

# City of Mississauga Urban Agriculture Strategy

## Environmental Action Committee Deputation

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healthy food programming,  
gardens + community development

# Deputation Overview

- Project Context, Purpose and Objectives
- Process – Highlights and Anticipated Timing
- Forms of Urban Agriculture
- Highlights of Community Engagement to Date
- Emerging Priorities
- Plan for Ongoing Engagement and Next Steps
- Questions for Today

# Project Context and Purpose



## Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)

- Adopted in December 2019
- **Action 9-4:** Develop an urban agriculture and food security strategy

## Living Green Master Plan

- **Action 30:** Support the development of community gardens and ensure that every neighbourhood has access to at least one community garden

## Mississauga's Community Gardens

- The City has a grant program for community gardens; The City supports nine community gardens on parkland in eight wards

## Project Purpose

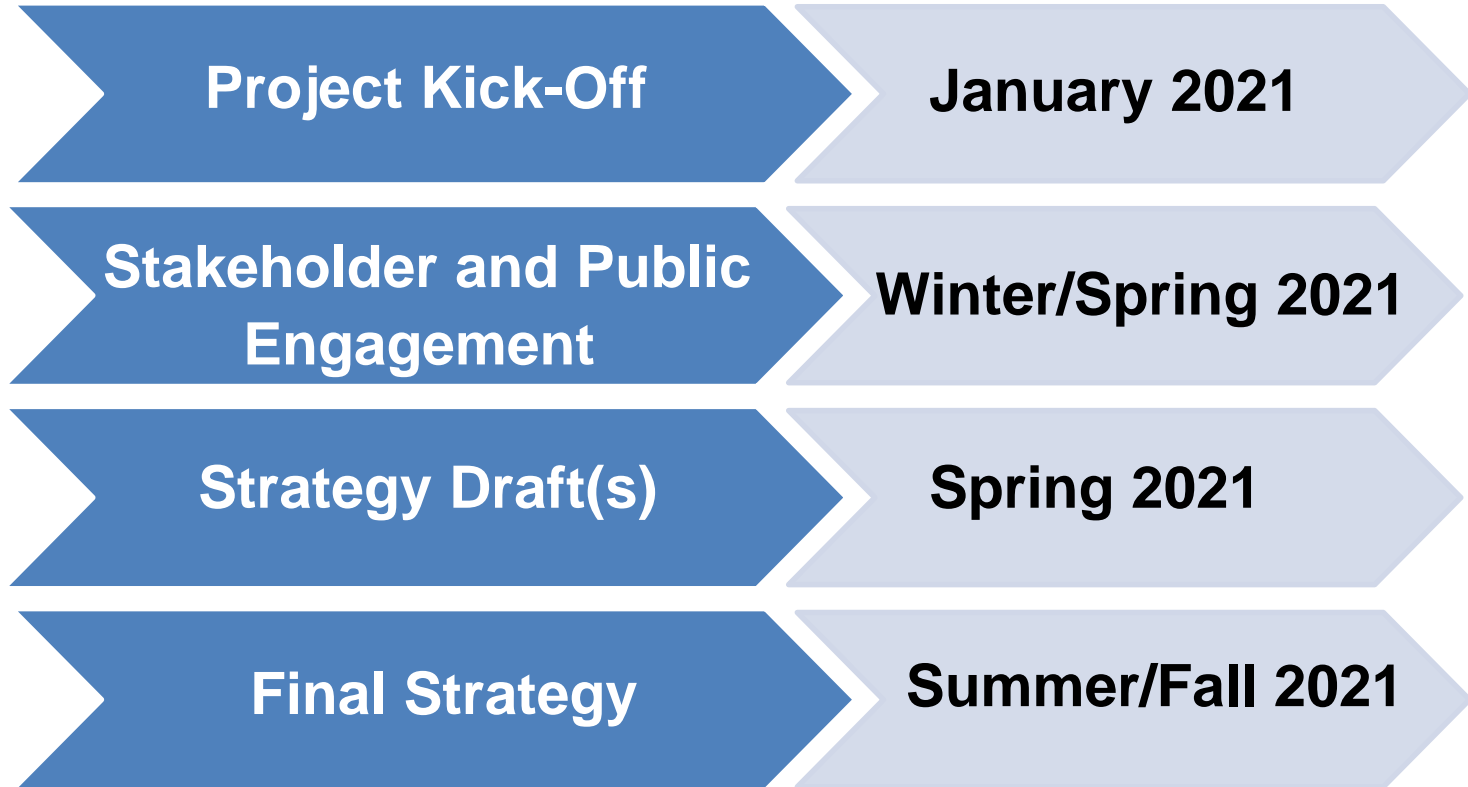
- To create an Urban Agriculture Strategy that will identify the City's role in supporting Corporate and community efforts to increase urban-scale food production across Mississauga

# Project Objectives

The Urban Agriculture Strategy will:

- Provide an **understanding of the current state and key stakeholders** of urban agriculture activities, interests and strategies in Mississauga, Corporately and in the community
- **Examine best practices** in urban-scale food production within the Region of Peel, surrounding communities, and other municipalities
- Provide **a clear definition and establish a vision and goals** for Mississauga regarding urban agriculture
- **Determine the appropriate scale of urban agriculture and the land use requirements** necessary to support (e.g. public land versus private land)
- **Determine the role for the City and strategic partner agencies** on how it can support Corporate and community urban agriculture initiatives
- **Identify the opportunities, barriers and gaps** that may exist in providing for urban agriculture in the city and develop action plans
- Ensure **alignment with and support of the six pillars in the Region of Peel's Food Charter**

## Process – Highlights and Anticipated Timing



# Defining Urban Agriculture

- Urban agriculture is the practice of growing, processing, sharing, and distributing food within the city.
- Examples of urban agriculture practices include community gardens, urban farms, hydroponics and farmers markets.



# Forms of Urban Agriculture

- Community Gardens
- Institutional urban agriculture
- Neighbourhood food hub
- Micro-farming in and around residences
- Farmers markets
- Small-scale (semi-) commercial horticulture, livestock and aquatic farming
- Large-scale agricultural enterprises
- Specialized urban agriculture and forestry production
- Commercial foodscapes
- Fruit trees, food forests and fruit tree gleaning programs



# Highlights of Community Engagement

## We've met with...

- EAC members
- Community groups and gardeners
- Farmers
- Youth groups
- Urban Indigenous growers
- Farmers Market organizers
- Food banks
- Networks
- City staff





# Highlights of Community Engagement

- Definition
- Vision
- Barriers and gaps
- City role and supports
- Community strengths, relationships and networks



# Emerging Priorities

- Enable policy, guidelines and funding opportunities
- Support Urban Agriculture activities and programs
- Foster collaboration
- Create an Urban Agriculture inventory and network



# Plan for Ongoing Engagement and Next Steps

Website Launch <a href="http://www.mississauga.ca/homegrown">www.mississauga.ca/homegrown</a>	March/April 2021
Survey Launch	April 2021
Feedback on Draft Strategy	May 2021
Present to City Council	Summer/Fall 2021

# Questions for Today

1. What kind of policies and programs could encourage urban agriculture to flourish in Mississauga?
2. How can food system linkages between Mississauga and the surrounding region be strengthened?
3. How can urban agriculture contribute to a healthy environment in Mississauga?

**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**