

Urban Hens Survey

November 25, 2019

Have you read about the Urban Hens Pilot Program?	Do you agree or disagree with the Pilot Program?	Please provide comments on why you disagree with the Pilot Program.	Comments
Yes	Disagree	There is already a rat problem within the town. And one home owner should not have to deal with close quarters to another's farm animal noise, smell, and anything it may attract, and how they choose to care for it.	
Yes	Agree		
Yes	Agree		Wonderful, progressive decision. It is step in the right direction with the emphasis on local, organic food production.
Yes	Disagree	The Council has approved new urban lots so small that allowing 6 hens would mean the noise, smell, etc might as well be in the neighbours yard. Saying they have to be kept clean and in well designed pens is not enforceable without a team of inspectors checking on a weekly basis. The plan shows lots under 10000 square feet but todays lots are way smaller. In some new subdivisions there are 4' side yards and 2' back yards	See above
Yes	Agree		Great program.
Yes	Agree		I think this will be a great program for Tecumseh and in the future I hope to have chicken of my own for myself and my family.

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Yes	Agree		<p>My neighbour recently had bylaws make him get rid of his chickens. So we've lived next to them and never once had an issue with them. The hens never made noise and never smelled. They didn't bother anyone. The rooster apparently bothered other neighbours, but not us. We actually liked the rooster, it was nice hearing him in the mornings.</p> <p>Chickens eat ticks and other bugs. We have found ticks on our dogs and of course lots of other insects and spiders are around. If anything they will help with control of those insects and arachnids. This will help reduce the risk of humans and pets contracting diseases such as Lyme and West Nile, which I personally know people and pets who have had these 2 specific diseases.</p> <p>Above all, they bring people happiness, and a source of food in their eggs and meat (if that's what they enjoy). I personally loved seeing the chickens in my neighbours yard, it was a selling point for me when we were looking to buy our property in Tecumseh.</p> <p>There's always going to be the trolls that love to complain and make others change their lives to suit their own. And unfortunately these people are louder than the ones who don't care about the chickens or that actually enjoy if a neighbour has chickens. Individuality is what makes us all unique and what makes Tecumseh a great town to live in.</p>
Yes	Disagree	<p>Its bad enough we have dogs that bark for hrs .<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>You think we have problems with RATS now, wait and see the problem we we,ll have after we bring chickens in town...Do some research on RATS and chickens.....</p>	NO CHICKENS ...
Yes	Disagree	<p>We have already had one experience on our street and it was not favorable. Our neighbors could not open their bedroom window due to the foul smell emanating from the coup next door. In fact the smell could even be detected out on the street. Also, the hens often got loose and ended up 4 doors down.</p>	Not in favor.
Yes	Disagree	<p>Chickens/Hens are a nuisance. They smell very bad, and are often quite noisy. In rural areas, perhaps a small amount - but certainly not in the more developed sections of Tecumseh.</p>	<p>Chickens/Hens are a nuisance. They smell very bad, and are often quite noisy. In rural areas, perhaps a small amount - but certainly not in the more developed sections of Tecumseh.</p>

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Yes	Disagree	Well at the current time we have persistently seen a coyote that frequents a stretch along little river road heading east toward the old golf course area off of manning road. We managed to snap a very good photo of said coyote. It's appearance was odd so we inquired with the Ministry of Natural Resources/Wildlife. Turns out said coyote has very bad case of mange. Mange is highly contagious to both humans and domestic animals. They would normally trap such infected animals and treat & release away from communities. Coyotes are opportunistic and they will be attracted to fenced in free-roaming chickens. It is inevitable. Based on this I believe that poses a risk to our pets. Chicken manure also contains organisms which can pass diseases on to humans and so unless the municipality has inspectors which will monitor the cleanliness of the coops this is another concern of mine. I am all for free range chickens being raised in expansive areas in a rural setting	See above section for comments!
Yes	Disagree	Smell, enclosure regulations, enforcement costs,	I do not support.
Yes	Disagree	Some neighbors do not keep their yard in good condition and I certainly do not agree with chicken s or hens being kept in a residential area. Thank you	Same as above! They do not belong in a residential area! Bad idea.
Yes	Agree		You may have seen the article on the T V news the young lady in Amherstburg who moved to A'burg from Windsor. I am a neighbor of her . She has a Doc. note per say to have her chickens. So some hateful neighbor complained, well I have say that is a complete joy to watch her three hen's doing their thing in their back yard, it makes be smile (i do not do that that often). Well the main reason I am writing to you is that one of your rules I fell is way off bass you state that would have to be four months old, I see do sense in that the young lady here in the Burg bought them as chick's (\$12 each) and because of that they are like pet's when she reaches down they will lay down on the ground and will let her pet them like a cat or dog it so cool to watch that! Now if they where obtained at four months that might be possible. I will be sending this letter to Mayor De Carlo because I know he is touch with A'burg having a similar system as yours! Thank You.
Yes	Disagree	I'm a resident of Tecumseh and disagree with this proposal. I'm concerned with the rodents and coyotes that this could attract. I could also see this as a deterrent for wanting to purchase a home where neighbors have chickens. Please don't go through with this.	Please see above comments.

