
DATE: Monday, July 27, 2026
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, July 27, 2026, at 7:01 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: DeShawn Williams, Mayor; Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey, CM Verdell Jones III, CM Stephanie Cockrell, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Darius White, Larry Boone, Mike Cervantes, Olivia Jovine, Evan Alvarez, Matt Roeschley, Seok Hyun Cho

OTHERS PRESENT: J.D. McClanahan, Planner III for Champaign County Regional Planning Commission

Chair: *Stephanie Cockrell, Ward 5*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chair Cockrell called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. 06-01-2026 Rescheduled City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by CM Wu, seconded by CM Jones.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. Public Input

Esther Patt requested the City investigate code enforcement efforts and current rent prices in Urbana through the housing study in response to the issues of landlords not conducting necessary repairs and the difficulty of finding affordable housing. Stated more information is required on landlords that receive citations for housing code violations, the length of time it takes for landlords to address the violations, and if a landlord successfully addresses the issues.

a. **Public Input (Continued)**

Stated information on the number of habitable rental units in Urbana and rental affordability rates by levels of income are required to make informed decisions on housing proposals. Recommended the City survey the landlords registered through the Rental Registration program. Stated data on the availability of rental units across levels of income and housing code enforcement will show what Urbana tenants experience in the local housing market.

Jim Barrett read a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union of Champaign County to commend Council for their work on Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 and request for Council to approve the Ordinance. **Brian Dolinar** thanked CM Wilken and Mayor Williams for their work supporting Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 through its development. Hoped for Urbana to continue rejecting Flock camera implementation, highlighting the increase in national concern toward mass video surveillance through Flock cameras. Stated many jurisdictions have rejected Flock cameras due to concerns on data sharing with entities such as ICE (United States Immigrations and Customs Enforcement) and prosecutors of abortion seeking women. Shared various reporting on Flock covering that the CEO of Flock Safety, Garrett Langley recently apologized for referring to activists as terrorists and journalists have found police departments used Flock to stalk current and former romantic partners. Emphasized the importance of oversight for surveillance technologies, raising the cases of Jerry Sandage, former University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Police Officer, and Kurt Hjort, former Urbana Police Officer.

Mitch spoke in support of Council for opposing Flock camera implementation, developing Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 regarding surveillance technologies, and protecting the fourth amendment rights of Urbana residents. Stated Flock cameras violate constitutional rights under the fourth amendment by creating records of an individual's movements without warrant. Urged Council to approve Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 to protect the privacy of the Urbana community and require democratic processes for the adoption of surveillance technologies. Highlighted how the Champaign County Sheriff's Department has installed Flock cameras within the county despite protests from the Champaign County Board and community members, acting without consent or democratic process. **Derek Bing** echoed concerns and expressed support for Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 regarding the regulation of surveillance technologies. Spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2026-07-021 regarding the ban of new fur sales in Urbana. Expressed animals should freely live in nature, not confined to a life of suffering and industrial slaughter. Stated fur products are no longer necessary with the rise of modern alternatives. **Gabriel Dunn** spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 as Flock technologies are broadly opposed by the public, in spite of political party affiliation. Expressed the ban of new fur trade in Urbana is an overreach of government authority.

Voiced favor for protecting free speech and individualism. Emphasized the need to prioritize attention to other issues in the City. Thanked CM Wilken for her service to the City of Urbana. **Ann-Marie Shapiro** expressed support and thanks for Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 and Council's rejection of Flock technologies. Raised concern on the misanthropic philosophies and technocratic views held by the developers and executives of surveillance technology companies. Shared the United States Supreme Court recently ruled that searches for technologically collected data; mass collected location data; and passively gathered and retained location data are subject to the fourth amendment. **Bhavana** stated from her experience in reviewing over a hundred policies on regulating surveillance technologies, the current Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 sets the gold standard. Recognized the time and effort put into developing the Ordinance by CM Wilken and Council to best serve the Urbana community. Urged Council to approve the Ordinance as it democratically empowers the public's agency. Spoke on how the current federal administration has attacked free speech through revoking people of their immigrant visas for sharing support for Palestinian people on social media by using facial recognition and mass surveillance, effectively creating a social credit score system. Further spoke on how the federal administration, under former president Barack Obama, expanded surveillance measures against people immigrating to the United States.

a. Public Input (Continued)

Highlighted how surveillance measures that violate constitutional rights were expanded, without oversight, by the executive branch, concentrating power under the president. Cautioned Council to consider the implications and impacts of social media surveillance. **Stuart Levy** spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Recommended Urbana to follow the example of the privacy protections upheld by librarians to protect their patrons. Stated the Ordinance allows for the public to be more informed on the surveillance technologies used by the City and democratically engage in the discussion through the review. **Jane McClintock** spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 as it creates a process for the community and City to make informed decisions together on surveillance technologies. Expressed appreciation for CM Wilken and everyone who put work into developing the Ordinance. **Karen Medina** raised a concern about the interest that surveillance technology companies have in profiting from collected data by any means necessary, regardless of imposed regulations and oversight.

Written Public Input regarding Ordinances No. 2024-12-042 and 2026-07-021 were received from the following individuals and read by Council: Anonymous, Irene Sewell, Ilir Sulejmani, Tami Dollase, Sharon Irish, and Sarah Nixon.

Written Public Input regarding Ordinances No. 2024-12-042, 2026-07-021, and the Urbana Housing Needs Study were received from the following individuals but were not read: Esther Patt, Carol Spindel, Joycelyn Landrum-Brown, Paul Prior, Lara Orr, Christine Janak, Cindy Dodds, Jennifer Henshaw, Julia Glahn, Anonymous, Valeri Mora, Matthew Murrey, Brian Redding, Ann-Marie Shapiro, Bryan Maxwell, Grace Giorgio, and Haley Stewart.

5. Staff Report

a. Urbana Housing Needs Study – Data Gathering

Presented by J.D. McClanahan, Planner III for the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission and introduced by Olivia Jovine, Community Development Services Director. Olivia Jovine announced another presentation on the study will be on the agenda next week for the City Council meeting, provided background on the intent of the study, and spoke on the current stage in the overall project timeline. Stated the presentation tonight will cover the methods of gathering data and the upcoming presentation will share findings on existing conditions from the tenant and landlord surveys.

J.D. McClanahan stated the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) began working on the Urbana Housing Need Study (UHNS) in the winter of 2025 after being commissioned by the City. Shared this presentation seeks to establish an understanding of the Special Census results, Census data trends, and the data approaches used for the UHNS.

Stated the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the quality of the April 2020 Census data, especially in college towns such as Urbana. Stated the issues in the decennial census dataset from 2020 additionally impacts other datasets such as the American Community Survey (ACS) that build upon the data from the census. Shared the example of how the data from both the UIUC non-online enrollment growth does not align with the population estimates in the ACS. Elaborated on the differences in population data found between the 2020 Census (38,336), 2019 population estimate (42,214), and 2010 Census (41,250). Stated the disparities prompted the 2024 Special Census which targeted specific blocks that were identified to likely have the largest differences between estimated population and real population.

a. Urbana Housing Needs Study – Data Gathering (Continued)

Stated the 2024 Special Census found an increase of 2,459 people within the specific census tracts, increasing the official population to 40,795. Stated this reported increase has not been accounted for in the ACS that is likely due to the time necessary for updating the datasets and the difficulty in incorporating the Special Census data. Shared the specific results and changes from the Special Census that involved Census Tracts 59.01, 59.02, and 111. Noted Census Tract 60 is another area of concern that was unable to be covered within the Special Census.

Stated the CCRPC previously projected future population growth through the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2050 and found that average household sizes for households that were classified as having above seven people in the household changed from 48.7 in the 2020 ACS 5-Year dataset to 7.7 in the 2020 Census dataset. Reported the CCRPC tested traffic areas with high student populations in LRTP 2050 to account for the differences found in the Census datasets. Stated the population modeling in the LRTP 2050 was compared against the LRTP 2045 and the 2015 and 2021 models by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Shared the LRTP 2050 population projection decreased from the IDPH 2015 and LRTP 2045 projections but remained above the IDPH 2021 projection due to the use of more recent, local data sources. Emphasized a significant amount of labor has gone into addressing the discrepancies in population data caused by the pandemic and 2020 Census.

