. Chickens are not.

Plymouth residents can not even manage controlling their dogs let alone control bees or chickens. I would like to see Plymouth do more to stop loud barking dogs. Maybe limit the size of dogs to small dogs since the large dogs are the loud barkers. Please stop the barking!!

Please no!

I am a big supporter of micro urban gardening. Chickens and Bees are essential to this process. I was taught how to do this by Dr. Kim Fox (Kimski) from Chernobyl. She is a biologist whose job it was to restore decimated soil after the nuclear accident. She taught micro urban gardening in Tucson Arizona and PBS sponsored her 110 mile bike trek across Europe to collect heirloom seed.

These are great ideas at helping residents be self-sustainable. Additionally, bees are so necessary to our ecosystem- what great ideas! I hope they are approved.

I am concerned about bee stings affecting people and pets.

Look to other neighboring cities who have this in place for tips on how to roll this out. We do have wildlife that may wonder about having a chicken dinner, but this is no different from what chicken ranchers face on a regular basis, and they have the proper shelters to keep them safe at night.

In most cases, people should be allowed to do what they want with their property. Less government regulation is better.

I think it is a great idea.

Bees are a critical resource; most of our food depends on bees. I'd encourage any action that was for the betterment of bees.

If people want chickens and/or bees. Move further out from the city where you can have more acreage between you and the neighbors.

Plymouth should align with neighboring communities to allow chickens and bees.

I think it is great for our residents, families, and community to have the opportunity to develop love and compassion for nature!!

This initiative is not acceptable in an urban environment.

Please don't allow either. Many Plymouth homes are close to each other and having farm animals in a residential area isn't what we signed up for in Plymouth. I'm severely allergic to bees, honeybees too, and don't want to be out at risk so my neighbors can beekeep as a hobby. Seems like a waste of city resources to permit, inspect and respond to complaints. Please don't allow. Just because neighboring cities are doing it and it's a cute trend, Plymouth doesn't need to follow.

I think Plymouth should also allow any kinds of "farm" animals to be kept as pets (not for slaughter). These would include goats, sheep, small pigs, and miniature horses. But, I think Plymouth should ban any new pit bulls as pets. They are just too dangerous. I also think Plymouth should ban invisible fences for dogs. People walking by have no way of knowing that an invisible fence will really restrain an aggressive dog.

Many other municipalities allow bees and chickens. There's no reason for Plymouth to not follow suit.

Density of operations should be regulated, as well as size of individual operations.

Chickens often come with a rooster. And roosters are an unmitigated nuisance. They don't just crow at dawn--they crow all the time. Friends of mine, in a northern suburb that allows chickens, were annoyed by day and kept awake at night by constant crowing from a home several acres away. Attempts to come to an amicable understanding between neighbors failed. Complaints to the city failed, as the neighbors were within their legal rights to keep chickens, and didn't care if they bothered someone else; in fact when their rooster died, they promptly got a new rooster. My friends eventually sold their house and moved in order to get away from the rooster. (They made sure to move to a place that didn't allow chickens.)

Bees could be problem if near foot traffic. Trails roads

This is way overdue! Both raising bees and chickens are beneficial in so many ways, and we are behind many other cities in allowing this.

Aren't there enough issues right now. Why is this an item to vote on? Is downtown Mpls fixed? Let's get that to be safe. Farms are for bees and chickens not houses in town. This is embarrassing that Plymouth would even bring this up in a pandemic.

I do not support backyard chickens or bees at all!

I am 100% on board with Plymouth residents having chickens and bees.

I don't see any problem with this, and raising chickens is getting increasingly popular. Given the decline in honeybee population, I would be very supportive of having honeybee hives.

I think this is a wonderful idea!!!

The city needs to have a plan for how residents can complain about issues and who will the city send out to investigate. The residents need to see final guidance info before deciding for sure if we want this in our city/neighborhoods.

Having chickens would likely call in even more fox and coyotes than are currently in the area. They are already prevalent and gaining more aggression as time goes on. Inviting more in could result in injury or fecal related illness to domestic pets, or worse, young children.

Such animals belong on farms in rural areas, not in the suburbs.

I think it's a great idea! We don't have an interest or want to fence our yard otherwise we might consider doing it.

More government regulations trying to control the populist. Training for 4 chickens. What a joke...

What's to keep the chickens out of my yard? Smell?

I believe that the city and the suburbs are not the place for farm animals. People who would like to raise chickens or bees have the ability to move to a hobby farm or out of the suburban rings. People who choose to raise chickens and bees take rights away from neighbors by luring wildlife closer to our homes, bringing rodents closer to our homes, causing property damage with displaced bees making hives where they don't belong, and anaphylactic reactions to those allergic to stings. As a gardener, I am all for pollination. I do not want an aggressive, non-native pollinator to be supported in my yard.

Move to the country if you want a farm

Subject to prior training and permitting, I have no problem at all with this proposal

Personally, I don't want to smell a chicken coop or get stung by bees. Those activities seem better suited for an acreage or hobby farm. Also, there are a lot of people with severe bee allergies and there is no way to contain flying insects to the bee keeper's property.

I would approve depending on location and lot type (as in large or wooded)

It would be good to require a minimum distance for beehives from neighboring property (for safety), but I fully support bee raising, from what I have learned about it. Chickens make less sense to me in the city. It seems much more like farm production. I would want to know a lot more about the WHY of it.

I believe that chickens and bees belong on properties larger than those found in Plymouth. In addition, there will be additional administrative costs for monitoring that people are abiding by health codes etc. and I don't want to pay more taxes for that. I worry especially about the bees as my mother, father, and sister all have anaphylactic reactions to bee stings which means that I am highly likely to develop the same deadly reaction. I know that honeybees are not aggressive, but just having more bees in the area increases the danger- NO thanks.

