



Crowing Fowl Ordinance Update

PLNP2024-00226

Planning and Environmental Review

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Workshop Overview

- To gather initial input on an Ordinance amendment related to crowing fowl.
- Intent of Amendment aims to protect poultry operations, hobby farmers, educational programs by addressing:
 - Poor animal management practices,
 - Spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI),
 - Illegal activities, and
 - Public health/safety and nuisances.

Why Update Crowing Fowl Ordinance?



- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is deadly to domestic poultry and can wipe out entire flocks within a matter of days.
 - HPAI is a major threat to our local poultry industry, backyard flocks, animal health, the economy and trade.
 - In the past month, Sacramento County has lost over 349,500 commercial birds to HPAI.

Why Update Crowing Fowl Ordinance?

- Reports of unsanitary, inhumane treatment of animals; potential illegal activities.
 - County has received complaints regarding the noise, and unsanitary conditions of roosters.
 - Unsanitary conditions attract pests and rodents and is major concern for HPAI.
 - Cockfighting is often associated with illegal activities. Cockfighting is animal suffering and cruelty, and is a crime.



Crowing Fowl Ordinance

- Sacramento County currently allows crowing fowl on lots over 10,000 square feet.
 - Not allowed in RD-10 through RD-40, RM-2, O, Mixed Use, and M-2 zone districts

RD10 - 40 = Residential at higher densities
RM – mobile home park
O = open space
M-2 = Industrial



Initial Feedback

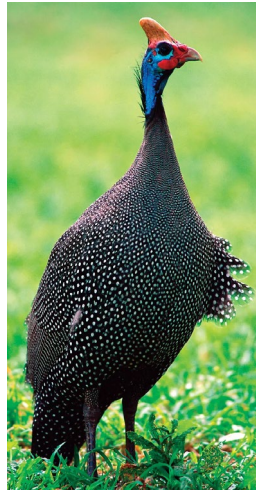


- The update aims to strike a balance between preserving agricultural rights in the County, while addressing biosecurity concerns (HPAI), negative impacts of illegal activities and inhumane animal management practices in both agricultural, rural residential and urban areas of the County.
- County Staff seeks **initial feedback from agricultural stakeholders** – including educational organizations, and the local farming community.

Next Steps

- Additional Stakeholder Meetings and Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) Meetings have not been scheduled.
 - We expect additional outreach to occur between January and March of 2025.
- **Staff welcomes your valuable input** to ensure a balance between preserving agricultural rights while addressing negative impacts of illegal and poor animal management practices in the County.
 - Young Choi, Associate Planner (choiy@saccounty.gov)
 - Wendy Hartman, Principal Planner (hartmanw@saccounty.gov)
 - Chris Flores, Agricultural Commissioner (agcomm@saccounty.gov)
- Board of Supervisors is the final Decision Body for this item. AAC, CPAC's and Planning Commissions' recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

Discussion Topics



- Should Ordinance apply to all types of crowing fowl or just roosters?
 - roosters, ducks, geese, guinea fowl and peafowl
- Should changes be made to minimum lot size to allow for crowing fowl?
 - Currently 10,000 s.f. or greater and no limitation on number
- Should there be a restriction on the number of crowing fowl? If yes, based on parcel size or type of operation?
- Other concerns or comments?