Shared the UNHS approaches population data by analyzing and building upon ACS data, where appropriate, while weaving in other federal and local data sources. Stated public outreach through surveys and local stakeholder interviews were conducted to develop the findings on local housing conditions. Shared the public survey received 325 responses and the survey distributed to the landlords in the Urbana Rental Registry received 134 responses, representing 36% of rental units in Urbana. Noted responses on the rental vacancy rate gathered from the landlord survey are between 1.3% and 5.5% while a rate of 9.9% is estimated in the ACS data, highlighting a discrepancy that requires further analysis. Further added that responses from the public survey and interviews display how the public views housing as becoming more unaffordable despite the ACS data signaling no significant changes to the rate of increases in housing cost have occurred. Stated future UHNS projections will rely more on the LRTP 2050 growth rates, precise data from the Postal Service, and will provide a range of population levels and growth scenarios to account for uncertainty. Questions and discussion followed.

6. New Business

- a. Resolution No. 2026-07-43R:** A Resolution Approving an Increase in the Number of Liquor Licenses in the Class P Designation for Shaun & Singh Inc. d/b/a Beverage Genie, 1506 North Cunningham Avenue, Urbana, Ill. – Exec

Presented by Mayor Williams. The Resolution increases the number of Class P (Package Retailer's Off-Premises Consumption) liquor licenses for their establishment at 1506 North Cunningham Avenue. Mayor Williams stated this business is located in the building that used to house Dollar General and is a chain liquor store similar in scale to Binny's. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Wilken, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: Jones

- b. Ordinance No. 2026-07-021:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 (Miscellaneous Offenses and Provisions) of the Urbana City Code Relating to Trade in Fur Products – CM Wilken

Presented by CM Wilken. The Ordinance, drafted by constituents, amends Chapter 15 of the Urbana City Code to prohibit the sale of new fur products with exceptions for used fur products, fur products used in religious practices, fur products used by indigenous peoples and cultures, and fur products authorized by federal or state law. CM Wilken shared the Ordinance was forwarded to the City administration and City Attorney Matt Roeschley a few months ago for comment and input. Stated members of the public who developed the Ordinance confirmed there are no retail businesses within Urbana selling new fur products and the Ordinance would serve as a proactive measure to prohibit the development of a local market for new fur products. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to keep in Committee of the Whole, to return when a staff response is prepared, by CM Wilken, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: Hursey

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Ordinance No. 2024-12-042:** An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases – CM Wilken

Presented by CM Wilken. The Ordinance requires and clarifies the process for procurement and use of policing technology and databases that can be used to monitor, track, and identify specific individuals or groups. The Ordinance codifies the public approval process for specific surveillance technologies or databases; it does not dictate the use of any given technology (that would be voted on by Council). CM Wilken displayed a spreadsheet tracking proposed changes and areas of discussion. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to suspend the rules, to allow for discussion, by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Wu.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Quisenberry

NAY: Wilken

- i.** Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance apply to all City departments?

AYE: 7

NAY: 0

- ii.** Strawpoll: Shall the recommendation from the Urbana Police Department (UPD) regarding the addition of language to state the Ordinance is not intended to restrict or delay lawful, real-time law enforcement decision-making to Section 1 be added?

AYE: 6

NAY: 1

a. **Ordinance No. 2024-12-042:** An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases – CM Wilken **(Continued)**

- iii. Strawpoll: Shall the recommendation from the UPD regarding the addition of language to state City Departments may continue their use of surveillance technology while the Council approval process is pending, provided the City Department has provided all requested documents be added?
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
- iv. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance keep Section 6 as Disaster Circumstances, using the State definition of disaster (as determined by the mayor) for exemptions to surveillance oversight?
AYE: 3
NAY: 4
- v. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance accept the UPD suggestion to replace Disaster Circumstances with Exigent Circumstances under Section 6?
AYE: 4
NAY: 3
 - 1. Strawpoll: Shall the mayor determine exigent circumstances?
AYE: 7
NAY: 0
- vi. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance implement the changes to Section 7, provided by the UPD, to state Section 7 will not be interpreted in a way to prohibit or discourage the collection of evidence by law enforcement officers acting in good faith within the scope of their duties and in accordance with applicable law without the proposed Section 7, excluding the recommendation for Section 7 (c)2?
AYE: 6
NAY: 1

Motion to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes to 11 p.m. by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Wu.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

- vii. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance include the amendment proposed by the UPD, to define publicly available information as an example of Non-Surveillance Technology?
AYE: 5
NAY: 2
- viii. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance include the recommendation from the UPD to define and exempt information on Sensitive Surveillance Technology from being disclosed to prevent adverse impacts on City operations?
AYE: 5
NAY: 2

a. **Ordinance No. 2024-12-042:** An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases – CM Wilken (**Continued**)

- ix. Strawpoll: Shall the Ordinance include the amendment by CM Wu to remove the last sentence; change "...capable of..." to "...designed, intended, or primarily used to..."; and correct verbiage errors in the definition of "Surveillance Technology"?

AYE: 5

NAY: 2

- x. Strawpoll: Shall the City of Urbana's Civilian Police Review Board be involved in the review process for Surveillance Technology Use Policies, Annual Report, and Use Reports per Section 8 of the Ordinance?

AYE: 2

NAY: 5

Motion to approve to the regular agenda, as amended by the results of the strawpolls, by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Wu.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: Hursey

8. Council Input and Communications

CM Quisenberry expressed appreciation for everyone's contributions to Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 and CM Wilken's work in developing it. Stated he will vote in favor of approving the item during the upcoming City Council meeting. *CM Jones* thanked CM Wilken, City Attorney Matt Roeschley, and everyone who contributed for their work to protect the community in Urbana from rapidly changing technologies. *CM Wu* congratulated Chair Cockrell for her work in managing the complexities of tonight's meeting. Expressed appreciation for the information provided to Council from engaged community members and public input. *Chair Cockrell* thanked Council for the learning experience.

9. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Cockrell adjourned the meeting at 10:36 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable [on-demand HERE](#).

Minutes approved: 9/8/26

PUBLIC INPUT July 20, 2026 Housing Study

From Esther Patt [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/19/2026 2:54 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

 3 attachments (180 KB)

Failure to Comply 12-2016.pdf; 6-2026 Failure to Comply Report.docx; HUD 2026 AREA MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME.docx;

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

TO: Mayor Williams and Urbana City Council Members
FR: Esther Patt, Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union Director
RE: Housing Study discussion July 20, 2026

For decades, both in Urbana and nation-wide, when tenants are asked the main problems they have with housing, the most common responses are:

1. Landlord not performing needed repairs
2. Difficulty finding housing I/we can afford

In response to these two concerns, I urge you to include in the \$125,000 Housing Study you are undertaking a compilation of data the City already has and some supplemental information you can easily acquire that will inform you about the tenant experiences related to these two concerns.

In October, I will have worked or volunteered at C-U Tenant Union for 50 years. I have personally interviewed more than 100,000 people who rent in Champaign County. I believe with all my heart that if the Mayor and City Council were to see the data I am suggesting you ask your staff to compile, you will have a much greater understanding of both the Urbana rental housing market and the lives of the 2/3 of Urbana residents who are tenants.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

To understand the enforcement of property maintenance codes at rental properties, at the very least, the Housing Study should include the following data which is already available in the Community Development Department. In the last 10 years:

1. *Each year*, how many tenant requests for an inspection have been made to Building Safety Division resulting in a Notice of Violation issued to the property owner?
2. How many of these Notices of Violation each year resulted in correction of all cited violations by the deadline?
3. If not corrected on time, at how many properties were all violations corrected within 2 weeks of the deadline, within 30 days or if longer, how much time lapsed between the first deadline and final compliance?
4. How many Failure to Comply tickets were issued each year?