Buy a hobby farm if you want chickens and bees. We are not a zoo.

The coops and hives will be unattractive for neighbors to look at in back yards from our windows. The rules will be unenforceable until a neighbor is brave enough to complain. This will cause discord among neighbors. Do we want to create that atmosphere?

Our Parkview Ridge Homeowners' Association does not allow keeping chickens or bees.

My biggest concerns are noise and odor from chickens and the safety of pets and children and even adults with regards to the beehives. However I am open to learning more about how these types of animals/insects can be managed safely, quietly and odor free. If either of these were to be mismanaged by neighbors, how would it be handled? Would there be limits per block or neighborhood?

This seems to be much ado about not much!

My neighbors don't even keep up their yard, how would I trust them to take care of chickens or bees?

So long as it was not an eyesore, I'd have zero objection. In fact, it might add a little unique interest to the neighborhood.

I live in a condo so cannot have either chickens or bees, but I fully support persons in single family homes having them.

Our neighbors already have chickens and they are a nuisance

I have nothing against raising farm animals in general if done in the proper environment. People who want to raise chickens/bees should live outside of the city or on large properties (> 5 acres). Regular city/suburban neighborhoods are not appropriate venues for raising farm animals.

Concerns: noise, smells, bee stings. Many of us have very small yards and no fences. So, no thank you!

Please allow chickens and bees! I know other suburban cities in MN, for example Mendota Heights, allow chickens. Maybe Plymouth could look in to how it is working for them, get a copy of their laws and regulations, implement them here, and make changes as needed. I believe even NYC allows bees, my relative who lives there has a hive on his roof which is allowed.

Don't do it

Family member is deathly allergic to bee stings. This could be devastating.

Concerned about safety of our cats.

In the case of chickens, I would be concerned about the odor.

Chickens can go feral ... check out Miami chicken busters ... Extremely supportive of bees. Our pollinators need all the help they can get!

We need to stay progressive and keep up with neighboring cities. Others all around allow chickens, we should as well.

All for it!

While I don't think the city should legislate all things, I see this being more of a nuisance issue rather than a valid reason to have bees and chickens.

Please allow chickens and bees!

I'm all for both as long as done responsibly.

CHICKENS.....This information may be available..... Where are supplies delivered and stored,? Are there requirements as to how to move the manure from back yard to the street? How permanent would the water source be? Could there be more than four during the switch over from older to younger chickens. I think a good number of those interested have a romanticized version of "having a few chicks." When that is realized, there could easily be an uncaring permit holder and a disgruntled neighbor. Too many variables, DON'T WANT CHICKENS IN PLYMOUTH. BEES.....are ok if permit regulations are very SPECIFIC.

Seems like a good thing to allow!

Bee keeping I support. Chickens would be messy and noisy and I wouldn't want to live next to that.

Who would enforce the regulations? Policing of smelly chickens could be a tricky problem. Or bees deciding to make a hive somewhere other than their designated hives. Bees and chickens take more maintenance than most people are willing to put in.

I think it is a wonderful idea to allow chickens and Bees. Chickens would be nice now, especially in these difficult economic times. Bees would certainly help our environment especially with their numbers dwindling. I think its a wonderful idea for

Plymouth to be proactive with chickens and bees. With education I see it as a win win. Wonderful for the families having them and great for our environment.

I'm all for increasing pollinators in the city, and I have no problem with people raising poultry.

My instinct is these are not typical "pets" but maybe there could be a minimum size lot for this. Say 1 acre or more.

Bees are not contained, they will come to my house to and in groves, if a hive is nearby. I have enough trouble with bees each summer around my house. Chickens are the same, they are noisy, and cannot be trained to be quiet such as a family dog, and they are dirty.

Chickens and Bees in the neighborhood are a bad idea. The smell that comes from chickens is terrible and the danger of bees is high, specially for people with allergies. I hope you don't allow this to happen

Who would be making up the ordinances? Can associations over-ride the city ordinances to not allow it? What is the time frame for establishing the new ordinances

My family is excited about chickens! We're hoping to maybe get some next year if passed, due to start up costs.

Plymouth WAS a rural area - it isn't any longer! We already have challenges to our suburban quality of life including weak and ineffective dog barking ordinances, adding the nuisances of chickens and bees would make things worse. Buy your eggs and honey at the local grocery store, and plant bee-friendly flowers in your gardens! If you want to do-it-yourself buy a farm elsewhere.

not supportive of this 'farm' setting in the city.

I think this is great!

Bees would be beneficial to neighborhood gardens, fruit trees, berries, etc.

Chickens-all good. Bees are great!

I'm less worried about what people do on their own property than what city, state, and federal governments do with money from others. Plymouth leadership is not representing their constituents when you jack up our taxes while putting people out of work by closing businesses and building \$50m playgrounds for seniors despite having Lifetime next door.

I support both. There is a worry about allergic reactions to bee stings.

If I catch the neighbors chicken pooping on my car, can I invite the chicken to dinner?

If allowing either one, resident must have at least five to ten acres. And, chickens are smelly! People always complain about coyotes. Coyotes would love a chicken dinner!

My only concern on bees is to make sure that they stay in their hives and not try to make their home at my house.

Highly support.

This is a no brainer. I am definitely against allowing chickens or bees.

Chickens provide health risks, including salmonella, rodents, flies, fecal contamination, and, most importantly, the avian influenza. (In this era of COVID, this is unacceptable.) Anecdotal arguments against these facts are unsubstantiated and driven by those who want chickens. This is a terrible idea and a huge risk (just because someone wants to share raising chickens with their kids). Finally, the question must be raised, what do these families do with the birds in the winter? Many municipalities claim that chickens are frequently turned in during the winter.

Great idea!!

