



**RESOLUTION OF  
THE CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF URBAN AGRICULTURE  
INCENTIVE ZONES PROGRAMS IN ELIGIBLE JURISDICTIONS**

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the  
Cities Association of Santa Clara County**

WHEREAS, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County supports policies and programs that encourage sustainable cities and urban agriculture.

WHEREAS, urban agriculture programs serve a valuable public purpose by encouraging environmentally sustainable food cultivation that coexists with the local ecosystem and increases the supply of healthy, locally grown food; and

WHEREAS, urban agriculture can transform vacant or blighted lots into vibrant green spaces, exposing local residents to food growing and nutrition, and providing opportunities for outdoor socializing and community cohesiveness; and

WHEREAS, the practice of transporting food over long distances unnecessarily increases carbon emissions, necessitates packaging or preservatives, and diminishes local food security; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act (AB 551) is intended to promote small-scale urban agriculture on vacant, unimproved or blighted lands in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2015, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara adopted Resolution No. BOS-2015-86, authorizing 13 eligible cities to establish urban agriculture incentive zone programs, in accordance with AB 551 implementation requirements; and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2015, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara took action to adopt ordinances and resolutions establishing an urban agricultural incentive zone program applicable to urban unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 551, the urban unincorporated zones delineated in *BOS-2015-132: Resolution Establishing Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones* (adopted on September 29 as element of urban agriculture program legislation) do not formally become effective until

consent is provided via legislative action by the city within whose sphere of influence the particular zone or zones lie.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County encourages each of the cities of San Jose, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Palo Alto to adopt resolutions (or take other appropriate formal legislative action) authorizing the unincorporated county urban agricultural incentive zone or zones delineated within their respective spheres of influence; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County encourages eligible cities to implement AB 551 by establishing urban agricultural programs within their jurisdictions;

**INTRODUCED AND PASSED:** Thursday, October 8, 2015

**AYES:** Baker, Esteves, Griffith, Jones, Leroe-Munoz, Matthews, McAlister, Miller, Pepper, Rennie, Sinks, Waldeck

**NOES:**

**ABSTENTIONS:** Tate

**ABSENT:** Huff, Scharff

Attest:



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Executive Director, Raania Mohsen

Approved:



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President, Jason Baker