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Yes	Disagree	<p>This is regarding the new by-law about urban chickens. First I cannot attend the information meeting on Nov. 20th due to employment reasons.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with this project for the following reason:</p> <p>These animals can fly and will disrupt neighbors properties with there presence in there yards, https://www.hgtv.com/outdoors/gardens/animals-and-wildlife/can-chickens-fly . The towns fence by-law is only 6ft and these animals can fly 8+ ft so our fence by-law will not resolve this problem.</p> <p>They will and have attracted rats, possum,raccoons and other animals. We have a major rat problem in this town and still don,t have a solution for that.</p> <p>The smell and mess these animals create are huge and will be almost impossible to enforce.</p> <p>The town has 1 by-law officer for over 20,000 people and I can,t see how one man can enforce complaints in this nature. I,m still waiting from a complaint back in Aug 2018 to be cleared from the town which has given the home owner until the end of Nov 2019 to comply too.</p> <p>This same home owner was given over 10 years to comply to pay there taxes before the town can enforce sale on the property.</p> <p>My point is there is almost zero timely enforcement in this town regarding towns by-laws which who will be enforcing this project. I wish the town would let the tax payers know how long it takes from the first complaint to finish, after appeals and procedures can take years before anything is resolved . I personally been going through over 13 years with the town to enforce by-laws and have dozens of pics and e-mails to back this claim up.</p> <p>If a town takes over 10years to make someone pay there taxes how are they going to enforce a chicken by-law...</p>	<p>This is regarding the new by-law about urban chickens. First I cannot attend the information meeting on Nov. 20th due to employment reasons.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with this project for the following reason:</p> <p>These animals can fly and will disrupt neighbors properties with there presence in there yards, https://www.hgtv.com/outdoors/gardens/animals-and-wildlife/can-chickens-fly . The towns fence by-law is only 6ft and these animals can fly 8+ ft so our fence by-law will not resolve this problem.</p> <p>They will and have attracted rats, possum,raccoons and other animals. We have a major rat problem in this town and still don,t have a solution for that.</p> <p>The smell and mess these animals create are huge and will be almost impossible to enforce.</p> <p>The town has 1 by-law officer for over 20,000 people and I can,t see how one man can enforce complaints in this nature. I,m still waiting from a complaint back in Aug 2018 to be cleared from the town which has given the home owner until the end of Nov 2019 to comply too.</p> <p>This same home owner was given over 10 years to comply to pay there taxes before the town can enforce sale on the property.</p> <p>My point is there is almost zero timely enforcement in this town regarding towns by-laws which who will be enforcing this project. I wish the town would let the tax payers know how long it takes from the first complaint to finish, after appeals and procedures can take years before anything is resolved . I personally been going through over 13 years with the town to enforce by-laws and have dozens of pics and e-mails to back this claim up.</p> <p>If a town takes over 10years to make someone pay there taxes how are they going to enforce a chicken by-law...</p>
Yes	Disagree	<p>We have had issues with a wide variety of rodents in the Cada/St. Gregory's area and I am very much concerned this program will make the problem worse.</p>	<p>We have had issues with a wide variety of rodents in the Cada/St. Gregory's area and I am very much concerned this program will make the problem worse.</p>
Yes	Agree		<p>Can't wait to look into this more. My 7 year old wants to have pet chickens.</p>

