

13-1361

For Council October 23rd 2013

PLACEMENT ON NEXT PAGE TO BE POSTED #51

RESOLUTION

OCT 18 2013

WHEREAS, Until the 1950s, Los Angeles County was the largest agricultural producer in the nation, with over 10,000 small farms producing fruits, vegetables, dairy and other farm products; and

WHEREAS, despite the decline of agricultural production in the region, a recent UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs study "Cultivate LA" identified 1,300 diverse urban agricultural sites throughout the city and county; and

WHEREAS, a rapidly increasing number of residents are participating in growing food, raising livestock and beekeeping within the City of Los Angeles in the form of community gardens, urban farming enterprises, aquaponics facilities, and home and school gardens; and

WHEREAS, urban agriculture is defined as "an activity that produces, processes, distributes or sells a diversity of food and non-food products on land and water in urban and peri-urban areas, using or reusing natural resources and urban wastes, to yield a diversity of crops and livestock," according to the American Planning Association; and

WHEREAS, residents of all communities across Los Angeles deserve access to nutritious, affordable and culturally relevant food and also to open, green space and urban agriculture and community gardens can provide both; and

WHEREAS, cities across the country, including Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, Portland and Seattle, have officially recognized the community benefits of urban agriculture and approved policy plans to increase local food production; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles City Council has initiated several urban agriculture policy actions related to edible parkways, use of public lands for growing food, rooftop gardens and beekeeping; and

WHEREAS, numerous community groups and residents have expressed interest in partnering with the City to facilitate and support the growth of local food production and;

WHEREAS, despite its agricultural history, the City of Los Angeles has been ranked 42nd among US cities in terms of promoting urban agriculture; and

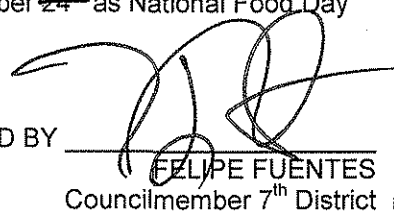
WHEREAS, the third national Food Day will take place on October-~~24th~~^{23rd}, 2013.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby celebrates its support of urban agriculture and its commitment to ensuring a strong and sustainable local food system and;

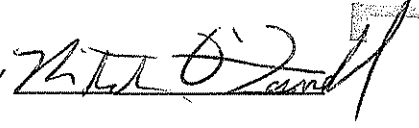
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles declares October ~~24th~~^{23rd} as National Food Day in the City of Los Angeles.

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PRESENTED BY


FELIPE FUENTES
Councilmember 7th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL

OCT 18 2013