

Wilmington, Delaware
April 1, 2021

#XXXXX

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Oliver**

WHEREAS, community gardens are promoted as collaborative projects on shared open spaces where participants share in the maintenance and products of the garden, including healthful and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, community gardens require a significant investment of time and resources to ensure their long-term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, untended gardens can attract unwanted and potentially dangerous wildlife including rats, racoons, foxes, opossums, and other scavengers; and

WHEREAS, unless properly maintained at the end of the growing season, community gardens can fall into disrepair during the winter leaving the area littered with equipment causing a general eyesore, and

WHEREAS, more than one-thousand residents have signed a petition asking Council to prohibit the construction of any new community gardens until their concerns can be addressed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL that Council encourages individuals and organizations who wish to establish new community gardens to actively engage with the community where the garden is to be located. Engaging with the community before starting a new garden will improve the likelihood of long-term sustainability for new gardens by addressing common worries including year-round maintenance, and pest control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council urges persons who wish to establish new community gardens within the City to prepare a report to the Civic Association detailing

their plan for new gardens including sustainability objectives, pest control methods, and year-round maintenance schedule.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution encourages individuals and organizations who wish to set up community gardens to actively engage with the community where the garden is to be located. Engaging with the community before starting a new garden will improve the likelihood of long-term sustainability for new gardens by addressing common worries including year-round maintenance, and pest control.