

Enclosure 3

# Bylaw 18-2011 Animal Control Bylaw

Council Meeting  
December 10, 2019

# Background

- Agriculture Master Plan
- Urban Agriculture Strategy
- Alternative Pets Bylaw Consideration
- Revise Animal Control Bylaw
  - Public engagement
  - Updates required

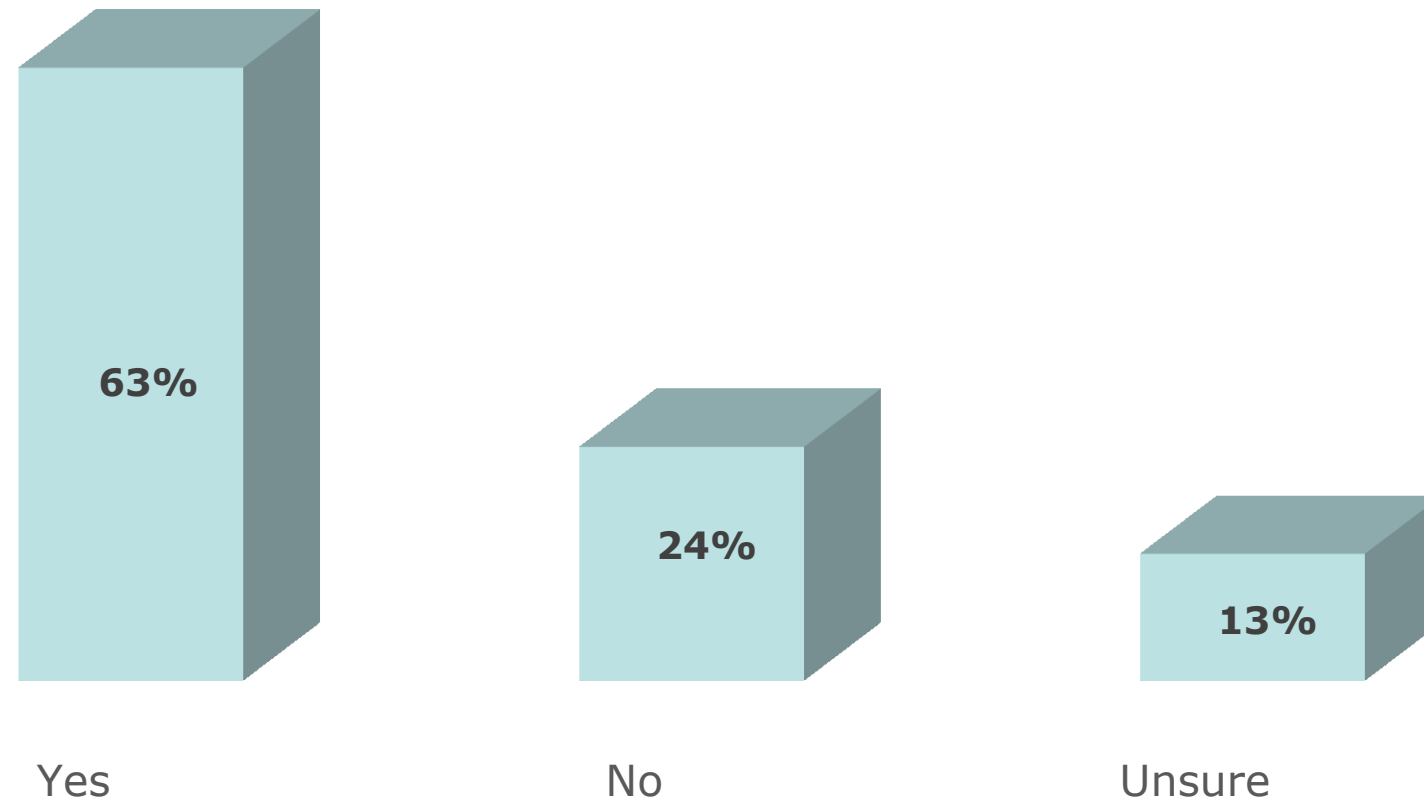


# Public Engagement

- Agriculture Master Plan
- Urban Agriculture Strategy
  - Urban livestock?
- Strathcona County Online Opinion Panel (SCOOP)
  - an opt-in survey community whose members are regularly invited to provide feedback on County initiatives and issues.
  - Strathcona County residents, business owners and people who work in the County (including Strathcona County staff), who are 15 years or older, are welcome to sign up for SCOOP.

# Urban Livestock

Do you agree with the County's recommendation to include an Exemption Permit process for the Animal Control Bylaw?



# Urban Livestock

Are there any other criteria you would like to have considered during an exemption permit process?