I fully support the bee keeping. However, chickens are another matter and I don't have enough information about chickens to decide either way.

Lots in Plymouth are not large enough to have farm animals without impact on neighbors. I think chickens are loud and dirty. And my neighbors are not qualified as beekeepers.

This is insane. I have kids that are allergic to bee stings., and we already have enough bees flying around the neighborhood. And why do I want a smelly chicken coop next door? I can't believe you're actually considering this for a handful of people who what this. What happened to majority rule? When you get half the people of Plymouth asking for this, then fine....

I think both are a great idea and would constitute a good service for Plymouth residents

Great idea - hopefully the chicken allowance is chickens-only, not including roosters.

Licensing and training would be important

I live in a condominium development. Is the City considering whether bees or chickens would be allowed for multi-unit housing complexes?

Much more information needs to be provided about what impact this may have on close neighbors. It might be just fine or it might be awful. Can't decide without more information.

I think the city should do everything it can to support bees with appropriate guardrails in place to protect ppl with severe allergies. It seems the food supply is VERY dependent on our bee populations.

Chickens make lousy house pets.

As a former chicken owner I'm concerned with the health and safety of the animals. Coops must be safe against predators (including other neighborhood pets), owners must have good plans for handling manure, providing water that's available (not frozen) and how they will keep the chickens from free ranging off their home property. The City may also wish to specify whether chickens may be kept as house chickens as this may be how some Minnesotans plan to keep their chickens safe during winter months.

I support keeping of bees but not chickens

There is absolutely nothing wrong with having chickens or bees in a suburban setting

There should be good options for those wanting chickens and bees. People are free to have dogs and cats even with all the risks to people and the environment posed by dogs and cats.

If they are allowed, I think there should be a minimum acreage. It should not be allowed where houses are right next to one another in developments/neighborhoods. Maybe out "in the country" where the lots are an acre or more.

If people want chickens or bees they can move to a farm.

There needs to be setbacks from the property lines (30' for bees, and 50' for chickens). If the chicken owner gets behind in cleaning the coop, it will stink. That needs to be set back pretty far.

I strongly support the keeping of bees within city limits, and have no problem with the keeping of chickens either.

Maybe there needs to be a setback from the property line for coops and hives. That way, if the neighbors have a swingset or pool or something on their property edge, it would not abut a coop or hive which might be bothersome. I believe the U of M has some type of beekeeping outreach, they might be a good resource for the council. J. Steen

Bees in more rural settings but not in backyards where there is less than 200 feet of property line.

Let people live their lives. The city is not a dictatorship.

I fully support this and feel it contributes positively to our ecosystem (bees) and to our residents' self sustenance. Are used to live in Minneapolis, where homes are much closer together than they typically are in Plymouth, and if keeping chickens works there, there's no reason it shouldn't in Plymouth.

I think chickens and bees should be allowed as long as they don't interfere with the neighbors.

Well look at Plymouth trying to get all progressive, it's about time!

I am concerned about the noise and the possibility that fox and coyote would be more prevalent causing a safety issue for small pets

<https://www.beelab.umn.edu/bees/helping-bees> I think our neighbors are mis-informed in native bees vs honey bees and which help the MN environment. It might be helpful for Plymouth to educate before asking these questions. Thanks!

Please do not allow these animals and insects in the city limits. The mess will bring down property values. If people want to play farmer, please move to the country.

People are misinformed about honeybees. I think this survey could be a teaching moment. <https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2018/01/27/581007165/honeybees-help-farmers-but-they-dont-help-the-environment>

Although I personally would not keep chickens or bees, I think it is a wonderful idea and would welcome them in my neighborhood!

I support both wholeheartedly. In particular, pollinators need all the support they can get. People are way more likely to be stung by wasps than honeybees, which are not aggressive unless harassed.

Encouraging residents to plant native plants, skip the removal of leaves by mulching them, and do a better all around job of education on the merits of naturalization. That will bring in more bees. The chickens are on their own :-)

I'm ok with it

I lived next to a place with chickens and they woke us up every morning, super early. Annoying.

Chickens YES! Bees, please follow the science. Xerces Society has a lot of resources. If we want to have bees to help with the crisis of pollinator loss then we need to focus on native bees. Hive bees compete with natives for food so aren't necessarily a good solution. We'd all be better planting native plants and flowers to help native bees regain habitat. I'm happy to talk or testify if this helps. I'm not opposed to bees but strongly ask that we do what's best to protect our native bees which are at risk.

If chickens and/or bees were allowed, the size of the lot should be included. For examples. a lot must be larger than 1/2 acre to allow chickens or bees.

This is a very bad idea. No amount of independent training, a licensing process or ordinances would be able to avoid the problems this could cause. Keep farmland, farmland and lots for homes, lots for homes.

no reason not to allow

Approving these would be great!

I don't think there should be licensing requirements for chickens. Any pet requires background education. If I want to get 2, 150-lb saint Bernards to live in my backyard, I don't need any prior education or permitting, even though they can have a huge impact on the neighborhood and can potentially be dangerous if they are mistreated. Additionally, birds are already allowed as pets within a household, but no permit is required, nor education or instructions. Other pets such as lizards or turtles are allowed, and they also carry a salmonella risk, yet somehow these pets are fine. Why would chickens, which are birds, and smaller than most breeds of dogs, less harmful to local wildlife than cats (which kill millions of native wildlife a year if allowed outside), require some special permitting? There is no logical reason for this, only irrational fear of the unknown. Therefore, I support the original proposal submitted to the council which does not require permitting.

This would be great. My husband talk about this all the time. We have a huge back yard that would be appropriate for a small area for chickens without bothering and neighbors.

Only downside I know of for chickens is noise from roosters. I'm not educated enough to know other concerns. Bees sound scary to me, but also necessary so I'm torn. Maybe they'd be better in a park away from trails

No, but we should talk about bee-friendly insecticides and pesticides being used, maybe city ordinance for city-workers they can only use those types of products?

