

→ Community Agriculture

Objective 11.1 Promote and support community agriculture activities

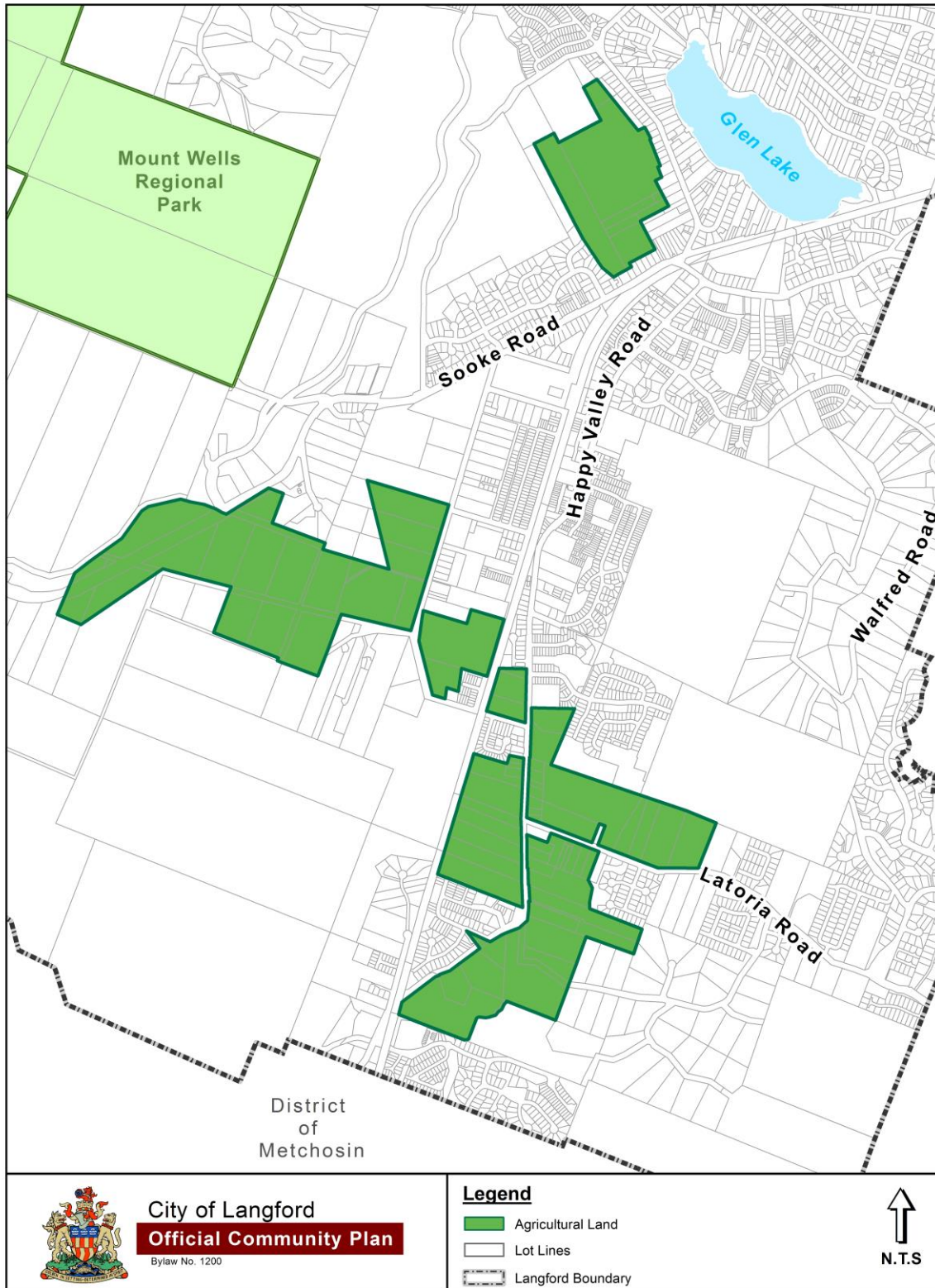
- Policy 11.1.1 Amend bylaws to allow density bonusing for inclusion of community gardens in new residential developments.
- Policy 11.1.2 Develop funding grants for community groups and/or non-profit groups to promote development and operation of food related programs, facilities, and activities.
- Policy 11.1.3 Leverage funds from new developments on a per unit basis to generate funds to acquire new lands for community gardens and supportive infrastructure.
- Policy 11.1.4 Identify suitable locations for community gardens (e.g. one per neighbourhood) especially in higher density neighbourhoods where residents don't have access to private yards.
- Policy 11.1.5 Make community gardens a permitted use in all commercial and residential zones and in public places (parks, right of ways, utility corridors, etc.).
- Policy 11.1.6 Permit greenhouses in most zones; consider development permit area guidelines to control form and character as needed.
- Policy 11.1.7 Encourage planting of edible plant species in lieu of landscaping in private developments, parks and local streets where appropriate.
- Policy 11.1.8 Facilitate cooperation amongst individuals or groups working towards increasing community agriculture activities.
- Policy 11.1.9 Incorporate within new design guidelines for neighbourhoods and/or buildings support for urban agriculture.
- Policy 11.1.10 Allow density bonusing in exchange for green roofs on multi-family, commercial and/or institutional buildings that can facilitate food growing or gardening.



