



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: May 27, 2024

TITLE: C-1315-24 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Hen Keeping - First Reading

DIVISION: Sustainable Growth and Development Services

SUMMARY:

Proposed Bylaw C-1315-24, a text amendment to Land Use Bylaw C-824-12, is being brought forward for first reading to remove hens that are kept with a valid hen licence from the definition of Agriculture. C-1315-24 is being brought forward in tandem with C-1313-24 - Hens Bylaw and C-1314-24 - Development Fees and Fines Bylaw Amendment for Hen Keeping to support the proposed two-year hen keeping pilot program.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT first reading be given to C-1315-24 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment for Hen Keeping.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

Administration has developed a two-year pilot program for hen keeping. To implement the hen keeping program, Administration identified the need to amend C-824-12 - Land Use Bylaw to remove hens that are kept with a valid hen licence from the definition of Agriculture. The Land Use Bylaw permits the raising of animals for agricultural purposes in the UR - Urban Reserve District and the UAT- Urban Agricultural Transition District only. The UR - Urban Reserve District and the UAT- Urban Agricultural Transition District includes all outlying undeveloped areas of Spruce Grove. The raising of animals for agriculture is currently not allowed within any other area of Spruce Grove. C-1315-24 will remove hens that are kept with a valid hen licence from the definition of Agriculture to allow for hen keeping in residential areas.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

Bylaw C-1315-24 is being brought forward for consideration of first reading. Discussion and consideration of changes to the bylaw may be made at future readings.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

Results from the Community Standards Bylaw *What We Heard* Report provided Administration with feedback from community responses to hen keeping and beekeeping within the city.

The jurisdictional scan guided further research; Administration explored options with similar sized municipalities. Inquiries were made to other municipalities regarding hen programs, internal processes, bylaw definitions, and lessons learned to inform the proposed options.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

If approved, the Land Use Bylaw will be updated as per Bylaw 1315-24 and published on the City's website.

IMPACTS:

Approval of this bylaw will allow for hen keeping in residential areas.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a