Yes, please allow bees and chickens! I am very much in favor of this!

No chickens! Chickens are farm animals, Plymouth is not a "farm community". Considering that we are in the midst of a pandemic and that poultry have been a concern in other disease outbreaks we don't need to bring them into the city - closer to the general population.

A couple of chickens are ok. People need to make the pens look nice vs patch work crap.

Independent beekeeping should probably be limited since according to U of MN, honeybees compete with our native MN bees. More information should be gathered first. Source: <https://www.beelab.umn.edu/bees/helping-bees>

We have a growing crisis with our shrinking bee population and the valuable service they provide, namely pollination. Anything to encourage more honey bees in beautiful Plymouth, MN is fine with this Plymouth Household. Lee H.

THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS!! I've been wanting both chicken and bees and when I saw they city didn't allow them, was looking into how to cut that! Yes to chickens & bees!!!

Maybe allow on properties above a certain square footage/acreage and a certain amount of distance from any neighbor.

Review ordinances around native flower planting especially at boulevards to support rain water runoff in sewers as well as pollinators

I fully support having chickens and bees in Plymouth!!! Let's do it!

As a city, we should be doing everything we can to support more local food production. I'm all for this!

Chickens are for farms. If you want farm fresh eggs, support a local farmer and buy from them. As for the Bees, offer limited Permits for public spaces within the parks and/or Dog Parks. We don't need Bees in backyards.

It's nice that there would be a requirement to get proper training. It would also be nice for there to be some type of follow up process to ensure the bees' and chickens' safety and proper care maybe a year or two after a permit is issued. The main reason why I wouldn't be getting bees or chickens is because I live in a townhome community.

No bees! Please

We need bees!! Our apple trees have never produced fruit:(

How will the city ensure that these are maintained? Having a neighbor with a mess can effect home sales and the quality of our neighborhoods.

Although my family has no interest in owning bees or chickens, I'm pleased to hear the City of Plymouth is giving consideration to allowing residents with proper training to do so. Thank you!

Being allowed to have either/both would be amazing! I hope the cities does allow this opportunity for the Plymouth residents.

maybe neighborhood quotas/maximums?

Would love to be able to have chickens!

Survey doesn't address those living in non-single family dwellings. I'd be fine if my near neighbors had critters.

Our HOA doesn't allow sheds in our backyard

The majority of homes in Plymouth are too close together to allow for bees and chickens. I don't want to listen to chickens or risk a bee sting since I'm allergic to bee stings.

You would be making a number of families happier to live in Plymouth. With friends in other Twin Cities towns having chickens, it feels like Plymouth is missing out.

It is not a good idea to allow backyard chickens and the keeping of bees within the city limits. These are two situations which can open up so many issues and conflicts with neighbors and within neighborhoods. There will be health dangers and sanitation issues. Then the city of Plymouth will find itself in more complicated situations involving chickens and bees. Currently some Plymouth dog owners cannot even take care of their pet dogs. Some pet dogs are left to run unleashed. Some dog owners do not pick up their dog's feces. These dog owners are choosing to ignore current city rules. One can assume that some chicken and bee owners will also choose to ignore city guidelines and rules for their chickens and bees.

I think this is good for the environment and won't be a problem for other residents, as long as guidelines are followed.

The noise and smell of chickens would be a huge drawback. Regarding bees, we need more pollinators anywhere we can get them, since their numbers are seriously declining. The city should also plant more pollinator friendly gardens and not mow as much (to help bees/butterflies and also to reduce carbon emissions).

Ummmm. Let's not get silly like Minneapolis and have backyard chickens. Who's hairbrained idea was this? Lord, aren't there other areas the city could spend their time on?

Will people be notified if their neighbors are having chickens/bees?

Can we also allow one cow/calf pair? No bulls of course. :)

I would just make sure the homeowner has enough space. I would love to have bees, but my lawn is very tiny as the rest is a marsh.

I too would like free eggs and honey, but in reality this is a terrible idea. The first time a chicken gets out and causes a car accident people are going to be asking why they are allowed in neighborhoods. These things are just a million incidents waiting to happen. I'd love to have chickens and bees, but I realize my neighborhood is an inappropriate place for them. Please really think about the downsides to this.

Sounds like a fun idea! This pandemic has made the need to grow/raise your own food even more important.

As stated in the intro these are farm animals and are for farms. Those that want these should move out of the more populated city areas. There are enough issues already with irresponsible dog owners that impede on homeowners/people's rights - poop everywhere and constant barking issues.

We lived next to neighbors that had chickens in S. Minneapolis. Obnoxiously loud and stinky! Please leave the at for the farm!!

The point of this would be allowing Additional independence of property owners Not Creating a money pool From licensing.

Our neighbors have illegal chickens right now and they are ridiculously noisy, especially the rooster. All we need are more of those stupid things...not! Additionally, they are very upsetting to my dog who would likely kill them if he had a chance. As for bees, not in a neighborhood. My sister is extremely allergic and literally could die if stung. I want her to be able to be at my house/yard in peace and safety.

Chickens, noisy, smelly, draws predators

Strongly in favor of chickens. I like the idea of beekeeping in theory but worry that having more honeybees will drive out native pollinators who are already struggling and ruin our natural prairie habitat and endanger native plants.

We do not have the space in our yards for hens or bees and I see the need for keeping them to be frivolous. Just wait until the owners fail to be responsible. The what will you do? I'd permission is granted it will require oversight.

So happy the city is looking at this! We would love to raise chickens and have fresh organic eggs! And we need more Native honey bees! Please make it happen!

Would the HOA allow these, if it passes for Plymouth?