5. How many Failure to Comply tickets were paid by the deadline, how many were paid late and how many remain unpaid?
6. How many rental units at how many properties were declared unfit for habitation each year?

To help your understanding of the issue, I have attached two reports from City of Urbana about Failure to Comply tickets — one from December 2016 and the other June 2026.

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING

To understand “affordable housing” it is vital that you know the costs of the housing we have in Urbana. Please send to every property owner listed in your data base for the Rental Registration program **A SURVEY OF THE AMOUNTS OF RENTS THEY CURRENTLY CHARGE** that is formatted as I suggest below. I have attached a chart of data about HUD income levels so you can compare rent amounts to incomes.

If you use these questions to ask owners/managers about rent amounts, you will get far more useful information than any “average rent” or “median rent” statistic from the Census or reports from realtors or landlords who quote overall ranges.

For each housing “size” based on number of bedrooms, the lowest amount I’m suggesting you ask is an amount for which many will respond “zero.” The highest amount I listed is the **2026 HUD Fair Market Rent (FMR)** which is the maximum rent for which a household with a Housing Choice Voucher can use the voucher.

2026 FMR for Champaign County is: Efficiency: \$941; 1-bedroom unit: \$946; 2-bedroom \$1122; 3-bedroom \$1,436 and 4-bedroom \$1,486. The questions to ask are:

1. How many studio or 1 bedroom apartments (whole apartment and not 1 bedroom in a larger apartment) do you own or manage for which the base monthly rent is:
 - a. Less than \$750
 - b. \$750 - \$850
 - c. \$850 - \$950
 - d. \$950 or more
2. How many 2 bedroom rental units do you own or manage for which the base monthly rent is:
 - a. Less than \$850
 - b. \$850 - \$950
 - c. \$950 - \$1,050
 - d. \$1,050 - \$1,150
 - e. 1,150 or more
3. How many 3 bedroom rental units do you own or manage for which the base monthly rent is:
 - a. Less than \$1,050
 - b. \$1,050 - \$1,150
 - c. \$1,150 - \$1,450
 - d. 1,450 or more
4. How many 4 bedroom rental units do you own or manage for which the base monthly rent is:
 - a. Less than \$1,100
 - b. \$1,100 - \$1,300
 - c. \$1,300 - \$1,500
 - d. 1,500 or more

IMPORTANT NOTE: For your understanding of “affordable housing” please know that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) considers a household to be “**rent-burdened**” if **rent AND utilities exceed 30% of household income**. For the Moving to Work (MTW) program, HUD allowed Housing Authority of Champaign County (HACC) to establish its own rules. HACC requires all

MTW program participants to pay 30% of gross income for rent alone. But the affordability standard nation-wide is still 30% of income for rent and utilities. People living at HUD-subsidized housing that gets funding directly from HUD and not part of the MTW program use the standard that tenants' rents are 30% of household income minus a utility allowance.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my suggestions. I will be presenting this request in person at the meeting tomorrow night.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Building Safety Division

m e m o r a n d u m

TO: Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor

FROM: Elizabeth H. Tyler, FAICP, Director, Community Development Services

DATE: December 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Failure to Comply Ticket Report

This report regarding Failure to Comply Tickets is being provided to Council as indicated in Ordinance No. 2013-09-082. The attached report is for tickets issued March 1, 2015 through November 30, 2016.

	A	C	D	E	F	H	J	L	M	N	O	Q	R	S
1	Ticket #	Address	Fine Amount	Date	Date Due	Total Amount Paid	Date Paid	Late Balance Due	Date Appeal Rec'd	Appeal Hearing Date	PIN	OWNER	Owner Address	VIOLATION STATUS
2	PM 0117	1101 E. Michigan Ave	\$500	3/11/2015	3/18/2015	PROPERTY IN FORECLOSURE		up to \$750 day			92-21-16-378-001	Janet Long	1101 E Michigan Ave, Urbana, IL	Owner-Occupied Single Fam- Now vacant -Open - Property in foreclosure- 8/2016
3	PM 0118	2201 E Country Squire	\$300	3/24/2015	3/31/2015	\$450.00	5/23/2016	-			91-21-15-306-008	Core 3 Property Mgmt	1999 Wabash, Suite 208, Springfield, IL	Corrected, Paid
4	PM 0119	508 E Crystal Lake Dr	\$450	4/16/2015	4/27/2015			\$600			91-21-08-428-003	John Hawn	1410 A E. Ford Harris, Urbana, IL 61802	Corrected, Delinquency Notice sent 3/2/2016
5	PM 0120	1118 W. Hill St.	\$300	4/20/2015	4/30/2015			\$450			91-21-07-426-011	Jean Mannin	POBox 122, Savoy, IL 61874	Vacant - open - for sale
6	PM 0121	1115 W. Hill St.	\$300	4/20/2015	4/30/2015			\$450			91-21-07-427-003	Jean Mannin	POBox 122, Savoy, IL 61874	Vacant - open - for sale
7	PM0122	2201 E Country Squire	\$500	4/21/2015	4/22/2015	\$672.00	5/23/2016	-			91-21-15-306-008	HRL Properties & Management LLC	1913 N 22nd Street, Springfield, IL 62702	Corrected, Paid
8	PM0123	412 W Springfield	\$300	5/27/2015	6/6/2015	\$300.00	6/3/2015				92-21-17-130-008	Illinois Properties Series LLC	2391 Village Green Pl Ste B Champaign, IL 61822	Corrected, Paid
9	PM0124	703 E. Washington	\$300	6/8/2015	6/18/2015	\$450.00	10/24/2016	-			92-21-16-301-002	Joseph Allan	4309 Summer Field Road Champaign, IL 61822-8705	Corrected, Paid
10	PM0125	2402 Provine Circle	\$300	7/14/2015	7/24/2015	owner incarcerated property in foreclosure		see Status			93-21-20-480-010	A. Benard Coffey	7325 Oak Avenue Miller Beach, IN 46403	Open -Vacant, Letter from family unable to pay owner incarcerated - in foreclosure
11	PM0126	1104 S Webber St	\$300	8/11/2015	8/21/2015	\$450.00		-			92-21-16-302-017	Tara Lynn Stiger-Cozad	1104 S Webber Street, Urbana, IL 61801	Corrected - Paid in full
12	PM0127	208 S Hartle Unit #4	\$450	8/13/2015	8/23/2015	\$600.00	6/21/2016	-			92-21-16-129-009	Troy Deen	1012 Hollycrest Drive, Champaign, IL 61821	Corrected- vacant, Notice of Delinquent fine sent 3/2/2016
13	PM0128	1306 E Silver St	\$300	8/13/2015	8/23/2015	see Status Pmt Agt		pmt agt			93-21-21-181-020	JEC Development Ltd. C/O Mike & Kara Verchota	P.O. Box 377, Monticello, IL 61856	Violations corrected. Payment agreement entered
14	PM0129	208 S Hartle Unit #4	\$450	8/25/2015	9/4/2015	\$0.00	6/21/2016	-			92-21-16-129-009	Troy Deen	1012 Hollycrest Drive, Champaign, IL 61821	Corrected - paid
15	PM0130	VOID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Voided -Ticket issued in error
16	PM0131	1004 S Lincoln	\$300	9/4/2015	9/14/2015	\$0.00	n/a	-	9/14/2015	6/30/2016	93-21-17-302-002	Anthony Donato	P.O. Box 350177 Elmwood, IL 60707	Corrected. Appeal sustained
17	PM0132	VOID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Voided - due to error
18	PM0133	1306 E Silver St	\$500	9/28/2015	9/29/2015	see Status Pmt Agt		pmt agt			93-21-21-181-020	JEC Development Ltd. C/O Mike & Kara Verchota	P.O. Box 377, Monticello, IL 61856	Violations corrected. Payment agreement entered
19	PM0134	1104 S. Webber St	\$500	10/5/2015	10/6/2015	\$501.00		-			92-21-16-302-017	Tara Lynn Stiger-Cozad	1104 S Webber Street, Urbana, IL 61801	Corrected - Paid in full
20		2016												
21	PM0135	1007 E. Washington St.	\$450	5/6/2016	5/16/2016			\$600	5/13/2016		92-21-16-304-004	Bart Basi III	504 E. Sunnycrest Ct. East Urbana, IL 61801	Violations #1 and #2 corrected
22	PM0136	1007 E. Washington St.	\$300	6/8/2016	6/18/2016			\$450			92-21-16-304-004	Bart Basi III	504 E. Sunnycrest Ct. East Urbana, IL 61801	Open - 1 violaions
23	PM0137	403 W. Park St.	\$300	6/14/2016	6/24/2016	\$450.00	10/21/2016	\$-			91-21-08-328-006	Gilbert Donut LLC	404 W. University Ave. Urbana, IL 61801	Violations Corrected
24	PM0138	707 E. Green St.	\$450	6/29/2016	7/11/2016	\$450.00	7/11/2016	\$-			92-21-16-109-018	Nadya Shirokova	525 Matadero Ave., Apt 4 Palo Alto, CA 94306	Violations #1 and #2 corrected
25	PM0139	1007 E. Washington St.	\$300	7/12/2016	7/22/2016			\$450			92-21-16-304-004	Bart Basi III	504 E. Sunnycrest Ct. East Urbana, IL 61801	Open - 7 violaions
26	PM0140	VOID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Voided - due to error
27	PM0141	403 W. Park St.	\$500	7/22/2016	8/1/2016	\$835.00	10/21/2016	-			91-21-08-328-006	Gilbert Donut LLC	404 W. University Ave. Urbana, IL 61801	Violations Corrected
28	PM0142	1306 E Silver St	\$300	8/23/2016	9/2/2016	see Status Pmt Agt		payment agreement			93-21-21-181-020	JEC Development Ltd. C/O Mike & Kara Verchota	P.O. Box 377 Monticello, IL 61856	Violations corrected. Payment agreement entered
29	PM0143	707 S. Broadway	\$300	9/29/2016	10/10/2016	\$300.00	10/7/2016	-			92-21-17-261-022	AJH Management LLC	505 S. Fifth St. Champaign, IL 61820	Violations Corrected
30	PM0144	1002 E. Florida Ave.	\$300	10/24/2016	11/3/2016	\$450.00		\$450			92-21-16-354-015	JEC Development Ltd. C/O Mike & Kara Verchota	P.O. Box 377 Monticello, IL 61856	Open - 3 Violations
31	PM0145	1726 E. Florida Ave., Unit B	\$450	11/7/2016	11/17/2016			600.00 on Nov. 17			92-21-16-461-015	Michelle McGougan	1609 Park Haven Dr. Champaign, IL 61820	Open - 2 Violations
32	PM0146	1726 E. Florida Ave., Unit B	\$750	11/15/2016	11/28/2016			Up to \$750 per day			92-21-16-461-015	Michelle McGougan	1609 Park Haven Dr. Champaign, IL 61820	Open - 2 Violations
34	TOTALS	3/2015- present	\$10,450			\$ 5,908.00		\$4,050+						

