

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF THE CITY OF LORAIN URBAN AGRICULTURE PLAN, ENTITLED “GROWING TOGETHER,” ITS SUBMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS LORAIN’S OFFICIAL URBAN AGRICULTURE PLAN.

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the City of Lorain an Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production (UAIP) Planning Grant in the amount of \$207,174.48; and,

WHEREAS, the UAIP Planning Grant is a competitive grant program to initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban area and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and startup costs for new farms, and development of policies related to zoning and other need of urban production; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the UAIP Planning Grant for the City of Lorain was to assist in the identification of current conditions regarding access to food resources, policies and zoning that inhibit urban agriculture as an economic driver, and identifying next steps to expand resources and programming to support urban agriculture as an economic driver; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lorain, Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio, Lorain County Public Health, and Solidarity Urban Farms were designated as the project team, collectively known as “Food Forward Lorain,” to carry out the scope of work associated with the Planning Grant; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lorain contracted with two consultants, TSW, Inc. and Agritecture, LLC, through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, and over the past year has worked directly with the consultants to identify existing conditions—including zoning, policy, and tax rebate considerations—as well as recommendations and next steps to regulate and support urban agriculture as a growing economic driver in the City of Lorain; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lorain Building, Housing, and Planning Department, through its Community and Economic Development Division, compiled, designed, and facilitated the creation of the *Lorain Urban Agriculture Plan: Growing Together*; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lorain Department of Building, Housing, and Planning seeks approval of the *Lorain Urban Agriculture Plan: Growing Together*; and,

WHEREAS, this plan represents the first Urban Agriculture Plan to be adopted and implemented by the City of Lorain.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LORAIN, STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION I. That Lorain City Council hereby approves the Lorain Urban Agriculture Plan: Growing Together which has been electronically transmitted to the Office of the Clerk of Council.

SECTION II. That it is found that all actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

PASSED: _____, 2026

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____, CLERK

MAYOR

APPROVED: _____, 2026