As someone who grew up on a farm I can definitely say that chickens and bees would rather live in the country. And so would geese and ducks, which is why we should do away with the plethora of "wetlands" in Plymouth that could be re-landscaped as green spaces and parks for humans to use and enjoy.

I don't know enough about chickens to feel strongly. I am in strong support of bees.

I think allowing this would be an excellent idea. After proper education, I feel that this could be very beneficial

There should be considerations for households with certain allergies.

What an excellent idea! I think this would be great for our city.

As long as the chicken and/or bee keepers are considerate of their neighbors, and are making every effort to ensure the chickens or bees are very well cared for, I have no objections.

Why not

if there were chickens our dog would go nuts everytime he was out. Neither I nor the neighbors would appreciate that

I support the draft ordinances I have seen. I would like to see the chicken coop/run area be larger than 120 square feet. Smaller spaces could lead to behavioral issues even with only 4 chickens and would not provide sufficient space to separate any birds if needed due to illness/disease.

no thank you chickens are for the country not the city

Please, no chickens or bees. Inherently, this opens the door to unsightly structures and many other issues

I would like to know more about the bees first. Do they sting? Would my children be at risk? How far away from the hive do they fly? Need more education to decrease my fears.

I think some rules are good. Don't make regulations and licenses be a punishment. Make it relatively easy for people. These items are important for our ecosystem and the more people can do the better for environment of the community

Bees and/or chickens can be no more of a nuisance, and probably less, than barking dogs. I doubt many people would choose to have bees and chickens ANYWAY as they are a lot of work and a large expense. However, I believe people who want to have their own healthy source of eggs and honey should not be prevented from doing so. I also think by allowing beekeeping, we as a community can help do our part in combatting colony collapse. And, if the city of Minneapolis allows backyard chickens, it is curious that Plymouth does not, especially in neighborhoods that have larger lot sizes.

I like this idea.

Please please allow this!!!!

If my neighbor kept either bees or chickens in their backyard, I would strongly consider moving. Houses are extremely close together, especially in developments built after 2005, and this could pose a safety issue for my children.

I never expected these questions!

It's about time!

If chickens are allowed they should be only with acre plus lots only.

I would love to have chickens, but we currently have a pool. I fully support my neighbors having chickens.

Have enough noise and poop with all the dogs in our neighborhood.

This will cause more diseases and unnecessary health risks involved

Family members are allergic to bees. One older lady in our family is very allergic to bees.

Plymouth needs to be a "bee friendly" city and prohibit the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.

I've previously lived near both hens and beehives and neither were an inconvenience.

Please let's do this to support health and wellness of humans and our earth!

4 chickens limit us too low. I'd say 10 is a better limit.

Once it starts it is hard to reel it back.

When my grandparents grew up on farms the kids did not hug and treat the chickens like pets. I see fb pictures of friends with young children holding and playing with the birds as if they are family pets. Most people do not have enough acreage to keep the chickens and children entirely separate. From the CDC website: "Although keeping backyard poultry can be fun and educational, owners should be aware that poultry can sometimes carry harmful germs that make people sick. These germs can cause a variety of illnesses in people, ranging from minor skin infections to serious illnesses that could cause death. One of the best ways to protect yourself from getting sick is to wash your hands thoroughly right after touching poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam." Personally, we ran into a 4 year old child at the U of M kidney clinic who needs a transplant after contracting E. coli on a farm. Plymouth is family friendly, healthy, safe and not a hobby farm.

Bees are super important, so I'm excited to have the option. As long as the chickens are a nuisance, I'm ok with allowing chickens.

Bees and the new bee keeper needs to join a bee club and or take classes at the U of M bee lab. New bee keepers would need to learn how to keep bees and all the equipment that needed and hive placement etc. We need bees!

My neighbor's incessantly barking dogs are enough. No chickens!!

Please for the love of God no chickens

Are you kidding me? Sorry, but I do not believe that people should have bees or chickens in the city. Our yards are way too small and close together for that. Seriously!! It's difficult enough to get people to take care of their dogs! You are asking for all kinds of trouble if you allow farm animals in people's back yards. If people want farm animals, they can move out to the country. What are you thinking???

I think providing residents with more information about the benefits of chickens and bees and addressing common concerns would be helpful in getting public approval.

Again, as long as no roosters are around to wake my children up the moment the sun comes up, I see no issues with neighbors having chickens or bees. Might be useful though to limit the amount of bee hives per area. Ex. We have 3 additional neighbors on one corner, that could be up to 8 beehives right next to each other.

Sounds like a good idea. One idea we see in Minnetonka is that the number of chickens is tied to lot size to help make sure the chickens have ample space. I think both chickens and bees are worthwhile opportunities. Classes for residents are also handy to help ensure proper care

HONEY BEES ARE ENDANGERED AND NEED SUPPORT TO POLINATE ALL OUR FOOD CROPS. THEY ARE NOT AGGRESSIVE, AFRAID TO STING BECAUSE THEY IMMEDIATELY DIE. ONLY STING AS LAST RESORT AND CAN ONLY STING ONCE UNLIKE WASPS.

I grew up with chickens and would love my children to have the same experience of collecting eggs and taking care of the chickens. I do not see any issues with having backyard chickens if you have the space and provide an appropriate structure and fencing. I have been disappointed that Plymouth does not allow chickens and was surprised when I moved here since so many other cities (with smaller lots) do allow them.

I think it's a great idea to allow both chickens and bees.

I am among those who have an allergy to bee (and other insect) venom. So does my elderly mom. I take all reasonable precautions to protect myself - and bees, including dressing appropriately and using only bee-safe products on my lawn. One of the reasons that I live here, in a city, and not further out, is to reduce the risk of exposure to insects that can harm me. If my neighbors were to acquire hives, it would put me in closer proximity to a situation that endangers my health. My mom would not be safe to visit my home and sit outside. I know that I am in a minority, but in order to protect vulnerable residents, I beg you to please disallow the keeping of bees within city limits. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Adding licensing seems like adding paperwork and more for city staff to do. How necessary is it?

