

Misty Maza

From: Esther Armmand
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:57 AM
To: Richard Furlow; Rose Santana; Adam Marchand; Charles Decker; Aaron Greenberg; Jeanette Morrison; Darryl Brackeen Jr
Cc: Misty Maza; Michael Piscitelli; Byron Kennedy M.D.; John Alston; Anthony Campbell; Tomas Reyes; John Rose; Sean Matteson; Dakibu Muley; Esther Armmand; Latha Swamy
Subject: FW: Micro-food Business Ordinance - Update and Recommendations

Dear Alder Santana and Committee Members,

Please disregard prior email regarding update noted, see corrected copy enclosed below. Please forgive this mishap.

Sincerely,
Esther

Dear Alder Santana and Committee Members,

Per request, please see updates below provided by Latha Swamy, Director, Food System Policy for the City of New Haven. Ms. Swamy will attend the Legislation Committee Meeting scheduled this week to share updates and to answer questions. If in the meantime, Ms. Swamy or I may be of assistance to you on this matter, please feel free to send a brief email or call.

Sincerely,
Esther Armmand

From: Latha Swamy <LSwamy@newhavenct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 5:44 PM
To: Esther Armmand <EArmmand@newhavenct.gov>
Subject: Micro-food Business Ordinance - Update and Recommendations

Hi Esther,

Please find my update and recommendations below:

The City's Division of Food System Policy very much supports the intention of this ordinance. We support food entrepreneurship and micro-food businesses and want to do everything possible to make the process efficient, manageable, and accessible, while making the best use of all of the commercial kitchen space that exists in the City. We believe economic development in the food sector is a great opportunity for New Haven.

I understand that this has been worked on for sometime, and there is a desire to pass this as soon as possible.

In December and January, following the first Committee hearing regarding the micro-food business ordinance, prompted by my role as the Director of Food System Policy for the City, and as a result of the many questions asked by committee members which were not addressed, my Division undertook some initial research and meetings over the next few weeks. We had internal meetings, including with the Health Department, in regards to the Public Health Code, public protection, and the licensure process. In addition, we also looked at policies implemented by other municipalities on the use of shared kitchen space and municipal permitting processes.

In mid-January, I was informed by OLS staff that a micro-food business ordinance draft had been submitted to Corp Counsel for review. I offered to do further research by continuing to have conversations with some of the different city departments affected by the proposed changes, as well as continue to reach out to other municipalities. In my opinion, more time was needed in order to draft a sound piece of legislation.

I was also informed by OLS staff that completing this research did not fit with the desired timeline for the draft ordinance.

In my review of the proposed draft ordinance, the language is fairly general. Additionally, our research shows that there is a lot to be learned from how other municipalities have streamlined their permitting process for these purposes, as well as how they minimized unintended consequences.

As the Food System Policy Director, I am committed to working internally and externally to help draft language that is specific to ensure the original intention. Such an ordinance should reflect opportunities for equitable economic development and the practicalities of health codes, building codes, fire codes, zoning codes, etc. Once this research and internal process is completed, and in cooperation with appropriate departments and food business entrepreneurs, I would be happy to draft legislation that is comprehensive, can be implemented, ensures consumer protection, and minimizes liability on behalf of the City. The bulk of the research is nearly complete. However, more time is required to bring internal departments together. A draft of this ordinance will likely be complete within 3 months.

Ultimately, all of us would like to see the process be efficient, manageable, and accessible for food entrepreneurs and small food businesses in the best way possible, so that we can support a thriving, more equitable food economy in New Haven.

Latha Swamy
Director, Food System Policy
City of New Haven, Connecticut
lswamy@newhavenct.gov | [203-946-5194](tel:203-946-5194)

From: [Misty Maza](#)
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 12:12 PM
To: [John Rose](#)
Cc: [Latha Swamy](#); [Esther Armand](#)
Subject: RE: Micro Food Business Ordinance Draft

Attorney Rose,

I spoke with the Chair of the Legislation Committee, and the Committee does not wish to wait for Director Swamy's draft to be submitted for your review. Unfortunately, there is a time element, and if Director Swamy does not submit her copy until March 15 (2 months) that would not give Corporation Counsel time to review it, before the Committee needs it back on March 15.

