

Ellen Yau

From: Michael Stang <mstang1015@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 13, 2016 8:18 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Honey bee ordnance

Hello Ellen , our name is Michael & Kathleen Stang . I work with honey bees professionally, I salsa keep bees on juniper hotel in Cupertino and other business also I mentor back yard hobbiest . We have been bee keepers for 10 years. We also worked with the city of Santa Clara in changing their code for keeping honey bee colonies in their city. I would like to take part in your decision to change the code enforcement on honey bees. Please call Mike Stang at. 408-621-6242. Ps we also are members of the Santa Clara Valley bee keepers guild. Thank you

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

Ellen Yau

From: Dana Stern <dstern59@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2016 6:33 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Beekeeping Ordinance

Hello Ellen,

My name is Dana Stern and I lived in Cupertino for about 30 years before I moved to Sunnyvale 4 years ago. I was a leader in the Rolling Hills 4-H Club and my children were in the beekeeping project many years ago.

I am also a member of Cupertino Rotary and know Alysa Sakkas and also have a bee hive in my Sunnyvale back yard. Alysa and several other community members have encouraged me to contact you about the ordinance. I work with a beekeeper who is a science teacher at Bellarmine. His name is Patrick Adams (he also has a beekeeping business). I would encourage you to contact him as well - he is a wealth of information.

If a guest in my backyard did not know I had a hive, they would not have any idea it existed. It sits about 3 feet from the back fence that borders my neighbor's yard. I did notify my two side neighbors about my hive before I put it in, but did not notify my back neighbor - it is far from their home. The concern about regulating bee's too much is that you can't control a wild insect. Bee's are everywhere naturally, not usually from a kept hive.

Bee's fly in and out of the hive constantly on their mission to collect pollen. Most purchased bees are of an Italian lineage and are quite docile. The queen's personality dictates the hive's personality. The bee's fly up and away, and come back from the sky down to the hive. They do not hover around laterally and disturb meals, etc. They are only interested in collecting pollen. Unlike Yellow Jackets and Paperwhites - which are NOT bees, but wasps, bees are not interested in food or people.

I have done a little reading on the internet about backyard bee hives and although some sources suggest a high shrub or portion of fence to encourage the bees to fly up and not into someone's yard doesn't really seem necessary unless there is an unusual access to a neighbor's home. My fence is tall and has a "good neighbor" lattice on top, and my bees seem to fly naturally up to the sky and down from the sky. My back neighbor also has several tall bushes and trees on his fenceline that encourage the bees to go up.

You are welcome to visit my yard if you like (I live near Fremont and Mary Avenues). Bee's are not a nuisance, but a necessity.

I highly recommend an ordinance that could be applied in cases of neglect, etc. NOT to regulate. It would be like trying to regulate hummingbirds in yards. Bee's should not be feared but revered.

Thank you Ellen for listening to my passionate rant! I would be happy to come to your office or attend a meeting. I know Sunnyvale will be watching what Cupertino does with this - and we all really live in the same community!

Dana Stern
873 Ticonderoga Dr
Sunnyvale

Ellen Yau

From: Anand D'Souza <anand_dsouza@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 5:00 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Beekeeping Ordinance

Hi Ellen,

Hope all is well.

I am writing to show my support towards the City of Cupertino's effort to update the beekeeping ordinance. Our family has discussed rearing bees and we are excited to see progress towards it.

Best regards,
Anand

Ellen Yau

From: Ethan Chi <ethanachi@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 17, 2016 2:19 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Beekeeping Ordinance

Dear Ms. Yau,

I'm excited to hear that Cupertino is updating its beekeeping ordinances!
It's great to be able to give bees a voice.

It was very interesting to present at the City Council in March as part of the Rolling Hills 4-H Beekeeping Project.
I'm looking forward to helping contribute again at the October meeting.

Bees are truly an invaluable resource, not just for agricultural areas but also for metropolitan cities like Cupertino.
Especially with colony collapse disorder presenting a grave danger, it's important that we act quickly on their behalf.

In my opinion, the ideal model to follow in modernizing beekeeping ordinances would be that of San Francisco. There, beekeepers must simply follow a nuisance regulation, managing their colonies in a way that's considerate of their neighbors.
If a nuisance is reported, the Dept. of Public Health may require the beekeeper to modify or cease their operation.
This model has worked well in San Francisco, resulting in few complaints and a thriving culture of urban beekeeping.

Hopefully, soon beekeeping will be accessible to all in Cupertino!

Sincerely,

Ethan Chi (Rolling Hills 4-H Beekeeping Project Teen Leader)

Ellen Yau

From: Erica Chi <3chiboy@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 18, 2016 11:05 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: beekeeping ordinances update

Dear Ms. Yau,

As the junior leader for the Rolling Hills Beekeeping Project, I helped present to the Cupertino City Council.

It's really interesting that we're being part of the process of changing laws! When I read the article about beekeeping ordinances being updated in the *Cupertino Scene*, I was extremely excited, because it meant that even kids can make a change.

Bees are really important to our environment, as they pollinate over 1/3 of our crops. Around the world, urban beekeeping is becoming widely accepted and we should change as well. It's really important to speak for bees, because they don't have a voice.

It was really fun to speak at the City Council meeting; I'm looking forward to speaking again!

Sincerely,

Nathan Chi (junior leader for the Rolling Hills Beekeeping Project)

Ellen Yau

From: Erica Chi <3chiboy@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 18, 2016 11:02 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Beekeeping Ordinance

Dear Ms. Yau,

I'm Ryan Chi, one of the teen leaders for the Rolling Hills 4-H Beekeeping Project. It's really exciting that the Cupertino beekeeping ordinances are going to be updated!

Bees are really important to us and the environment. It's important that we help encourage beekeeping locally by making the municipal codes less restrictive. A nuisance code, rather than a distance-specifying code, would probably work better for beekeepers and cause less work for the city. It's also worked well for cities like San Francisco and New York (which has legalized beekeeping altogether).

It was a great experience to present at a Cupertino City Council meeting several months ago. I'm looking forward to attending the planning meeting on October 4th!

Thank you,

Ryan Chi

Ellen Yau

From: Jon Garliepp <jcgarliepp@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 2:20 PM
To: Ellen Yau
Subject: Beekeeping ordinance

I would like to be involved in the formation of the bee ordinance in Cupertino. I live in Cupertino, I have bee hives and I am member of the Bee guild. Are there meetings that I could attend on this subject?
I have signed for your email notices.

Jon Garliepp.
408-718-0310
Sent from my iPad