Chickens stink and are dirty, they belong in the barnyard. Bees are "the bees knees" I'm all in!

When

I really hope both of these pass. It's been a long time coming. Thanks!

Really oppose backyard chickens. Have heard a lot of bad stories in Minneapolis. Bees maybe. Would need more information.

My wife wants chickens which I support. She also wants bees, which is crrrrrazy.

Absolutely would not be supportive of neighbors having chickens. Bees, I could be supportive of that. Bees to promote a better ecosystem.

Do not make this a money maker with high permit fees. It should be a free permit. We all pay enough in taxes.

Neighbors are in too close to each other in order to allow this without inconveniencing or exposing others to these animals

This is a no brainer. I've kept a hive, NEVER had any problems/issues with bee stings/apiarian nuisance from neighbors. Chickens are NOT disruptive to their neighbors, either. Further, keeping chickens or bees can provide nutrition, education, and entertainment for people involved.

This will be wonderful for so many families.

Please limit the use of herbicides on grasses, so wild flowers can grow and bees eat. Thanks

Our HOA would not allow this, but I'm happy to support those that might be able to do this in Plymouth. We'd love to get fresh eggs around here instead of driving to other cities.

Enforcement of following the number of chickens and bee hives could become an issue.

Houses are too close together

Please do not offer this within Plymouth city limits. We are near enough to larger areas of land ownership that people should consider their farming lifestyle before choosing a suburban environment. Approving this would make me consider moving out of Plymouth all together.

Yes to bees! Maybe no to chickens.

Chickens are a nuisance and make noise. Do not allow chickens in Plymouth. If you have been to Kauai Hawaii you will see what chickens can turn into.

Chickens...no problem. I would want bee hives to be a significant distance from my property to prevent my getting stung. I'm not sure what that distance would need to be,

I am strongly in favor of allowing chickens and beekeeping. We need to encourage people to interact with nature, we need to encourage people to nurture the environment. The city should also not stand in the way of people who wish to exercise their rights to cultivate their own food on their own property. As long as ordinances are enforced and people are compliant then I don't see a problem. I encourage the city to adopt this.

If you want chickens and bees, go live farther out in the country. I don't need my property value going down because my backyard overlooks a chicken coop.

Do you think I want to look at my neighbors chicken coop across my backyard? Go live on a farm if you want chickens.

Save the animals, save the planet!!!!!!

I have 2 children with severe bee allergies. It is scary to think of hives in residential neighborhoods

Other communities have done this successfully

Some worries about curious children, pets...maybe adults and how this might be handled.

I have about 2 acres but I also support those with smaller lots. I have 2 friends who have had chickens for years. Their success and access to fresh egg has had me awaiting my own chance!

I am allergic to bees. Not too thrilled if a neighbor would have bees.

1. Coops will need to be a certain distance from property line and regulated size and construction, I hope. 2. City should also up its education and acceptance of projects that promote NATIVE bee populations (which are threatened) and ensure kept bee hives do not put such populations at risk.

Chickens are noisy and I'm severely allergic to honey bees so not a fan of this.

My neighbors already have too much "stuff" in their backyard! I can only imagine the mess a chicken coop would add. As far as bees, I am just not educated enough on the safety aspect to make a thoughtful decision. I would be in favor of it if deemed safe and good for our native plants & environment.

I am so happy to see Plymouth considering this and hope they allow chickens and bees. I absolutely support this.

I think it's an excellent idea to have chickens for fresh eggs and bees for pollination. I would have chickens if I wasn't a renter

I don't trust my neighbors to keep them on their property!

I'm deeply concerned that this conversation is taking place without considering the ill effects from improper livestock keeping. We're in the middle of a pandemic. I'd hate to see another pandemic spawn from urban and suburban areas housing chickens.

Need to allow enough space for both to live well. Spaying of chemicals (herbicides and pesticides) would need to be reduced or eliminated for the safety of bee colonies.

They should be allowed.

I don't know how bees could be securely contained in a neighbors yard

Allergies to bees could put neighbors at risk.

I'm allergic to bees and I would be very afraid of being outdoors with bee hives nearby. I don't think chickens belong in cities in backyards. Please don't allow chickens or bees. Thank you.

Thank you for asking

We try to plant pollinator friendly gardens. Why not have people benefit from having the honey bees.

Chicken and bees are important to our ecosystem and a more sustainable lifestyle. I'm all for it. If I could have chickens at my tiny St.Louis Park home I should be able to have them in my large yard in plymouth.

If considering can there be a lot size requirement? I'd be very unhappy if neighbors put anything close to our yard.

I would love the opportunity to have chickens and bees. I think this can be regulated easily and would add quality to community.

If allowed, there should be requirements for the size of your property. Most neighborhoods are way too tightly spaced for chickens and bees!!

Bees are good for the environment

Not a good idea!! Someone will not do what they are suppose to and someone will get hurt. Property value will go down.

Such a great idea to allow people to be able to feed themselves and connect back to the basic of food production. Even it's a small step, but it has many other angles to consider; e.g. it compliments backyard gardening in a huge way, it's a great education for young generations in many ways....drawing them outdoor, teaching them about food source, etc. All in all, keeping chicken and bees promote healthy community!

I think both should be allowed.

I like the idea of allowing this

I used to be a beekeeper many years ago, I wonder how you can control this. If almost all neighbors had two hives of bees that could be a problem for those that don't appreciate bees. Bees don't stay close to their hives during warm sunny days!!!