This data was provided by the Community Development Department on June 26, 2026 in response to a FOIA request for all Failure to Comply Ticket Reports for 2023 to the present. What was provided appears to be a list of the 13 of the 47 Failure to Comply Tickets issued from January 2023 to June 2026 that remain unpaid. By ordinance, \$300 is the initial fine for failure to correct all violations by the deadline listed in a Notice of Violation of property maintenance code. The 2013 city ordinance added a \$150 late fee if not paid by the due date.

“Open violations” means the inspected property is still not up to code.

Ticket	Address	Fine	Date Due	Additional Fine	Unpaid Balance 6/26/2026	Owner	Open Violations
272	905 N Harvey	\$300	8/08/2023	\$150	\$450	Phillip Thadison in 2023; sold 2025	4
285	2017 Philo Rd #6	\$450	2/14/2024	\$150	\$600	SBRM GROUP, LLC	22
291	2018 Fletcher #6	\$300	3/14/2024	\$300	\$600	SBRM GROUP, LLC	12
297	2017 Philo Rd	\$450	5/13/2024	0	\$450	SBRM GROUP, LLC	0
298	2018 Fletcher	\$450	5/13/2024		\$450	SBRM GROUP, LLC	0
302	2017 Philo #7	\$300	5/14/2024		\$300	SBRM GROUP, LLC	4
307	2018 Fletcher #14	\$300	8/29/2024		\$300	SBRM GROUP, LLC	8
309	403 E Washington	\$300	8/30/2024		\$300	Latif Kahn	0
311	1901 E Weaver	\$300	9/10/2024		\$300	Tracy Kent	0
312	706 S Wabash	\$300	9/19/2024		\$300	August Bertram	1
317	1401 E Silver #10	\$450	10/10/2024		\$450	SBRM GROUP, LLC	5
318	1305 E Silver	\$300	1/24/2025		\$300	Havenstone, LLC	5
319	707 W Elm	\$300	6/29/2026		\$300	Aduke, LLC	2
Totals		\$4,500			\$5,100		

HUD 2026 AREA MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME (AMFI)
ANNUAL INCOME LIMITS APPLIED FOR HOUSING PROGRAMS IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

Family Size	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons
Median Income	77,700	88,800	99,900	\$110,900	128,700	137,600
80% AMFI "Low income"	62,160	71,040	79,920	88,720	102,960	110,080
60% AMFI	46,620	53,200	59,940	66,540	77,220	84,560
50% AMFI "Very low"	38,850	44,400	49,950	55,450	64,350	68,800
30% AMFI "Extremely low"	23,310	26,600	29,970	33,270	38,610	41,280

Compare these HUD definitions of low income to:

	1 person	2 person	3 person	4 person	5 person	6 person
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	\$11,928	\$17,892				
Poverty Level	\$15,960	\$21,640	\$27,320	\$33,000	\$38,680	44,360
IL Minimum Wage 40 hours weekly for <i>single head of household*</i>	\$31,200 40% AMFI	\$31,200 35% AMFI	\$31,200 31% AMFI	\$31,200 28% AMFI	\$31,200 24% AMFI	\$31,200 22.5% AMFI

*If single head of household is only wage-earner, income does NOT increase with family size.

HUD UTILITY ALLOWANCE: By HUD standards, tenants are rent burdened if they spend more than 30% of their gross income on rent PLUS utilities. HACC's Moving to Work program is allowed to set the more expensive standard of 30% of income for rent only.

These are HUD's estimates of utility allowances that public housing authorities are allowed to adjust for their area to determine the amount of rent that a Section 8 household pays themselves. **Add the utility allowance to the base apartment rent, divide by .30 and the result will be the amount of income a household would need to afford that apartment.**

Studio/Eff. \$100
1-bedroom \$110
2-bedroom \$165
3-bedroom \$205
4-bedroom \$240

PUBLIC INPUT July 20, 2026: support surveillance oversight ordinance

From Sharon Irish [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/19/2026 4:00 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Please read this comment into the public record.

Dear hard-working city council members,
Thanks to a lot of hard work over the last two years (thank you Grace Wilken especially!), you now have the opportunity to vote in favor of the Surveillance Oversight Ordinance. This ordinance allows us as residents to learn about and comment on possible purchase or leasing of new surveillance technologies that are being considered for implementation. I continue to be concerned about the use and storage of data collected with these technologies. Given the rapid shifts in information technology and the use of third party vendors, we need to move deliberately to monitor, approve and/or pause the adoption of surveillance technology because of crucial trust issues. How and for how long is the data stored securely? With whom is it shared? We the residents need the 30 day window to evaluate and weigh in on these steps. Third party technology companies do not necessarily have our best interests in mind and we need to ensure their recognition of and compliance with our privacy and safety concerns. We need to ensure commonsense deployment of new technologies, which could also serve as a model for other communities.

