

ORDINANCE NO. 2577

INTRODUCED BY: CHACON, DOUGLAS, DOUGLAS, DUKES, FORD, KIM, MADERA, NOBLE, TETER

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE COMMERCE CITY MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE V REGARDING BACKYARD CHICKENS AND BEES AND AMENDING SECTION 21-5226 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ALLOW BACKYARD CHICKENS AND BEES

WHEREAS, the City of Commerce City, Colorado (the “City”), is a home rule municipality and political subdivision of the State of Colorado (the “State”) organized and existing under a home rule charter pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter of the City of Commerce City (the “Charter”), the City has all legislative powers and functions of municipal government as reserved to it by the Colorado Constitution and the laws of the State;

WHEREAS, Chapter 4 of the CCRMC regulates the ownership, maintenance, and keeping of animals within the City;

WHEREAS, Section 21-5226 of the Land Development Code must also be amended to no longer prohibit the keeping of backyard chickens and bees;

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2023, the voters of Commerce City passed Ballot Questions 3Q and 3S directing the City to, by December 31, 2024, adopt an ordinance allowing, with certain restrictions, the backyard keeping of chickens and of bees in addition to the pet limits currently established in the municipal code; and

WHEREAS, the keeping of bees and chickens in backyards is beneficial to the environment, the economy, the local food supply, and wellness of residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1. Findings.** The recitals to this ordinance are incorporated as findings of the City Council. This ordinance is found to be necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare and in the public interest.

**SECTION 2. Addition of Article V.** Article V of Chapter 4 of the Code is hereby added and section 21-5226 is hereby amended as set forth in **Exhibit A**.

**SECTION 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall be effective sixty (60) days after both final posting and publication have been accomplished.

INTRODUCED, PASSED ON FIRST READING, AND PUBLIC NOTICE ORDERED THIS 6TH DAY OF MAY, 2024.

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, AND PUBLIC NOTICE ORDERED  
THIS 3RD DAY OF JUNE, 2024.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

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Steven J. Douglas, Mayor

ATTEST

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Dylan A. Gibson, City Clerk