Please please please no chickens. Or bees. They get out. They carry disease. They need room to roam. They attract predator animals bringing them closer to our children. Plus no one wants to live (or resell their home) next to a chicken owner. Please

no.

Don't make it bureaucratic. People are smart and can handle having either or both of these without the city getting in their business.

I live in a townhouse so I can't have chickens, but if I had a single family home with a yard I would definitely want them!

Plymouth has built too many houses on small lots, there is no space for bees and chickens. If people want they need to buy land and move out of the residential area. Plymouth is also a family community with many children, seems to be a risk to our children to have bees that sting and chickens in close proximity of kids.

I have no problem with it. I do have a problem with city government being intrusive by creating licensing and training requirements.

I also would like to see the city working harder to get people to replace lawns with native plants.

Is this a joke? where is the equivalence between chickens and bees? This is no longer agricultural land use....no chickens.

We were able to this in Golden Valley when we lived there before moving to Plymouth. It is time that Plymouth gets more current with the idea of a more natural way to get food sources. Especially eggs. But there should be a limit, two chicken and 1 maybe two behives.

100% back this ordinance. I've known several people to safely and respectfully raise both bees and chickens in suburban neighborhoods, while being courteous of their neighbors. Benefits include: home business opportunities, environmental support (bees), educational opportunities for kids, food benefits, among others

We don't support chickens in residential areas. People allergic to bee stings could be impacted by neighboring hives.

I think allowing people to do what they want within reason is a great idea. If people want to raise chickens and bees, i say they should be allowed and encouraged.

I fully support this!! Appreciate the limit of 4 chickens, but this is a growing trend in the area and would like Plymouth residents to have the option to participate.

Don't reinvent the wheel. There are plenty of communities that allow either chickens or bees or both. Check out as many as you can (not just one) and use their experience and regulations to model Plymouth regulations. Make the regulations reasonable. And make sure to give weight to informed opinions rather than many of the knee-jerk, uninformed opinions that we see on Next Door and Facebook.

Great you are listening to a very, very small population of the community. Would love focus on speed, traffic and pedestrian safety - follow nextdoor to see all the threads. Walk along 101 between the elementary schools and see how safe you feel.

Great idea!

Don't love the idea

We already have more than enough domestic animals.

I'd love to see Plymouth allow Honey Bees, they bring so much to the community. I truly hope Plymouth allows this so more bee keepers can help support the bee population, this will encourage flower growers, gardeners etc.

I think something that helps people make their own protein food and honey is a good idea.

I keep bees in St. Louis Park in the 60s and 70s. we had no issues with the neighbors although we kept the hives 50 feet from side and rear property lines. I think the set backs are important. I have also worked in land use zoning and enforcement for over 35 years. We had 100 foot setbacks for livestock. Also, a waste plan should be submitted by the applicant.

Bees should be encouraged

I'm allergic to bees and would have to have an epipen with me at all times. Basically I would be extremely anxious to go outside in my own neighborhood.

Less concerned about chickens... bees make me nervous with little kids in neighborhoods.

If people are allowed to have chickens. There should be restrictions in place for how large the yard must be and how far away the coop must be from the neighbors homes and property

It is so thrilling to see that our city is taking steps towards allowing residents to expand their animal ownership options! These types of changes increase our quality of life, reduce our negative impact on the environment and help to preserve the nature within our community!!!

I support as long as the rules are followed and the chickens are treated humanely.

I'm not very knowledgeable about either, and would need more info, but the chicken thing definitely does not sound good to me, even without knowledge,

Chickens can be noisy. I don't know how you prevent them from disturbing neighbors at 500 am

I find both of these options to be completely impractical for the majority of Plymouth residences as they are fairly highly dense. With very little space, HoA regulations on structures and fences, this just seems like it would cause significant problems.

All of these may be "wonderful" in a rural environment ~ although not in Plymouth that also has so many parks adjacent to private homes ☐ where "possibly" these birds ☐ and bees ☐ could fly away into ☐

Thank you for saying no roosters! Chickens are great though. We would consider getting some ourselves. Proper training is a must so the correct cold weather breeds are chosen. We don't want the poor things suffering in the cold if they can't handle it. I do have a concern of attracting more predators. Would correct safety measures be covered in the training?

Assuming reports are correct that coyote sightings are up, then the population would also be growing. Farming hens in the backyard is an open invitation to coyotes. I think this is a terrible idea. I do not want more coyotes living closer to houses. Plus I do not want my neighborhood to smell like a farm. If you want a farm buy one or start a coop somewhere else.

We have enough problems with fox, coyotes, etc. Don't need to invite more. Yes, they would be caged... sneaky like a fox... it would still be a problem.

I feel like if you have a bigger lot of land so they don't disturb neighbors would be fine. Smaller lot sizes I don't think should. Young kids running around the neighborhood. Would it be mandatory to have a backyard fence so neighborhood kids don't come in. Bigger the size may not need a backyard fence.

Love the idea! Good for nutrition and good for children's/families' learning on so many levels!

I support beekeepers because pollinators benefit ecosystems.

Bee provide value to community, they are pollinators. Chickens can cause disease. The past bird virus. Also fungi infection (Histoplasmosis).

I think this is a great idea to allow chickens or bees

How will proper implementation of these changes be enforced? I grew up on a farm and frankly chicken coops smell if not cleaned out regularly; how will the bi-product be disposed of? And who will check that homeowners are following regulations? Some homeowners have trouble picking up after their dog, I pray these people do not get chickens.

Bees would help all of our gardens. Maybe encourage people to plant more pollinator friendly gardens. There is literally no reason not to do this.

I think you really need to consider the regulations around this. Chickens and bees in neighborhoods where lot sizes are small and houses are butting up against each other as it is, both of these could be a nuisance to neighbors. And if complaints are submitted, action needs to happen swiftly and permanently.

