

## THE CITY OF CRANSTON

**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**IN AMENDMENT OF TITLE 6, CHAPTER 4 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF**  
**CRANSTON, 2012, ENTITLED “Animals Generally”**

*No.*

*Passed:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Anthony J. Lupino, Council President*

*Approved:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Allan W. Fung, Mayor*

*It is ordained by the City Council of the City of Cranston as follows:*

**Section 1.** Chapter 6.04, entitled “Animals Generally” is hereby amended by adding thereto Section 6.04.40 – Domestic Chickens:

**6.04.40- Domestic Chickens.**

(1) The keeping of chicken hens pursuant to this section shall be primarily for the purpose of raising chicken hens and collecting the eggs produced thereof; this section shall not be construed to allow for the commercial slaughter and sale of any chicken hens for any purpose.

(2) As used herein, “lot” shall mean one (1) or more parcels of land which are contiguous and are under the same ownership according to the tax assessor’s records and which are zoned residential or are residential as a legal nonconforming use pursuant to the zoning ordinance.

(3) The owner of any dwelling may keep or permit to be kept on the lot containing the dwelling, one (1) hen per eight hundred (800) square feet of total lot area, with a maximum of ten (10) on any lot, provided that they comply with each and every provisions of this section.

(4) The owner of the hen(s) must be a resident of said dwelling.

(5) No person shall keep any rooster.

(6) No chicken hens may be kept or raised within the dwelling.

(7) The raising of chicken hens shall be restricted to back yards or side yards; chicken hens shall not be permitted, at any time, on the part of the property directly abutting a main road or a street.

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48 (8) No hen house (coop) shall be built onto any shared fence.  
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50 (9) The coop and run shall not be located closer than twenty (20) feet to any residential  
51 structure on an adjacent property and must comply with zoning setback requirements pursuant to  
52 Cranston City Code Section 17.60.010.  
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54 (10) All chicken hens must be provided with both a hen house (coop) and a fenced  
55 outdoor enclosure, subject to the following provisions:

- 56 a. The coop must provide the chicken hens with adequate protection from the  
57 elements, inclement weather and provide for the chicken hens' good health and  
58 prevent unnecessary or unjustified suffering;
- 59 b. The hen house must be covered, predator resistant, and well-ventilated;
- 60 c. All above ground openings in the coop, such as windows and ventilation holes,  
61 must be covered with half-inch hardware cloth to prevent predator/rodent access;
- 62 d. The hen house (coop) must have a floor and be surrounded by half-inch hardware  
63 cloth, buried at least twelve inches into the ground to prevent unwanted access  
64 from below;
- 65 e. The hen house must provide a minimum of two (2) square feet per chicken;
- 66 f. The hen house must be located upon a permeable surface that prevents waste run-  
67 off;
- 68 g. The fencing of the run must be surrounded on the sides and the top and  
69 adequately contain the chicken run;
- 70 h. The run must be kept clean and sanitary at all times; manure must be composted  
71 in enclosed bins; and
- 72 i. All enclosures must be so constructed or repaired as to prevent predators or  
73 rodents from being harbored.  
74

75 (11) All chicken hens must be fed subject to the requirements of Chapter 8.36.080 and  
76 feed must be stored securely.  
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78 (12) All chicken hens must be confined within the coop from sunset to sunrise.  
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80 (13) Notwithstanding the terms of this ordinance, private restrictions on the use of  
81 property shall remain enforceable and take precedence over this ordinance. Private restrictions  
82 include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions,  
83 neighborhood association by-laws, and covenant deeds. The interpretation and enforcement of  
84 the private restriction is the sole responsibility of the private parties involved.  
85

86 (14) Whoever violates any provision of this section, or any order or regulation made in  
87 pursuance thereof, or obstructs or interferes with an execution of such order or willfully or  
88 illegally fails to obey such order, shall be guilty of an offense punishable as provided in this  
89 Code of Ordinances.  
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**Section 2.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon its final adoption.

Positive Endorsement

Negative Endorsement (attach reasons)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Rawson, City Solicitor    Date

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Christopher Rawson, City Solicitor    Date

Sponsored by: Councilman Stycos

Referred to Ordinance Committee October 11, 2012