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Yes	Agree		Agree with the Program, but feel the cost of the license is too high. Perhaps \$5 for 1-5 hens and more for greater than 5 hens. Many residents are retired and on a budget. Roosters should be permitted as hard to tell when getting hens as babies if hen or rooster.
Yes	Agree		I think it's a great program . Would like to see this program approved.
Yes	Disagree	Issue with the size of coops are too small, the odor that emanates from the hens, disposal of the waste, the straw, etc. Chickens will lay for approx. 2-3 years, what are residents to do with the hens if not able to kill on property? Property is zoned high density residential, it is not zoned agricultural which chickens are farm animals. The adverse affect it will have on properties that abut property. The trapping and catching of wildlife which is attracted by the hens and will the Town bare the cost to trap the wildlife. What is the Town going to do with the hen waste. The license fee should be per hen similar to dogs.	See above
Yes	Agree		I think this is a wonderful program for the community! The health benefits of free range chickens and eggs from those chickens are well documented. With the parameters in place I don't see a downside!
Yes	Agree		Would like to see the Program approved.
Yes	Disagree	I strongly disagree with this program. I'm not pleased that Council is even considering this. How many people have advocated for this within the town limits in subdivisions?	I've read about the program. I am not supportive of the pilot.
Yes	Disagree	I strongly disagree with this program. I'm not pleased that Council is even considering this. How many people have advocated for this within the town limits in subdivisions?	I've read about the program. I am not supportive of the pilot.

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Yes	Agree		<p>It is a good decision to allow urban residents to keep and maintain hens in humane, sheltered pens. This is not simply a 'growing trend', as people have long desired to keep hens. The broadening of Municipal by-laws is the trend. Thank you for allowing this growth in Tecumseh.</p> <p>I kept a small brood of hens in the past. Their care was an excellent responsibility for for my then-young children.</p> <p>Thanks Pleasure living here</p>
Yes	Disagree	Contrary to comments from our council representative I believe they will feed rodents .	<p>Tecumseh has a rat problem that gets very little attention . Not sure where they come from but I've killed 16 in a little over 4 yrs . Now you want to add chicken feed to the mix ? I just got my property clear of them . No interest here but the local foxes do need to eat .</p>
Yes	Agree		<p>I think it's a great idea. My grandmother used to have chickens in her urban yard. At this time I wouldn't keep hens but I would not mind if my neighbours did.</p>
Yes	Disagree	<p>As it is well known by anyone that lives in the Town of Tecumseh there is already a problem with the ongoing rat infestation.</p> <p>This raising of Chickens will not help eliminate this big problem, but it will feed it, food and other discharges from the chickens, nesting area it goes on and on.</p>	<p>I am in total disagreement with this project or program!!</p>
No	Agree		<p>My children and I were thinking about getting a couple hens in the spring. I hope this gets passed so we can have our own fresh eggs and cute pets! Will the license fee of \$25 be per chicken or family?</p>
Yes	Agree		<p>Hello again.</p> <p>I previously messaged regarding support of the Hen Project, but neglected to mention one point. The statement "as prior to four (4) months it cannot be determined whether the chick is a hen or a rooster" seems off. Local, professional suppliers of day-old chicks have very high accuracy.</p> <p>Chicks brought into their new home at a very early age easily familiarize themselves with their people and surroundings. By the time the chicks are old enough to be given time out of the coop, they have no difficulty finding the way back. Also, within the first couple weeks the chicks can be trained to come when called.</p> <p>Thanks again</p>