I just want to be sure that the chickens wouldn't be real noisy

Seems a risk

My children are highly allergic to bees.

I strongly oppose any Change To the current animal regulation

Both personal bees and chickens is a great idea. I have close friend in Mpls who has Bees. Also great for kids to learn about animals.

I think both of these items should be approve and its taken too long for it be brought up

I live in a townhouse area so I wouldn't be able to consider having either chickens or bees. I would if I had an area that would support them.

Prefer an enforcement method that requires residence to remove chickens/bees in the event they are not complying with requiments.

I would definitely not support any honey bee hives in the area and prefer not to have chickens, but am more likely to allow that if properly maintained

If allowed, I believe the ordinance should require proper fencing for chicken enclosures.

For chickens, please ensure that enclosures will be humane, allow free-roam, and will be insulated and kept warm during winter months. It can get quite cold and having chickens live outside in the cold is cruel and inhumane. Also, surrendering/abandoning/giving up chickens in the fall/winter can be an issue; how will this be mitigated?

move into the country if you want to have a mini farm

I do not think either backyard chickens or bees are appropriate within Plymouth city limits.

I'm in total support of Plymouth residents hosing chicken or bees on their property of so desired.

Let's do it! Great progressive ideas!

I believe it depends on the property size and neighborhood. I live in an association where everyone's yards are open and close together. It would not make sense here. However, if I had a large lot, was allowed a fence and more trees, I would be fine with it.

I don't care too much about chickens either way, but because of the importance of bees as pollinators, I think it would be excellent to have our community helping the bee population thrive. All for it.

I am strongly against backyard chickens and the keeping of bees within the city limits primarily because once the city allows those agricultural activities it will be difficult for the city to refuse requests for other slightly (or significantly) more invasive agricultural activities.

Bees are good for bees are good for pollinating. We need them.

Structures may not meet HOA rules.

Save Hollydale

The rules the planning commission suggested seem very reasonable.

Almost all communities in Twin Cities allow chickens. I think it's good for the overall psychological health and well-being, to educate kids and stay positive. It's time for Plymouth to allow chickens! I don't know as much about bees, but also see them as a positive thing. Would support it if my neighbors start that.

How will compliance be enforced, neighbor complaints vs. periodic inspections? What are the penalties for non-compliance?

I think the city of Minneapolis has good requirements, including requiring training and permission from local neighbors. I do think that I'd want to be clear if raising bees is actually as beneficial or actually counter to existing native bees (vs. planting pollinator-friendly plants etc.)

None at this time

I am so incredibly horrified at the idea of chickens. Please, please, please reject this insane idea!!!

I love the idea of allowing backyard chickens and beekeeping! Both practices enrich people's personal connection to the environment and encourage friendly neighbor interaction (through sharing eggs or honey, or through shared animal-keeping experiences). I would be very excited to hear that the City of Plymouth chose to allow backyard chickens and beekeeping for responsible residents.

I've been a Plymouth resident for the past 2 years, and I would love the opportunity to raise bees on the property. I want to do my part to maintain a healthy bee population, improve the environment, and help model to others the importance of environmental care in our community civics.

Already concerned about fire pits in the back yards - I have one on each side of us. We can't sit out on our screened in porch without smoke filling the room. Chickens could be the same and don't want smell them - not too concerned about seeing or hearing them. There should be a set back of at least 20 feet

Thanks for considering this! I'm all for it!

Chickens are a nuisance!

My bees answer is based on whether or not the bees would be flying around other properties than their home one. If not I am in favor as bees are essential in the ecosystem

Our houses are too close together to allow these in our neighborhood.

I'd like to learn more about this topic. I'm interested in doing these two things myself, but don't know enough of what that practically means. Do I have enough room to have chickens? Do I need a shed or cage?

I think it's a wonderful way of getting children in touch with nature and understanding more of what it means to consume a chicken and/or honey products.

Let's get on board and allow this to happen.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED IN PLYMOUTH.

When handled responsibly, the addition of chickens and/or bees can be a very good thing. I think it's a wonderful idea. I'm sure you're aware of the benefits to the environment. I hope the city supports the initiative.

Enforcement of criteria?

Is there a lot size/setback restriction for beekeeping? My brother and I have severe allergic reactions to bee stings, and epipens are extremely expensive at this point. If people can have them anywhere, even on small lots with little setback, I'm worried about the cost to keep myself safe.

I think allowing residents to have chickens and/or bees would be great!

I would absolutely love having neighbors that had either chickens or bees as long as there was some amount of regulation so it didn't get out of hand (such as the no rooster rule). I don't want them myself but definitely support it and might want it someday!

I believe allowing access to bees would be very beneficial to Plymouth. Access to chickens would be good as well, with the understanding the chickens need to be maintained and care for so there is no neglect or damage brought on by escaped chickens.

Chickens smell and I hate bees!

I already have neighbors that struggle with keeping old cars and other junk out of their yard so would worry about how the city would control and maintain adherence to any regulations for chickens and bees.

Do not support having chickens and bees in the city.

Go to St. Paul and see what happens to neighborhoods which allowed this.

Great idea, progressive and environmentally considerate.

I fully support this idea!

All I can see is chickens running around in the neighborhoods! I could see properties that have a couple of acres of land, that could handle chickens...but not in the average neighborhoods where you have a postage stamp yard. As for bees, I am allergic to their stings....so that would be my concern on having my neighbor have a hive in their backyard.

I support these activities in Plymouth.

I do not believe Plymouth is the place these types of activities, especially in residential areas with relatively small lots. Having bees or chickens will have a significant impact on neighboring properties.

Many other cities near us allow for chickens and bees, including more dense populations like Minneapolis. I feel like Plymouth is behind the times on allowing Chickens and bees, both of them have positive impacts to the environment.

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