

2.3 Agricultural Land

Protect the Supply of Agricultural Land and Promote Agricultural Viability with an Emphasis on Food Production

In order to meet Strategy 2.3, the City will fulfill its role as a municipality in Metro Vancouver by supporting the *Regional Growth Strategy* in the following manner:

2.3 | AGRICULTURAL LAND

2.3.6(a)

AGRICULTURAL AREAS AND BOUNDARIES

The *Regional Growth Strategy* (as amended) identifies Agricultural areas in the Agricultural Land Reserve in Surrey that are required to accommodate food production well into the future. This OCP designates Agricultural areas that encompass the RGS Agricultural designation as well as additional areas outside of the ALR. This is shown in **the Land Use and Density Section and in Figures 3 and 43.**

2.3.6(b)(1)

REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY

Surrey has designated over one third of its land for agricultural uses. Continued protection of this land from development encroachment and from non-farm uses is important for the future longevity of the industry. Policies within Surrey's OCP supporting agricultural land include: **E3.1, E3.2, E3.7, E3.10 and E3.24.**

2.3.6(b)(ii)

AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBDIVISION

The City of Surrey and its Agricultural and Food Security Advisory Committee discourage the fragmentation of agricultural land through subdivision. Policies within Surrey's OCP discouraging farm fragmentation include: **E3.5 and E3.7.**

2.3.6(b)(iii)

AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

The success of Surrey's agricultural industry is not only related to having available land for production, it also requires having infrastructure that supports farm operations in terms of adequate transportation routes, drainage and access to water. Policies within Surrey's OCP supporting agricultural infrastructure systems include: **E3.19, E3.20, E3.21, E3.22 and E3.23.**

2.3 | AGRICULTURAL LAND (cont.)

2.3.6(b)(iv)

AGRICULTURAL INTERFACE AREAS

Surrey has many areas where urban uses and agricultural land physically connect. As a means to protect agricultural uses from adjacent urban development, Surrey supports ensuring that this interface is appropriately managed. Policies within Surrey's OCP supporting ag-urban interface management include: **E1.9, E3.24, E3.25, E3.26, E3.27, E3.28, E3.29, and E3.30** as well as a **Development Permit Area and Guidelines** specific to the ag-urban interface.

2.3.6(b)(v)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Surrey recognizes the value agricultural activities bring to the economic well-being of the City. Ensuring the agricultural industry is supported is an important goal identified within Surrey's *Agricultural Plan* and *Agricultural Protection and Enhancement Strategy* (as amended). Policies within Surrey's OCP supporting agricultural economic development include: **E3.8, E3.9, E3.10, E3.11 and E3.15**.

2.3.6(b)(vi)

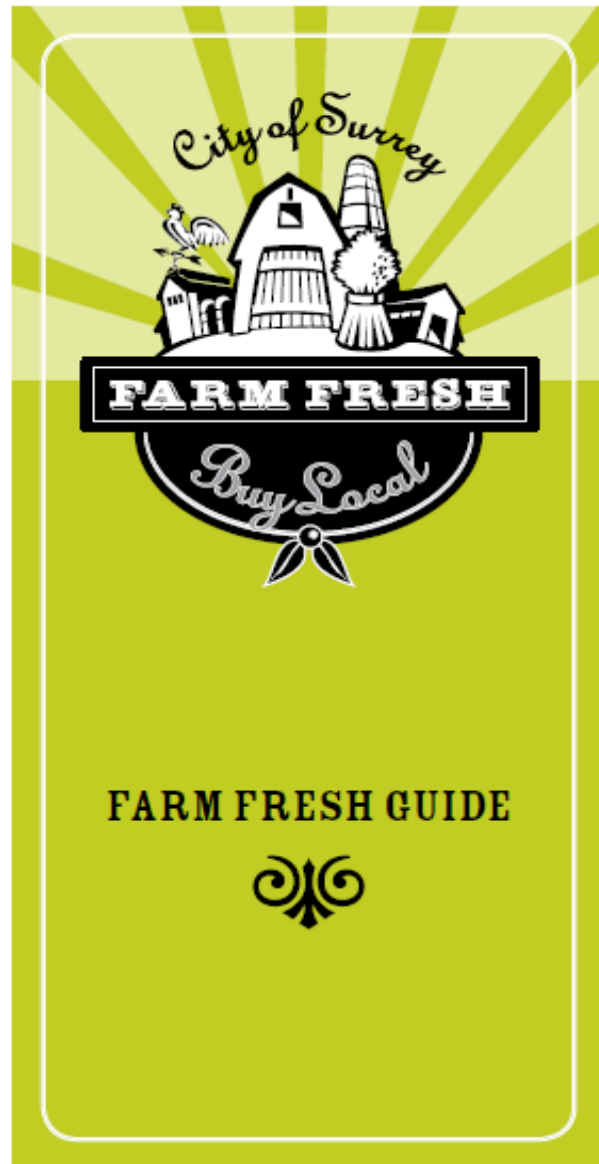
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Surrey has established local food production as a priority within its *Agricultural Protection and Enhancement Strategy* (as amended). The definition and regulation of permitted agricultural uses within the ALR is the responsibility of the Agricultural Land Commission. The City of Surrey has limited ability to prioritize food production over other permitted agricultural uses such as ornamental horticulture or equestrian uses. Ensuring Surrey's agricultural land is available and able to accommodate food production is an important aspect in maintaining a healthy agricultural industry in Surrey as well as establishing an important connection between food produced for, and consumed by, Surrey residents. Policies within Surrey's OCP encouraging increased food production on agricultural land include: **F5.1, F5.3, F5.4 and F5.5**.

2.3.6(b)(vii)

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Surrey has long supported using educational programs to connect the public with the agricultural industry. Policies within Surrey's OCP illustrating the continued commitment include: **E3.17 and E3.18**.



Surrey's Farm Fresh Guide lists local farms and details the type of products grown and sold at each.