Thank you,
Sharon Irish
Urbana, IL



Outlook

PUBLIC INPUT 07/20/2026

From Carol Spindel [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/19/2026 6:43 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

 1 attachment (164 KB)
Surveillance Ordinance Letter July 2026.pdf;

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***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Attached is the letter from ACLU of Champaign County in support of the Surveillance Oversight Ordinance.

Thank you,
Carol Spindel

Carol Spindel
Director of Communications
she/her
ACLU of Champaign County
aclu-cu.org



Dear Mayor Williams and Members of the City Council,

We, the American Civil Liberties Union of Champaign County, write to commend the Council for its work on the ordinance requiring City Council approval for police surveillance technology. We strongly support passage of the ordinance. Our ACLU chapter is a community organization representing approximately twelve hundred households in Champaign County, a great many of whom live in Urbana. We work with ACLU Illinois to protect civil rights and civil liberties in Champaign County.

The ACLU maintains that legally enforceable safeguards, including robust transparency, oversight, and accountability measures must be in place to protect civil rights and civil liberties before any surveillance technology is deployed.

The decision regarding if and how police technologies should be funded, acquired, or used, and whether data from such technologies should be shared, should not be made until meaningful public input has been solicited and given significant weight. The ordinance under discussion ensures that Urbana residents will have that opportunity.

If a police technology is approved, data reporting measures must be adopted that empower the Council and public to verify that mandated civil rights and civil liberties safeguards have been strictly adhered to. This is critically important because while police technology may threaten the privacy of all of us, surveillance efforts have been used throughout history to intimidate and oppress certain communities and groups more than others, including those that are defined by a common race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, income level, sexual orientation, or political perspective.

Therefore, ACLU Champaign County strongly urges the Urbana City Council to pass this resolution.

Sincerely,

The Steering Committee of the ACLU of Champaign County

Jane McClintock, President

Questions: Carol Spindel, Director of Communications

aclu-cu.org

STRONGLY SUPPORT passage of Surveillance Oversight Ordinance

From Joycelyn Landrum-Brown [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/19/2026 9:04 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanaIL.gov>

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Dear Urbana City Council,

I am a homeowner in Urbana since 1999. I am concerned about state-sponsored surveillance in our city, state and nation.

While I believe that the current police administration would be careful to not abuse these technologies, as we all know administrations change, sometimes for the worse.

Given the civil rights abuses at the federal government level and the data banks maintained by Palantir and other corporate entities, I DO NOT TRUST that the Federal state-sanctioned paramilitary forces (ICE, CBP) will protect the civil liberties of marginalized groups in our community. Thankfully we have not had any murders of innocent citizens in our community based on the use of these technologies.

In this regard, citizens should expect that the city council provides oversight so that we have transparency into the funding, acquisition, storage and use of our private data.

All evidence in the news points to a move at the federal level to create an authoritarian, white, Christian nationalist ethno-state. We should not "obey in advance" as Professor Timothy Snyder writes in his book On Tyranny. Why should we make it easier for them to access our private data?

Thank you in advance,
Dr. Joycelyn Landrum-Brown
Urbana Resident

[REDACTED], Urbana, IL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PUBLIC INPUT

From Lara Jobe [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 2:28 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Hello - I am a long time Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.**

Thank you for helping ensure that Urbana remains committed to transparency, accountability, and protecting the rights and privacy of everyone in our community.

-Lara Orr

PUBLIC INPUT

From Christine Janak [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 2:56 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

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***** Email From An External Source *****

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*Hello - I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.***

Thank you,

Christine Janak (she/her)

[REDACTED]

Public Input

From Cindy Dodds [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 2:59 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon,

I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. Please vote YES.

Sincerely

Cindy Dodds

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

PUBLIC INPUT - Surveillance Oversight

From Jennifer Henshaw [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 3:36 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

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Hello,

I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.**

Jennifer Henshaw

Surveillance Oversight Ordinance

From Paul Prior [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/20/2026 1:51 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanaIL.gov>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

*** Email From An External Source ***

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Urbana City Council Members,

As someone who regularly shops in, drives in, and attends community events in Urbana, I write to strongly support the Surveillance Oversight Ordinance the Urbana City Council is considering.

Surveillance technologies promoted by private companies and integrated into various national surveillance systems have been documented to risk a wide-range of abuses (from individual misuse to systematic invasions of privacy and dangerous sharing of information). Individual privacy and community safety are both at risk from such abuses. The Surveillance Oversight Ordinance is a minimal step in addressing these risks.

Please enter my comment into the public record.

Sincerely,

Paul Prior
Champaign, IL

Public Input

From Julia Glahn [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 3:58 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.**

Julia Glahn

PUBLIC INPUT

From [REDACTED]
Date Wed 7/22/2026 5:39 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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*Hello - I have been an Urbana resident since 2010, living in East Urbana. I am fearful that poorly planned and implemented surveillance is a real threat to citizens' privacy rights. Today, we are hearing constantly about Big Brothers in Washington, DC demanding or sueing states and municipalities for this data or that. To make sure Urbana residents are informed and the city maintains transparency, I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.***

PUBLIC INPUT

From Valeri Maria Mora Ramirez. [REDACTED]
Date Thu 7/23/2026 9:19 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

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***** Email From An External Source *****

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*Hello - I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.***

Valeri Mora
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Public Input

From Matt Murrey [REDACTED]
Date Thu 7/23/2026 9:28 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello City Council,

My name is Matthew Murrey and I have lived in Urbana since 1992. I am writing to urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council.

I believe that all decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. Please vote YES.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this matter.

Matthew Murrey

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Public Input

From [REDACTED]
Date Fri 7/24/2026 3:23 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

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*Hello - I am an Urbana resident and I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. Decisions about government surveillance should be transparent and include public input. This ordinance will help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly, with clear policies and accountability measures that protect both public safety and civil liberties. **Please vote YES.***

PUBLIC INPUT - July 27, 2026 - Ordinance No. 2024-12-042

From Brian Redding [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/26/2026 2:46 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

*** Email From An External Source ***

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Hello,

I am an Urbana resident concerned with the growing number of automated license plate readers and other surveillance technologies going up throughout our community with little to no oversight while reading about lots of abuse in other communities. I urge you to support the proposed surveillance oversight ordinance when it is considered by the Urbana City Council. If we need this type of surveillance at all is up for discussion but since we have it today, the city should be transparent about how it is using these systems and include public input. The ordinance should help ensure that new surveillance technologies are evaluated publicly and accurately with clear policies and accountability measure that protect both the public safety, civil liberties and the tax payer burdens. Please vote YES on this ordinance.

Thank you,

Brian Redding

Urbana resident PUBLIC INPUT July 27, 2026

From Ann-Marie Shapiro [REDACTED]
Date Sun 7/26/2026 11:25 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanaIL.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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My comment on the surveillance ordinance on the agenda. Definitely longer than 5 minutes.

I have two homes in Urbana and first lived in the City in 1985. The issue of technology/ AI being used to transform the relationship between the government and we the people is the most important issue of our times. There is a great deal of information available about this from researchers/ experts such as Whitney Webb, Jon Padfield, Iain Davis and Catherine Austin Fitts (as well as numerous other sources of course).

I want to share what I have learned about a recent Supreme Court ruling (Chatrrie) that was written on June 29, 2026. The Court confirmed that mass-collected and stored location data that was acquired through a police warrant was indeed a protected 4th Amendment search. An individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy with regard to the location data collected by their cell phone. The Court stated that the basic purpose of the 4th Amendment is "to safeguard the privacy and security of individuals against arbitrary invasions by governmental officials" and "to place obstacles in the way of a too permeating police surveillance". An earlier ruling (Carpenter) established that location data from a cell phone (even if not very specific) "provides an intimate window into a person's life" and that "individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy in the whole of their physical movements". In terms of anything related to cell phone data, the Court has taken the perspective that people "compulsively carry" their phones "all the time" and that phones are necessary for participation in modern life.

