

January 04, 2010

Becky Safarik Greeley Community Development Director City of Greeley

Dear Becky,

I am writing, as a representative of Weld Food Bank, in support of the ordinance to allow Greeley residents to raise backyard hens. Our mission at Weld Food Bank is to engage the community in the fight against hunger, a mission that dovetails with the benefits of residents raising chickens.

In the past year we have seen a substantial increase in the number of people requesting services from our facility. So much so that we are breaking distribution records we never wanted to break. And while we continue to be blessed by the generous donations from members of our community, this current rate of growth is not sustainable. As such, we are always looking to the future for creative new solutions to the ever growing need in our community and we see raising backyard hens as one of those solutions.

Allowing residents to raise chickens will provide additional food security for Greeley residents. It is important that our community has access to nutritious and safe food that helps to promote a healthy lifestyle. Raising hens allows a family to be self-sufficient by guaranteeing a long term food source, resulting in this increased food security. A self reliant resident who raises these hens will be less dependant on other food sources while simultaneously promoting a health conscience environment and promoting local food production.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Bob O'Connor

Assistant Director Weld Food Bank



