

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY COUNCIL REFERRAL SLIP

TO: Community Development & Code Administration

DATE: April 11, 2019

The attached document was received for City Council consideration.

The following action is required:

- ☒ Prepare a report together with related documents, if applicable, such as an ordinance, a resolution or an agreement and submit to the City Clerk's Office for inclusion in the City Council's _____ agenda.
- ☐ You are the only department or committee this communication was referred to.
- ☒ Along with your department, this item was referred to the following departments:

Community Development & Code Administration

Please feel free to contact the City Clerk's Office if you have any questions.

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Stacey Brown <staceyfm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 8:51 AM
To: * City Clerk
Cc: Byron Champlain; Keach, Fred; Sexton, Amanda; Werner, Robert; Bouchard, Candace
Subject: changing ordinance regarding backyard chickens Article 28-5-50, section (d)
Attachments: Fran's letter to R. Werner

Good Morning!

I would like to change the current ordinance regarding the requirement to keep henhouses and fenced areas 30' from lot lines. We had five chickens and never had a problem with neighbors, noise or smells until an anonymous complaint was filed with the ordinance inspector that our fenced in area for our five chickens was not 30' from lot lines. The ordinance inspector came out and inspected our henhouse and fenced in area. The only violation he could find was that our fenced in area for the chickens (within our fenced in property) was less than 30' from lot lines. We have a corner lot with our physical home closer to the street than our neighbors' property. A local friend with a freestanding henhouse adopted our chickens and we took down the chicken run.

The chickens were more like pets than barnyard animals. We would like to have chickens again, but only if we can modify the existing ordinance. The sunniest spot in our backyard is along lot lines. When we owned chickens we learned that they enjoy sunny dust baths to keep their feathers clean and dry, which is why we extended their original run.

I testified before City Council in 2011 to allow city of Concord residents to have backyard chickens. I wanted my children to experience the joy of raising chickens, especially my animal-loving daughter. Now, I want to give her an opportunity to learn how city government works and show her that she can make a difference. We promised her we would get chickens again, but only if we change the ordinance to give the chickens room to run.

I have attached her request to Councilor Werner. What next steps do you recommend?

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Stacey Brown

6 Garden St, Ward 5
603 717-1350

Dear Councillor **Werner**,

I want to change the

law so we can have

chickens. ^{right on property line} ~~chickens~~

are really helpful. They
eat maggots and ants

so they would help the
garden grow. We'll make

sure the chicken

stay on our

property.

We want to put them

on a sunny spot in our

yard but it is close to
property lines. Thanks for

your consideration.

V garden st, concord MA ^{Francisco B}
Ward 5