
[EXTERNAL] Request to Amend Municipal Code to Allow Two Miniature Goats per Household in the City of Westminster.

From Jenelle Bowman <genbowman18@gmail.com>

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To Public Comment <PublicComment@westminsterco.gov>

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Dear Westminster City Council,

We the undersigned residents of Westminster, respectfully petition the City Council to amend existing animal-keeping regulations to permit each household to keep two miniature goats, such as Nigerian Dwarf or African Pygmy breeds. This request aligns with successful urban agriculture initiatives in neighboring Colorado cities and supports sustainable living practices.

Rationale:

1. Precedent in Neighboring Cities:

Denver has allowed residents to keep up to two dwarf goats since 2011, requiring a simple permit process.

Arvada permits up to two miniature goats per household across all zoning districts, recognizing their suitability for urban settings.

Thornton implemented a pilot program allowing two miniature goats per residence, which received positive feedback and was extended.

Colorado Springs amended its pet ordinance to include miniature goats, allowing two per household.

Lafayette Allows no more than and no less than 2 miniature goats, with a license fee.

2. Benefits of Miniature Goats:

Sustainable Living: Miniature goats can provide a source of fresh milk and cheese, contributing to food security and self-sufficiency.

Educational Opportunities: Keeping goats offers hands-on learning experiences for families and children about animal care and agriculture. They are also a great animal for 4H youth projects.

Environmental Management: Goats can assist in managing vegetation and producing natural fertilizer for

gardens.

Companionship: These goats are known for their friendly nature and can serve as affectionate companions. They can be pets and are so much fun. They are small like a medium sized dog.

Entrepreneurship: Their milk can be made into many products such as Soap, Candles, lotions and salves.

Community Engagement: Goats can foster a sense of community by attracting neighbors interested in learning about sustainable living and local food systems.

3. Proposed Regulations:

To ensure responsible ownership and address potential concerns, we propose the following guidelines:

No more and no less than (2) miniature goats per household. (2) must be kept in order to humanely meet the goats companionship needs.

Only female or neutered male goats permitted

No Bucks unaltered.

Adequate shelter and secure fencing to prevent escapes and protect the animals.

Fencing should be 6 ft in height no less.

Compliance with existing noise and waste management ordinances.

Required permitting process to ensure adherence to regulations.

Conclusion:

By adopting these measures, Westminster can join other progressive Colorado cities in promoting sustainable urban agriculture while maintaining community standards. We urge the City Council to consider this amendment, reflecting the evolving needs and interests of its residents.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Jenelle Bowman

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Resident of Westminster Colorado.

Other residents include:

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