Potted Citrus Trees

Map 10: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Inventory (Replaced by Bylaw 1674; 1737)

Map 10: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Inventory



July, 2018

Objective 11.2 Promote and support commercial agriculture as a viable business venture.

- Policy 11.2.1 Require sustainable agriculture practices on city-owned parcels where and when appropriate through lease agreements.
- Policy 11.2.2 Implement changes to the zoning bylaws to support farming activities as needed and where appropriate.
- Policy 11.2.3 Review policies to allow for alternative infrastructure as needed to enable viable agriculture activities.
- Policy 11.2.4 Perform a cost-benefit analysis on the institution of farm tax exemption policies as a means to establish local farms.
- Policy 11.2.5 Work with landowners to provide greater security of tenure and affordability for farmlands.
- Policy 11.2.6 Establish targets for local food production.
- Policy 11.2.7 Provide site selection support and for food processors considering locating in the community.
- Policy 11.2.8 Develop a municipal procurement policy to purchase local food.
- Policy 11.2.9 Amend zoning so as to permit farmer markets in public facilities (parks and schools).
- Policy 11.2.10 Actively promote one or more weekly farmers markets including small pocket markets and/or on-street markets.
- Policy 11.2.11 Provide support for food fairs, farmers markets and/or celebrations for local food producers.
- Policy 11.2.12 Work with partners to jointly develop and establish a region-wide branding strategy (e.g. “Locally Grown”, “Buy Local” / “Taste of the Region”).
- Policy 11.2.13 Encourage the development of locally-owned food / grocery stores and restaurants in new and existing neighbourhoods.
- Policy 11.2.14 Ensure density targets for new and existing neighbourhoods can support a viable local food grocery store, small fruit markets, restaurants, etc.).

Objective 11.3 Ensure development in or around farmlands does not preclude long term viability.

Policy 11.3.1 Develop an edge planning policy for properties adjacent to ALR properties or acquire farmland as a means to ensure new development will not jeopardize the long term use of the land for agricultural purposes.

Policy 11.3.2 Support municipal purchasing of farmland that is not being actively farmed (to protect it from future threat of speculation) and the set up a community trust to manage intensive, farm operations on this land for the benefit of the community.

Policy 11.3.3 As it relates to exclusion applications of farm lands from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), the City will support exclusions provided there is considerable benefit that can be provided such as farmland dedications for community trust and/or upgrades to farming / farmland infrastructure as part of exclusions.

Policy 11.3.4 The City will support inclusions to the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) of lands that are shown to have viable agricultural potential, including those lands with potential for accommodation of greenhouses and other technologically supported agricultural activities. **(Bylaw No. 1204)**