A new aspect that was determined with Chatrrie is the determination that if the 4th amendment applies to a search, then it applies regardless of the quality or quantity of information obtained by that search. So when police requested an hour of data, rather than a month of data, the Court found that the relatively short time interval did not invalidate the application of the 4th Amendment- it still applied. "Even short-term monitoring" can provide "a wealth of detail about a person's familial, political, professional, religious and sexual associations". In the search of a private home, even glancing into the entryway, and viewing a carpet is considered a protected search.

This is what makes this the United States, and not any number of other nations in the world.

The Court also rejected the government's position that gathering cell phone data from Google precludes the 4th Amendment under the "third party doctrine". This was ruled in both Carpenter and Chatrrie. **A third party search IS a government search** as soon as the government views the data.

Lastly and perhaps most importantly, the Court determined that it is bound to preserve the degree of privacy and security that the Framers would have expected at the time that the 4th Amendment was adopted.

My words: Our Constitution is not diluted just because invasive technology was invented. In fact, it is more important than ever. Our country was founded on a revolution that was fought to give us these Constitutional rights and I insist that the Urbana Police, now and forever, defer to them, and honor their oaths of office.

To go even further, I encourage the City Council to adopt additional, more specific ordinances, to guide the Police (and any other government officials) to stay within the boundaries of the Constitution. For example, it seems pretty important that before anyone view personal location data, or other sensitive information about an individual citizen, they get a warrant from a competent, appropriate and objective judge. That might need to be coded into an ordinance, given the frequent and flagrant abuse of Flock camera data by police in general across the country. Another step to consider is to send a notice to everyone who is searched within a specified timeframe, possibly within 30 days, so the public is aware of the search. This would match the fact that if police come to a private home with a warrant, the citizen is aware that a search is happening and that there was, indeed, a search warrant. New technology should not eliminate that **transparency**. Third, the State of New Hampshire offers a Constitutional solution to the very problematic Flock data. Departments are allowed to use Flock, but the data must be purged permanently after 3 minutes. The Institute of Justice, who is prosecuting two cities right now in Federal Courts in San Jose CA and Norfolk, VA, for Flock camera data violations, has stated that it would consider a 3- minute data retention period of Flock data to be Constitutional.

My comments on the police red font edit suggestions:

- Section 4(b)(iii): I don't see any time frame specified, yet there is a reference to "the specified timeframe". By eliminating the required Use Policy and Use Report, that suggested paragraph just becomes a loophole to avoid the original intention this ordinance. The elimination of the Use Policy and Use Report within a tight deadline certainly suggests a lack of transparency.
- Section 7(c)2. I ask the Council to strike that and reject it completely. It is another loophole.
- Amendment A Definitions. Reject the language of "Exigent Circumstances". This language, if adopted, would sabotage the entire intent of the ordinance. If the definition of Disaster Circumstances is complete enough for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, then I think it would be sufficient to provide guidance for emergency use of technologies that didn't even exist ten years ago.

This ordinance, in my understanding, is to govern the use of **new** surveillance technologies, not databases and computer software interfaces that have been used by police ever since computer databases became available for cross-departmental communication and coordination. These are new technologies that police have not depended on for a long period of time. I urge you to reject hysterical language from the police claiming that they cannot do their jobs without this surveillance technology. If the ordinance is too broad and is not focused on new sensors and new algorithmic processing, then I would favor a tightening of language, so that traditional police work is not hampered, yet this panopticon surveillance tech is tightly leashed and constrained. It shouldn't be difficult for elected officials to draw that line and do a good job of it. In fact, in my mind, you have nothing more important to do than to succeed in that process. There is no danger in controlling brand new tools that are mostly unproven. Sadly, the information, news stories and court cases coming out of this new tech indicates that the tech itself is the danger, not a tool for social functionality. That growing body of bad news, along with the strong landmark SCOTUS case from Chatrie, strongly suggests that the City take a careful, cautious and tightly controlled approach to a brave new world that probably poses a lot of legal landmines for the City (for any city!) if Constitutional oaths are violated.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann-Marie Shapiro

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Public input- July 27, 2026 (to be read aloud)

From Ilir Sulejmani [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 5:21 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

***** Email From An External Source *****

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To the Urbana City Council,

My name is Ilir Sulejmani. I have been a part of the Urbana community for over 18 years. I am speaking today in support of the ordinance to ban fur in Urbana.

Fur can only be obtained from slaughtering animals. This is inherently violent, but the actual practices of the fur industry are especially brutal. The fur industry operates in one of two ways. Most of the time, animals are bred on farms and confined to small, filthy cages where they stir in distress and panic until they are anally electrocuted and skinned, sometimes while they are still alive. Other times, they are trapped in the wild, where the contraptions dig into their limbs and restrain them until trappers return to bash their skulls or shoot them dead. All this injury, distress, suffering, and death is inflicted just for clothing items that could be made with other materials. It is needless violence.

The fur industry also devastates the environment. Fur farms and other intensive animal farming operations are one of the leading causes of the climate crisis, according to a meta-analysis published by the scientific journal *Frontiers in Animal Science*. The authors advised that the sector be prohibited entirely, since the effect was “inherent.” Trapping wild animals for their fur incurs other, equally damaging forms of environmental harm, including the near collapse of environmental engineer species like the North American beaver. Disturbing ecosystems in this way enhances the damage of climate change.

Lastly, fur farms create and rapidly spread zoonotic pandemics like COVID-19, as confirmed in the leading scientific journal *Nature*. COVID brought suffering and death to our community. We must prevent future pandemics by any means we have. This includes no longer enabling the industries that cause them.

The fur lobby claims that fur bans damage small businesses. This is incorrect. California banned fur sales in 2019. The fur shops that were there before the ban went into effect are still thriving. They have converted into fur storage, maintenance, and cleaning shops.

When we allow the sale of fur products in this city, we allow more funding and support to go to violent, unsustainable practices. The Urbana community wants a city that lives up to its values and shuts the door to animal-abusing industries like fur. The state of California has already banned fur entirely, and 25

countries have banned fur farming. It's time for us to join the right side of history. Please help us make Urbana a more humane, sustainable, and sanitary place. Support the fur ban ordinance.

Thank you!

PUBLIC INPUT 07/27/2026 Committee of the Whole Rescheduled Meeting

From [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 6:57 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Dear City of Urbana Government,

I am an Urbana resident, and I write on the matter of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042, which tries to strengthen police surveillance ordinance.

I urge you to vote yes to pass v8.2 of the ordinance.

Below are some of my thoughts on the current version of the ordinance as well as the proposals, I believe made by Urbana Police Department, that start on page 32 of the Agenda Packet for the 07/27/2026 meeting.

Thoughts on v8.2

- Section 5(c), "The City shall not enter into any contract or other agreement that facilitates the sharing of surveillance data in the City's possession with any non-governmental entity or third party in exchange for money or other considerations..." The term "other consideration" is vague here. Does it preclude the free sharing of data to other entities, in which no exchange back is received? If not, then it would not prohibit the free gift of policing data to fusion centers or government agencies.

I believe there are a few proposals on the table for the ordinance.

- Proposed sections 7(c).2, 7(e) would significantly weaken one of the stated purposes in Section 1, namely: "... to protect privacy, civil rights, and racial and immigrant justice."
- Attachment A, Definitions of Use Report, Use Policy, and Annual Report, specifically proposed clauses wishing to exempt SSTI (sensitive surveillance technology information) from all three documentations. The proposed definition 4f in attachment A of SSTI leaves ambiguous who is to classify what is SSTI and what is not. If the police department gets to, then this would render the ordinance's ability at "providing transparency, oversight, and accountability" to zero, for then there is no third party oversight checking this sensitive surveillance technology. At that point, why even have all this fanfare of an ordinance? If this proposal were to go through (which I hope does not), I implore you to add oversight to this definition or remove these clauses all together. There must be some external party that has elevated access to sensitive information, whether it be the city council or the CPRB or some subgroup thereof, who reviews this SSTI, and such that the party does not release the information publicly (as the other documentations are).