The copy submitted to you is based on the submitter's and supporter's request and proposal, which is what is currently before the Committee.

I spoke with Director Swamy yesterday and advised her we can touch base when her draft ordinance is complete and confirm best course of action at that time.

I appreciate your assistance.

Kind regards, Misty

Misty Maza, J.D., Legislative Aide II

City of New Haven | Office of Legislative Services

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From: John Rose

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 4:11 PM

To: Misty Maza <MMaza@newhavenct.gov>

Subject: FW: Micro Food Business Ordinance Draft

Ms. Maza: I have your email of today and the attached proposed legislation. In light of the attached email to you from Latha Swamy, I [my office] will defer review and comment pending receipt of her review and recommendations.

JohnRose

From: Latha Swamy

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 2:46 PM

To: Misty Maza <MMaza@newhavenct.gov>

Cc: Esther Armmand <EArmmand@newhavenct.gov>; Dakibu Muley <DMuley@newhavenct.gov>; Sheila Carmon <SCarmon@newhavenct.gov>; John Rose <JRose@newhavenct.gov>; Adam Marchand <WARD25@newhavenct.gov>; Rose Santana <WARD13@newhavenct.gov>

Subject: Re: Micro Food Business Ordinance Draft

Hi Misty,

Thank you for your call today.

After the Aldermanic Affairs Committee hearing, prompted by my role as the Director of Food System Policy for the City and as a result of the many questions asked by committee members which were not addressed, I undertook some initial research and meetings over the last few weeks. I have had internal meetings in regards to the Public Health Code, public protection, and the licensure process. In addition, I have also looked at legislation implemented by other municipalities on the use of shared kitchen space and permitting.

I am still working through a methodical approach to ensure that the legislation that is proposed is sound, can be implemented, ensures consumer protection, and minimizes liability on behalf of the City.

As per our brief phone conversation last week, Esther and I informed you that this process would likely take, at the least, 1-2 additional months. Therefore, I will continue my research.

Additionally, it is important that the results of my review and any recommendations, if any, should be considered as part of the Corporation Counsel review.

Let's continue to work together and communicate on this issue to move it forward.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Latha

Latha Swamy
Director, Food System Policy
City of New Haven, Connecticut
lswamy@newhavenct.gov | [203-946-5194](tel:203-946-5194)

From: Misty Maza
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 2:32 PM
To: Latha Swamy
Cc: Esther Armmand
Subject: FW: Micro Food Business Ordinance Draft

Latha,

Please see below and attached the ordinance changes I drafted for Ms. Ibrahim. I am only waiting for her response (just forwarded it to her a few minutes ago) before I submit it to Corporation Counsel for review.

I want to get it over to Corporation Counsel as quickly as possible, as it will probably take them several weeks (if not months) to review.

Our goal is to get it back before Committee in time for the Board of Alders to have an opportunity to pass it before the May permit fees are due.

If you would like to make changes to it, please have them submitted to me by the end of next week: Friday, January 18, 2019.

Hope you have a good weekend, Misty

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From: Misty Maza
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 2:22 PM
To: 'Mubarakah Ibrahim' <2mmmpies@gmail.com>

Cc: Jeanette Morrision <WARD22@newhavenct.gov>

Subject: Micro Food Business Ordinance Draft

Ms. Ibrahim,

Please find attached the draft copy of the update to the City ordinance to include micro food businesses.

Please reply and confirm you have had a chance to review it and whether or not you want to suggest changes. Once I hear back from you, I will forward it to Corporation Counsel for review.

There are two copies attached: the first copy just shows the changes and the second copy shows the entire ordinance. The second copy is a redlined version, so you can see the changes I made.

Any questions, just let me know. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Happy baking, Misty

Misty Maza, J.D., Legislative Aide II

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