- Livestock as pets / food / therapy, emotional support, or comfort animals
- Neighbour relations
- Cost and ability to monitor, control and enforce
- Health and safety of public, animals, and environment

# Bylaw 18-2011

## Animal Control Bylaw

- Research and Analysis
  - Animal Control Bylaws (or equivalent) of various municipalities throughout north America have been reviewed
- Changes in Current Legislation
  - Land Use Bylaw Land Use Districts have been updated. Those changes need to be reflected in the Animal Control Bylaw
  - Provincial Premise Identification Number (PID)
- Current State of Agriculture
  - Local food movement
  - Food production on smaller parcels of land is increasing



# Animal Control Bylaw Changes

- Update Land Use Districts
- Addition of Appeal Process



# Issues to Address

1. Appeal process
2. Addition of honeybees
3. Status of wild boar and genetic derivatives
4. Exemption permits for areas where livestock is not allowed
5. Realignment of regulations to encourage sustainable agriculture
  - Land use district, parcel size, and animal carrying capacity



# Responsible Livestock Ownership Bylaw

- Provide for sustainable agriculture that addresses:
  - Public health and safety
  - Animal health and wellbeing
  - Environmental health and protection
- Responsible Ownership
  - Responsibility to the public at large
  - Responsibility to the animal
  - Responsibility to neighbouring properties
  - Responsibility to agricultural producers
  - Responsibility to environment

# Bylaw 18-2011 Animal Control Bylaw





# Honeybees

- Bylaw 43-2011 Apiculture Bylaw requires updates
- Honeybees are deemed livestock by the Province
- Issues to address:
  - Neighbour relations
    - Allergy concerns
  - Hive management for sustainability
  - Hives on municipal reserves



# Wild Boar and Genetic Derivatives



- Wild boar are farmed in Alberta
- When at large wild boar is a pest as per the *Agricultural Pests Act*
- Invasive species
  - Damage agricultural crops and the environment, alter ecosystems
  - Dangerous to humans, wild and domesticated animals
  - Can spread disease to humans, domesticated animals and wildlife
- Due to risks some municipalities have banned wild boar

# Exemption Permits

- An option for areas where livestock is not allowed
- Permitting of animals in parades, petting zoos, educational institutions and for business functions (example: veterinarian clinics) within the urban areas
- Support Animals:
  - Service Animal
    - Certified animal trained to help with disabilities for daily function or medical crisis
  - Therapy Animal
    - Visit hospitals, nursing homes, schools to provide emotional or mental benefits to patients and students
  - Emotional Support Animal
    - Provide comfort to people with a mental or emotional disability. These animals are not specially trained or certified



# Regulations

- Determination if livestock is allowed based on land use zoning district
- Number of livestock allowable determined by property size



# Regulations

## Category

No Restrictions

## Land Use Zoning District

- Agriculture: Future Development (AD) where parcel of land is not within the boundary of a Hamlet
- Agriculture: Future Development (AD) where parcel of land is within the boundary of a Hamlet and the parcel of land is greater than or equal to 10 hectares (24.7 acres) in area
- Agriculture: General (AG)
- Agriculture: River Valley (AR)
- Agri-business (IA)
- Heavy Industrial (IH)
- Medium Industrial (IM)
- Rural Residential/Agriculture (RA) where the parcel of land is greater than or equal to 8 hectares (20 acres) in area

Some Restrictions

1 animal unit per 0.4 hectares (1 acre) of land

- Country Residential (RC)
- Rural Residential/Agriculture (RA) where the parcel is smaller than 8 hectares (20 acres) in area

No Livestock or Poultry Allowable

- 26 primarily urban land uses listed in Schedule "A" of Bylaw 18-2011

# Regulations

## 1 Animal Unit is:

- |                  |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|
| 1 large animal   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bison</li><li>• Horse</li><li>• Donkey</li><li>• Mule</li><li>• Oxen</li><li>• Cattle</li><li>• Swine</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large Controlled Animal and Wildlife weighing more than 18.14 kg (40 lbs)</li></ul>   |
| 2 medium animals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sheep</li><li>• Goats</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medium Controlled Animal and Wildlife weighing more than 9.07 kg (20 lbs) but equal to or less than 18.14 kg (40 lbs)</li></ul> |
| 20 small animals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chickens</li><li>• Poultry</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small Controlled Animal and Wildlife weighing 9.07 kg (20 lbs) or less</li></ul>  |

# Regulation Issues

- Increased interest in agriculture but limited options due to zoning district
  - Rural hamlets without Area Structure Plans contain zoning district Hamlet (RH) which does not allow livestock however some lots could be suitable for livestock
  - Agriculture: Future Development under 10 hectares (24.7 acres) within rural hamlet boundaries require a permit for all livestock
- Properties of same size could have different livestock carrying capacity
  - Wetter properties are affected by manure differently than other locations. This could cause run off into neighbouring properties or environmental damage to water courses and water bodies
  - Forested areas may not allow for sufficient space for animal units





# ISSUES FOR DIRECTION



# Direction – Appeal Process

## Issue

- Bylaw 18-2011 Animal Control Bylaw does not provide for an appeal of a permit application decision

## Recommendation

- Addition of appeal process for the following situations:
  - Denial of a permit
  - Revoking of a permit
  - Terms, conditions, or restrictions placed on a permit

## Other Option

- Do not include an appeal process within the bylaw

# Direction – Honeybees

## Issue

- Bylaw 43-2011 Apiculture Bylaw requires revisions to update regulations pertaining to beekeeping within Strathcona County

## Recommendation

- Include honeybees as livestock and incorporate the regulation of apiculture within Strathcona County into the rewrite of the Animal Control Bylaw

## Other Option

- Continue with Bylaw 43-2011 Apiculture Bylaw as a stand alone bylaw, to be updated as required

# Direction – Wild Boar and Genetic Derivatives

## Issue

- When not appropriately confined, wild boar and genetic derivatives are a significant threat to humans, animals, and the environment. Strathcona County is home to 2 wild boar farms.

