

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

31555 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336-1165

(248) 871-2410

R-85-25

RESOLUTION

IT IS RESOLVED, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby adopt the RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL FOR DEER MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS and authorizes the City Manager to sign written agreements subject to the City Attorney's final review of Agreements as it relates to Deer Management, with amendments to Section 2, Part b), which should be scratched and replaced in completeness with, "Teams of Public Safety personnel that will oversee and participate in the highly regulated deer hunting program" and Section 3, Paragraph 2 will be changed to say, "The use of other firearms will be strictly prohibited during the highly regulated hunts performed through public safety."

Motion by: ALDRED

Support by: KNOL

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRUCE, DWYER, KNOL, AND RICH

Nays: BRIDGES

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-1.

I, Carly Lindahl, the duly authorized City Clerk of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills at the regular City Council meeting held on April 28, 2025.


Carly Lindahl, City Clerk

DATE: April 29, 2025

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL FOR DEER MANAGEMENT
WITHIN THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**

RESOLUTION NO. R-85-25

WHEREAS, the overpopulation of white-tailed deer in the State of Michigan, including the City of Farmington Hills, has led to increased public safety and public health concerns, such as increased deer-vehicle collisions, destruction of natural and residential landscapes, and potential exposure to diseases; and

WHEREAS, research conducted by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) supports appropriate management of deer populations to mitigate these negative impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments conducted an independent study, which indicated that approximately 73% of Farmington Hills residents, 74% of Oakland County residents and 66% of all southeast Michigan residents have concerns related to deer overpopulation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Farmington Hills is an active member of the Southeast Michigan Urban Deer Coalition, a group of more than 25 communities and organizations in seven counties that is collaborating with the MDNR to implement effective deer management strategies in urban and suburban communities; and

WHEREAS, the MDNR, in its Michigan Deer Management Plan and Managing Deer Within Suburban Communities, has identified organized deer culls and highly regulated hunts as the safest and most effective methods to manage the deer population in urban environments; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to contract with qualified entities, such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), to conduct comprehensive deer management programs, including organized deer culls, which are anticipated to take place on an annual basis during a designated timeframe, beginning in 2026; and

WHEREAS, to work with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)-Wildlife Services (WF) for purposes of undertaking comprehensive deer management programs, including organized deer culls, the USDA requires the City to submit a Work Initiation Document for Wildlife Damage Management and to enter into a Cooperative Service Agreement with APHIS-WS; and

WHEREAS, the City of Farmington Hills also seeks to partner with the MDNR, relevant stakeholders, and communities of the Southeast Michigan Urban Deer Coalition to implement a highly regulated deer hunting program on an annual basis beginning in 2027; and

WHEREAS, the USDA reports that approximately one in seven Michigan households experienced food insecurity in 2023; and

WHEREAS, one deer will provide approximately 160 nutritious meals, venison harvested during culls will be donated to area food banks and venison harvested during highly regulated hunts will be kept by hunters or donated to food banks; and

WHEREAS, the deer management plan will be incorporated into the ecological plan section of the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan to be reviewed every five years and submitted to the MDNR; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate these necessary deer management efforts, the City Council finds it appropriate to temporarily suspend enforcement of City Code Sections 18-307 and 19-65(1), which prohibit the discharge of firearms within the City and possession of bows in City parks, strictly for the purpose of authorized deer culls and highly regulated hunts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, as follows:

1. Temporary Suspension of Ordinance Enforcement
 - Enforcement of City Code Sections 18-307 and 19-65(1), which prohibit the discharge of firearms within the City and possession of bows in City parks, shall be temporarily suspended solely during authorized deer culls and highly regulated hunts, as specified in this resolution.
2. Authorized Participants
 - This suspension shall apply only to:
 - a) Authorized agents of the entity approved to conduct authorized deer culls.
 - b) Teams of Public Safety personnel that will oversee and participate in the highly regulated deer hunting program.
3. Permitted Weapons
 - Authorized agents of the entity approved to conduct deer culls will be authorized to use firearms for the sole purpose of deer management.
 - Confirmed participants in the highly regulated deer hunting program shall be restricted to the use of crossbows and bows. The use of other firearms will be strictly prohibited during the highly regulated hunts performed through public safety.
4. Public Safety and Compliance
 - The City shall coordinate with the USDA, MDNR and relevant stakeholders to ensure all culls and hunts are conducted in compliance with federal, state and local regulations.
 - Appropriate public notification and safety measures shall be implemented prior to any culling or hunting activities.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign and submit to APHIS-WH on behalf of the City the Work Initiation Document for Wildlife Damage Management and the Cooperative Service Agreement with APHIS-WS, subject to the City Attorney's final review of said Agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I, Carly Lindahl, City Clerk for the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Farmington Hills City Council at a regular meeting held on April 28, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of the City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, on this 29th day of April, 2025.



Carly Lindahl, City Clerk