Resource Guide

Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone (UAIZ) Program

The Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone (UAIZ) Program is a California state program established in 2013 through **Assembly Bill 551**. It encourages urban agriculture by offering reduced property tax assessments to owners who convert vacant, unimproved, or blighted property to agricultural use.

In 2017, the Los Angeles City Council adopted the UAIZ Ordinance to implement the program citywide. Under the ordinance, landowners can enter into a voluntary contract with the City to use vacant properties for active agriculture in exchange for a property tax reduction. Notable examples include Black Thumb Farm's location at Cottonwood Urban Farm and the South L.A. Community Farm, a project of the All Peoples Community Center.

The program is currently underutilized; only a few farms and gardens across Los Angeles access growing space through UAIZ. Still, it remains a viable option for landless farmers, nonprofit organizations, community members, and landowners interested in urban agriculture.

For the most up-to-date information and forms, visit:
Sustainability | Los Angeles City Planning

Application Resources

Click on the following for next steps:

- **FAQ & Fact Sheet**
- **UAIZ Contract Instructions**
- **Application and Approval Flowchart**
- **Application Form**

For additional questions about UAIZ and your application, contact: planning.uaiz@lacity.org.

As a Landowner

The landowner is the primary applicant and is responsible for applying to UAIZ, including oversight, communications, and coordination with the City of Los Angeles.

As a Farmer

Using this policy requires identifying an available vacant parcel and communicating directly with the landowner. Because the landowner is the primary applicant, ongoing communication with both the landowner and the City will be necessary for approval, assessments, and processing, especially in the initial phases. As it stands, UAIZ will likely require you to provide oversight and coordinate with the landowner to secure City approval and complete the City's requirements.