Sincerely,

Concerned citizen

Public Input (07/27/25)

From [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 9:29 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

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***** Email From An External Source *****

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Please read out loud in the meeting

Dear City Council:

I'm writing to urge you to please vote Yes to pass the bill to ban the sale of new fur products in Urbana.

The world is progressing away from fur: Several fashion weeks such as London, Melbourne, and Copenhagen have banned fur - including Chicago. 22 EU Countries have banned fur farming - Norway and Sweden just this year already. 16 US cities have banned fur sales. There's a federal mink farm ban sitting with the senate. 1600 brands are fur free with Marc Jacobs Max Mara and Neiman Marcus have enacted fur-free policies due to public outcry.

Here are just a few more but very pressing reasons to support this humane measure:

- *Animals who are slaughtered for their fur endure tremendous suffering; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtNXaYk12e4>
- *Animals raised on fur farms typically spend their entire lives in cramped and filthy cages;
- *Fur farmers typically use the cheapest killing methods available, including suffocation, electrocution, gas, and poison;
- *Fur farms are reservoirs and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic diseases, including SARS coronaviruses, that threaten public health, including in the City;
- *COVID-19 infections have been confirmed at fur farms in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies have linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes - the animals most commonly farmed for their fur - to a variety of coronaviruses;
- *The fur production process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental impact, including air and water pollution;
- *Runoff from the fur production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common forms of water pollution in the United States;

I truly hope you will support this compassionate and common-sense measure to pass this bill soon!

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, and I look forward to seeing Urbana become a leader in animal welfare.

PUBLIC INPUT for 07/27/2026 Meeting

From Bryan Maxwell [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 9:34 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Good morning - I'm writing to share support for passing the surveillance ordinance being considered at tonight's meeting, and appreciate the City Council for taking up this issue. As surveillance technologies get more and more invasive and advanced, it's important to have oversight of them.

US citizens shouldn't be subject to mass surveillance that violates their constitutional rights. There have been a number of cases in the news in the last year of surveillance data being shared with federal law enforcement (even without the city's knowledge), and police officers using these technologies to stalk ex-girlfriends or members of the public not associated with any crime. There should be common-sense oversight of their use in the community to maintain trust between the public and UPD.

Thank you for moving this ordinance forward,
Bryan Maxwell
Ward 2, East Urbana

Public Comment To Be Read Aloud Into The Record - City Council Meeting - In Support of Fur Ban Ordinance (No. 2026-07-021)

From SN [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 10:56 AM
To City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanallL.gov>; City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanallL.gov>

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Mayor Williams and Members of the Urbana City Council,

My name is Sarah Nixon, and I am a worker and taxpayer in Urbana.

I am writing to urge the City Council to vote in favor of Ordinance No. 2026-07-021 to ban the commercial retail sale of new fur products in our city.

While Urbana may not have a dedicated luxury furrier, passing this ordinance is a vital step in aligning our local laws with our community's exemplary ethical values.

Because the commercial fur industry hides its practices from consumers behind curtains of luxury branding and polished storefronts, it is easy to look away from the reality. But we **must** confront exactly what it trades in: immense, unnecessary suffering, and systemic, barbaric torture.

The truth is that animals on factory fur farms spend their entire lives confined to cramped, filthy feces-encrusted wire cages, driven to self-mutilation and insanity by confinement, pacing endlessly out of distress.

When it comes time to harvest their coats, they are not granted a peaceful death.

To "preserve the pelt," they are brutally suffocated in gas chambers, or painfully electrocuted through their rectums. They die writhing in agony, so that their skins remain unmarred for consumer vanity.

Whether this happens in a mass-production facility or on a smaller scale, the moral reality is identical. We are talking about extreme cruelty for fashion. We are talking about helpless sentient beings who feel terror and pain, whose tortured lives are violently stripped away just to become an accessory or decorative trim on a jacket collar or a pom-pom on a beanie.

The animals trapped in this industry have no voice, no legal rights, and no escape. Their **only** hope rests on the conscience of leaders like you to step in.

True social and animal welfare means recognizing that an animal's life is worth more than a vanity product, regardless of the size of the operation.

We do not need new fur items to stay warm or fashionable in 2026; beautiful, high-quality, alternatives are widely available.

Urbana has a proud history of progress and empathy, and passing this ordinance is a vital chance to extend that protection to the most vulnerable.

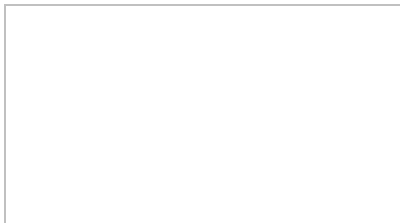
In doing so, we join a growing global and statewide movement to declare that cruelty has no place in our economy.

Thank you for your conscience, and your service to our community.

Sarah Nixon

Sarah Nixon

FAMILY COURT REFORM ADVOCATE



PUBLIC INPUT

From Grace Giorgio [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 1:45 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@UrbanallL.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Greetings,

I just came to my attention that the city counsel is considering a proposal to ban the selling of new fur products in Urbana. As an animal advocate and lover, I strongly support this measure (I understand it has exemption for religious and tribal purposes). Passage of this proposal will reflect the ethical and humane values the city purports to embody. I wish I could attend the meeting but it conflicts with another obligation I have this evening.

Thank you,

Grace Giorgio
[REDACTED]

Urbana, IL

--

There are a thousand reasons to live this life--
every one of them sufficient.

J. Amos, Gilead,
M. Robinson



Outlook

To be read aloud

From Irene Sewell [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 2:00 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

*** Email From An External Source ***

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good evening. Please approve a ban on all fur sales in Urbana. The fur industry is incredibly cruel. It is barbaric and outdated. No one needs to wear an animal's fur to be warm. It is extreme violence inflicted on other living beings. It's just wrong and Urbana is better than this. Thank you for your compassion.

Irene Sewell

Sent from my iPhone

Public Input

From Tami Dollase [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 2:26 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hello,

I'm writing to request that you ban the sale of all fur products in Urbana. & I request you read the glowing aloud at your meeting:

The global fur industry causes severe, systemic physical and psychological suffering to roughly 100 million animals killed annually. Approximately 85% of the world's fur is harvested from animals raised in intensive confinement on industrial factory farms. Because the industry prioritizes preserving pelt quality over animal welfare, the housing, handling, and slaughter practices are optimized for cost and skin preservation rather than minimizing pain.

Extreme Confinement and Housing Conditions

Wild, wide-roaming, and often solitary species—including minks, foxes, chinchillas, and raccoon dogs—are confined for their entire short lives in barren, wire-mesh battery cages.

- **Severe restriction:** Cages typically measure about one square meter, completely blocking natural movement.
- **No natural behaviors:** Minks are denied water for swimming, foxes cannot dig, and chinchillas are deprived of sand baths.
- **Injurious flooring:** Constant standing on unyielding wire mesh cuts into sensitive paw pads, causing bent feet, sores, and lameness.
- **Filthy environments:** Waste collects directly beneath the open-wire floors, exposing animals to highly concentrated, acrid ammonia fumes.

Psychological Trauma and Abnormal Behaviors

The combination of cramped conditions, lack of environmental enrichment, and proximity to other animals induces chronic stress and severe mental degradation. [1, 2]

- **Stereotypic behaviors:** Stressed animals engage in continuous, repetitive pacing, head-bobbing, circling, and rocking. [1, 2, 3]
- **Self-mutilation:** Extreme boredom and anxiety lead animals to chew on their own tails, skin, and limbs, leading to exposed bone and infected wounds. [1, 2]

- **Cannibalism and aggression:** Overcrowded, competitive conditions cause frequent fighting, limb-biting, infanticide, and the cannibalization of dead cage mates.
- **Overbreeding physical deformities:** Some facilities selectively breed hyper-obese "monster foxes" with massive folds of fat to maximize skin size, rendering them unable to move normally.

