

Biodiverse for Life



May 31, 2012

To Mayor Annise Parker and City Council Members:

Biodiverse for Life would like to encourage the City of Houston to join the many other cities across the country in permitting individual households to raise limited numbers of chickens, by adopting the proposal drafted by Hens for Houston.

Biodiverse for Life is a Houston non-profit. Our mission:

- To encourage appreciation for the underlying commonality and connectedness of all life, and the importance of maintaining high biodiversity for ensuring our survival.
- To support sustainable and organically grown food and habitat gardening at schools and homes.

We work in public elementary schools and with individual to create and maintain food and habitat gardens. We have seen the profound psychological and physical benefits to individuals involved in the production of some of their food. These are hands-on benefits that cannot be acquired any other way. Not only are these children and adults more knowledgeable about food but they are more respectful of the natural systems in the world that we all ultimately depend upon for survival.

Keeping chickens gives even more opportunities for people to benefit. Chickens not only provide eggs but produce fertilizer to promote healthy natural cycles for food production. Biodiverse for Life regularly purchases chicken manure from local merchants for use in our food gardens. It is one of the best things for increasing the productivity of a sustainable organic garden.

Hens for Houston's proposal achieves these benefits while balancing the rights of all citizens. We trust that you will support the rights of all people to have access to healthy food.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine M. Povinelli".

Christine M. Povinelli, Ph.D.
Biodiverse for Life, Founding Member

<http://biodiverseforlife.org>