## Recommendation

- Ban new production of wild boar and genetic derivatives.

## Other Options

- Ban all wild boar and genetic derivatives within Strathcona County
- Continue to allow production of wild boar and genetic derivatives using provincial requirements for containment



# Direction – Exemption Permits

## Issue

- Various community events and business functions include short-term, temporary livestock involvement, where livestock is not permitted.

## Recommendation

- Addition of a temporary exemption permit to allow livestock in urban areas for community events, parades, or business functions, and use as therapy animals, determined on a case by case basis.

## Other Options

- Addition of a temporary exemption permit to allow livestock in urban areas for community events, parades, or business functions only
- Addition of a temporary exemption permit to allow livestock in urban areas for community events, parades, or business functions, and use as therapy or emotional support animals, determined on a case by case basis.

# Direction – Regulations

## Issue

- Land Use Districts need to be updated to align with changes to the Land Use Bylaw
- Properties of the same size could have different livestock carrying capacities dependant on environmental aspects and management practices
- Hamlets without Area Structure Plans are not allowed livestock based on Land Use District (zoning), even if the property is suitable for livestock



# Direction – Regulations

## Option 1 – Land Use District (Zone) and Parcel Size

- Parcel size and zoning determine if livestock is permitted
  - Incorporates Land Use Bylaw permitted uses and intention of Land Use District
- Could allow for livestock in rural hamlets, where property size and zoning are suitable
- Animal units refined based on specific animals, their requirements, and waste produced
- No livestock permitted in Urban Service Area – Sherwood Park (excluding Urban Service Area – Bremner) unless exemption permit granted

# Direction - Regulations

## Option 2 – Parcel Size Only

- Parcel size determine if livestock is permitted
- Could allow for livestock in rural hamlets, where property size is suitable
- Animal units refined based on specific animals, their requirements, and waste produced
- No livestock permitted in Urban Service Area – Sherwood Park (excluding Urban Service Area – Bremner) unless exemption permit granted

# Direction – Regulations

## Option 3 – Land Use District (Zone), Parcel Size and Policy Area

- Parcel size and zoning determine if livestock is permitted
  - Incorporates Land Use Bylaw permitted uses and intention of Land Use District
- Could allow for livestock in rural hamlets, where property size and zoning are suitable
- Animal units refined based on specific animals, their requirements, and waste produced
- Policy area (Municipal Development Plan) and property size determine number of allowable livestock units
  - Environmentally significant areas could be treated differently if waste runoff and contamination of water bodies or water courses is a concern
- No livestock permitted in Urban Service Area – Sherwood Park (excluding Urban Service Area – Bremner) unless exemption permit granted

# Direction - Regulations

	Option 1 Zone and Parcel Size	Option 2 Parcel Size Only	Option 3 Zone, Parcel Size & Policy Area
<b>User-friendly</b>	Similar to current bylaw	Easy to determine permitted animals	More complex determination
<b>Encourage Agriculture</b>	Encourages agriculture in similar land use districts	Potential for livestock allowed in locations contrary to land use districts	Environmentally sensitive areas could require additional restrictions
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	Same as current bylaw Requires development of best management practices	Requires development of best management practices	Animal units reflective of environment capacity (Beaver Hills Policy Area) Requires development of best management practices
<b>Land Stewardship</b>	Animal units limited by land size	Animal units limited by land size	Animal units limited by land size and carrying capacity
<b>Connection to Land Use Intention</b>	Animal units could be restricted or encouraged based on zoning district	Intention for land use as related to zoning district not considered	Animal units could be restricted or encouraged based on zoning district
<b>Public &amp; Animal Health &amp; Safety</b>	Limited animals in higher populated areas	Potential for increased livestock in higher populated areas	Limited animals in higher populated areas Environmental considerations account for waste concerns
<b>Staff Resources</b>	Expect same resources required	Expect similar resources required	Additional resources may be required
<b>Additional Considerations</b>	Does not address carrying capacity of environmental sensitive locations	Does not address carrying capacity of environmental sensitive locations	Could result in animals currently permitted being restricted

# Direction - Regulations

## Recommendation

- Option 3
- Parcel size and zoning determine if livestock is permitted
- Could allow for livestock in rural hamlets, where property size and zoning are suitable
- Animal units refined based on specific animals, their requirements, and waste produced
- Policy area and property size determine number of allowable livestock units, taking environmentally significant areas into consideration
- No livestock permitted in Urban Service Area – Sherwood Park (excluding Urban Service Area – Bremner) unless exemption permit granted



# Issues for Direction

1. Appeal Process
2. Addition of Honeybees
3. Status of wild boar and genetic derivatives
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5. Realignment of regulations to encourage sustainable agriculture