



For Immediate Release
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City Invites Public to Comment on Chicken Ordinance

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city has posted a discussion to *Be Heard Harrisonburg* and is asking members of the community for feedback on the ordinance regulating chickens and other domestic birds.

In 2009, an ordinance ([Section 15-2-24](#)) was created to set parameters for those residents who met the requirements to have backyard chickens and other domestic birds.

Most recently, City Council revisited the requirements of this specific code section and is further exploring the following in regards to the ordinance:

- Whether the lot size threshold of two acres should be reduced;
- If there should be a neighbor approval process;
- Whether a certain number of permits should be issued within an implemented trial period, and;
- Any other issues or concerns.

To help move the process forward, Planning Commission is collecting input from the public.

A discussion has been created on www.BeHeardHarrisonburg.org to get feedback from the community and start a conversation on this ordinance. This discussion will be open until Friday, February 5.

To access this discussion, visit www.BeHeardHarrisonburg.org and click on the discussion titled, "Chicken Ordinance." This will be open to all community members and registration to *Be Heard Harrisonburg* is not necessarily required but is recommended for future engagement opportunities through this site.

In addition to this online discussion, Harrisonburg Planning Commission anticipates opening up their meeting on Wednesday, February 10 to receive public input on this matter. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in City Council chambers.

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