

Chelsy Lindman
[REDACTED]
Pine City, MN 55063

May 17, 2024

City of Rock Creek
7000 State Hwy 70
Pine City, MN 55063

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed text amendment to restrict hooved animals in the residential zonings of the City of Rock Creek.

If you look around, you will find many communities in this State reversing course on decisions like these. Urban and suburban areas are seeing the negative effects of losing their ag-minded communities. As areas around the state became densified it made sense to implement best-practices with keeping farm animals, with some areas putting in all out bans such as this. I think we can all agree that those who have chosen to embrace differing lifestyles and implement smart guidance instead of restrictions have and will do better than those who won't.

Let's take a moment to do our research and find ways to empower people in their lifestyle choices instead of controlling them.

Here are some examples from around the state I have found:

Oak Grove, MN

<https://www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us/index.asp?SEC=02D29A10-0A63-4707-B3F2-8529FC893845&DE=ADBB1D2F-6BA5-42C4-A444-E45FFBC0B6A8>

Columbus, MN

https://www.ci.columbus.mn.us/vertical/sites/%7B3E6BBFCC-1CDD-4B18-AFB1-2CB97872D422%7D/uploads/2022-02-28_Animals_Handout.pdf

Corcoran, MN

https://www.corcoranmn.gov/our_government/city_code/keeping_of_farm_animals_and_non_traditional

Orono, MN

<https://www.oronomn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4094/Horses-and-Farm-Animals>

I believe implementing this text amendment will restrict people's ability to provide for themselves. Given that the City of Rock Creek has established a minimum lot size of platted neighborhoods at 2.5 acres, there is sufficient means to maintain a set number of hooved animals. Land is for business, sustenance, and pleasure and with the right guidance there's no reason you can't have these cohesively exist.

If the city expects the people to put effort into their planning, then so shall the city be held to those same standards. Please reconsider your text amendment and take the time to research best-practices from other thriving communities to ensure inclusivity for all. I strongly believe you will come to regret driving these walks of life further apart instead of bringing them together.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelsy Lindman