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Yes	Agree		I am in favor of allowing residents to control food sources for their families. The program does put into effective controls as to not effect neighbors.
Yes	Agree		We has 6 hens, but were caught so had to relocate them for the time, but regulations should be kept to the state of the bird, the area where they live and are they healthy. its amazing how we can have dogs mistreated/chained up and bark all day but nothing is ever done about this. Our Coop was for 6 hens and was fully automated from Fresh water/Food/Heating/Lighting/Door open,close and a camera system. Our hens gave us the best breakfast and sometimes dinner each and every day, its a shame that tons have to spend time/money to deal with things like this when the resources can be offer else where that actually need it. you have questions, please reach out to me. ill be happy to talk to you
Yes	Disagree	who will be policing these people to make sure they are keeping everything proper. I'm m also concerned about the feces being picked up by the wind and my family having to breathe in the particles. Our houses are too close together for this. The noise is also a concern. It's bad enough there are yappy dogs (i love dogs btw, just not when they bark for 2-3 hours straight for no reason) around making it hard to enjoy the backyard but now we have to worry about hens too? Thank you for reading this. I look forward to your	Let's leave the hens in the county. See reasons above.
Yes	Disagree	The gentleman in the article is cleaning up after his hens on a daily basis. When we had the problem on our street a few years ago, the doors to the coop were kept open day & night allowing rodents & other wildlife access to food & waste products. If hens are allowed, what type of enforcement of the coops will take place. It is fine to say a proper coop will be adhered to but who will enforce this. It does not take long before things get out of hand & there is again a problem. Having 6 hens in your yard is more responsibility than having a dog or cat. It is a daily part of upkeep & is not an undertaking to be taken lightly. These are farm animals & require constant care. I have nothing against chickens. I was raised on a farm, we had poultry & I know the work involved, even though there are only 6 on an average property that will be allowed. Think this through long & hard because the neighbourhoods do not need any more rodents than are already here.	I have no further comments. I know how life is nowadays. Families do not return home after school with mom at home getting dinner ready, having to change into work clothing to go outside to do chores. That included taking care of chickens, doing garden work, shoveling snow in winter. Life is different. I have a difficult time picturing many children getting involved in daily chores such as aforementioned. I wish the town luck if this goes forward. I am past the stage of getting involved in this as i did a few years ago. I am hoping more people get as much info as possible before a final decision is made. Thank you.
Yes	Disagree	I don't think chicken belong in the Town limits. I know I don't want chickens living next to me. Have you ever seen or smelled a chicken hut? They belong on a farm, not in a town.	Please don't let people have chicken in town.

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Yes	Agree		I feel it should be allowed as our elderly neighbour was asked to get rid of his chickens in the summer and he was upset. I personally enjoyed them.
Yes	Agree		My concern is...if this is a trial and it does not work out then what will happen to all the chickens (PETS). Because they will be pets.
Yes	Disagree	I had a neighbour that had 6 chickens for 3-4 years across the fence from me and there was always an odour from them also the rats. He got rid of his chickens for those 2 reasons. We have not had a rat in our yard since. My suggestion would be - DO NOT allow them any number in the proper Town Of Tecumseh. By proper i mean Riverside Dr. from Manning to Lesperance from there to the EC Row. The rest of Tecumseh is very rural and that is where they belong. It will only add to a rat problem that is already here.	Same as above.
Yes	Agree		I think it a good idea to allow people to keep chickens. They are no more disruptive that my neighbours barking dogs or the roaming kitties that visit my yard. I believe they will be a lot quieter than the loud music I am subjected to during the summer. We need to encourage people to be more self sufficient and growing your own eggs is a great start
Yes	Agree		Appreciate you getting feedback before deciding
Yes	Disagree	I am totally opposed! We have dogs in our neighbourhood, as I am sure many folks in all areas of Tecumseh do. Their owners do a great job of keeping barking to a minimum, which is greatly appreciated, particularly during the overnight hours. Now, if you have chickens nearby, perhaps even next door, it is a dog's nature to bark, as they would do for any wayward skunks, possums, squirrels, rats, racoons. etc., that would occasionally make their way into the nearby area. With chickens nearby, on a 24 hour basis, barking would be greatly increased at all times of the day. I would not be pleased, and I think others would feel much the same way. Those wanting chickens should consider raising them in rural farm areas...not in urban residential areas. I am not sure that the fresh eggs and the comfort that they might provide to their owners would be worth the complaints to our local councillors.	See the above! If you would like to respond to my comments, I would be interested to hear what you think.
Yes	Agree		Great pilot program. However myself I would only be looking for three chickens not twelve. I'm excited!
Yes	Disagree	Despite best efforts, I feel urban chickens will attract more rats and coyotes to our neighbourhoods	Thank you
Yes	Agree		I find this to be an excellent idea!
Yes	Disagree	No amount of regulstions and monitoting will eliminate issues. As a resident i do not want chickens or coops around my property which are unsightly , smelly and an attraction for vermin,predators snd insects. It is my view it would cause the city more cost as well create animosity between neighbours. I and my family are definitely against allowing chickens in Residential areas	No chicken should be allowed in residential neighborhoods. Thank you
Yes	Agree		Looking forward to this program and think its a good idea.

Summary			
Yes - 46	Agree - 24		
No - 1	Disagree - 23		