Inhumane Slaughter Methods

Because commercial producers must keep the external fur pelts completely intact, standard humane slaughter regulations—which protect livestock—either do not apply or are completely bypassed on fur farms.

- - **Anal and genital electrocution:** Commonly used on foxes and raccoon dogs, operators attach clamps to the mouth and anus to send a fatal shock through the body, causing cardiac arrest while the animal is frequently fully conscious.
 - **Gassing:** Minks are frequently packed into boxes and exposed to carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide. Because minks are semi-aquatic dive-adapted animals, they can hold their breath, making the suffocation process painfully prolonged.
 - **Bludgeoning and neck-breaking:** Rabbits and other smaller animals are frequently killed via crude blunt-force trauma to the skull or manual cervical dislocation.
 - **Skinning alive:** Investigations by groups like [Humane World for Animals](#) have documented instances where poorly executed stunning or cheap slaughter methods result in animals waking up or being skinned while still fully conscious.

Secondary Harms: Trapping and Public Health

Beyond factory farming, the fur trade perpetuates significant environmental and societal risks.

- - **Wild trapping brutality:** Millions of wild coyotes, beavers, and lynxes are caught using steel-jaw leghold traps or body-crushing snares. Trapped wild animals endure agonizing blood loss, dehydration, and predator attacks for days, occasionally chewing off their own limbs to escape.
 - **Zoonotic disease reservoirs:** The high-density, high-stress conditions of fur farms act as ideal vectors for dangerous viral mutations. Hundreds of mink and fox farms have suffered massive outbreaks of zoonotic viruses like COVID-19 and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1).
 - **Toxic chemical processing:** Raw animal pelts naturally decompose; keeping them stable for garments requires intensive processing with heavy, toxic chemicals that permanently alter the skin.

Global Policy and Corporate Shifts

Growing public and scientific condemnation of this systemic cruelty has triggered a steep decline in the fur market. Organizations such as the [Fur Free Alliance](#) actively track legislative progress. Dozens of nations—including the United Kingdom, Norway, Austria, Croatia, and Italy—have implemented total bans on fur farming. Concurrently, prominent major fashion retailers like Gucci, Prada, Chanel, and Armani have permanently eliminated animal fur from their collections, shifting industry standards toward synthetic and plant-based textile innovations.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue,

Tami

Tami Dollase

E [REDACTED]

PUBLIC INPUT, 7/27/26, Support for Ordinance No. 2026-07-021

From Haley Stewart [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 4:23 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>
Cc Marc Ayers [REDACTED]

 1 attachment (159 KB)
HWA_Support_fur ordinance_07.26.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good evening,

I am submitting the attached comments in support of Ordinance No. 2026-07-021. Please include these written comments in the record of Public Input. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Haley

Haley Stewart

Senior Program Manager, Wildlife Protection

P [REDACTED]

humaneworld.org



Together, we tackle the root causes of animal cruelty to create permanent change. Stay up to date with our work to help animals and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [YouTube](#) and subscribe to our [blog](#).



Formerly called the Humane
Society of the United States

July 27, 2026

Stephanie Cockrell, Chair
Urbana City Council
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801

RE: Support for Ordinance No. 2026-07-021, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 (Miscellaneous Offenses and Provisions) of the Urbana City Code Relating to Trade in Fur Products

Dear Mayor Williams, Chair Cockrell and Members of the Urbana City Council,

On behalf of Humane World for Animals (formerly called Humane Society of the United States), I am writing in strong support for Ordinance No. 2026-07-021, regulating the sale of certain fur products. This is a commonsense ordinance that ends Urbana's support for an incredibly harmful industry and I urge your support of its passage.

Ordinance No. 2026-07-021 prohibits the sale of new fur products, including clothing, accessories and home décor. It includes sensible exemptions, such as the sale of used fur products as well as those used for religious purposes. It does not apply to products from domesticated species typically raised for food production, such as cowhide, shearling, and wool. Products made with animal hair (not hair attached to skin) —such as felt hats, paint brushes, fishing lures and eyelash extensions—are outside the definition of “fur product” and are similarly not prohibited by this ordinance.

Ending the sale of new fur products will ensure Urbana no longer supports the global fur farming industry. Nearly all new fur products sold in the U.S. come from mink and other fur-bearing wildlife held captive in overseas fur factory farms. Annually, tens of millions of foxes, mink and raccoon dogs are killed in fur farms where they spend their entire lives in cramped, wire-floored cages, deprived of the ability to engage in natural behaviors like swimming, digging, and running. The European Union's Food Safety Authority recently published an extensive scientific opinion on animal welfare in the fur farming industry. It concluded that it is not possible to ensure basic animal welfare or mitigate the serious welfare concerns in the cage-based systems on fur farms, finding systemic suffering across all species.ⁱ

Since animals held in fur farms are not raised for consumption, the industry is typically not subject to animal welfare or humane slaughter laws, either in the U.S. or overseas. Most fur products come from China, where investigations have documented animals being skinned alive while conscious.ⁱⁱ Even in the U.S., where the fur industry is relatively small,ⁱⁱⁱ there are *no* federal regulations ensuring animal welfare or humane slaughter on fur farms. The living conditions on these farms often drive animals to self-mutilate, pace obsessively, and display other clear signs of distress and suffering.^{iv}

Investigations around the world, including a recent rescue of hundreds of animals from an Ohio fur farm,^v have revealed horrific conditions and neglect—animals found with open and infected wounds, others left dead and decaying in cages beside living animals, and even instances of cannibalism. Fur-farmed animals are killed using brutal methods designed to preserve pelts and keep costs low. Industry-approved methods, such as electrocution, bludgeoning and gassing without prior sedation, fall far short of humane euthanasia standards.^{vi} The use of carbon monoxide gas to kill mink is especially cruel, as these semi-aquatic animals can hold their breath for long periods, prolonging their suffering.^{vii}

Ending the sale of new fur products also benefits public health. The tanning and dyeing of fur require toxic, carcinogenic chemicals such as formaldehyde to prevent the skins from decaying.^{viii} The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has previously fined six fur processing plants for causing high levels of pollution and for using solvents in fur dressing that “may cause respiratory problems, and are listed as possible carcinogens.”^{ix} These

chemicals can leach into waterways, posing a broad risk to public health. In fact, fur products can contain such high levels of toxic substances and carcinogenic chemicals that, in 2016, the Italian Ministry of Health ordered the withdrawal of certain children's fur clothing from the market after they exceeded safety standards and were deemed "dangerous products."^x

Confining wild animals in close, unsanitary quarters with no infectious disease monitoring also poses a serious biosecurity threat. Mink on hundreds of fur factory farms in 12 countries across Europe and North America—including four U.S. states—have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. Mink fur farms act as mutation hubs, allowing the virus to mutate and spread to humans. Wild mink near these farms have also been infected with the same variant found in farmed mink. Farmed foxes and raccoon dogs have also contracted SARS coronavirus, capable of transmission to wild populations. In wildlife markets in China, both foxes and raccoon dogs have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.

Fur-farmed mink, foxes, and raccoon dogs have also tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), raising similar concerns about the potential transmission to humans.^{xi} Within fur farms, disease can spread through novel mammal-to-mammal transmission. Researchers have characterized fur farms as "the perfect petri dish for a future pandemic" in reference to HPAI.^{xii} In Finland, the public health threat of HPAI has led to the culling of hundreds of thousands of fur-farmed animals. HPAI is now spreading throughout U.S. commercial poultry and dairy cow populations, warranting increasing concern about its potential presence in U.S. fur farms.

Ending the sale of new fur products is also beneficial for the environment. Per kilogram, the fur industry has the largest negative environmental impact of any material used in fashion, measured in greenhouse gas emissions, waste runoff, and toxicity.^{xiii} The water consumption for fur production is extraordinarily high —104 times greater than for acrylic, 91 times greater than polyester, and five times greater than cotton. The climate change impact of mink fur is at least six times greater than that of faux fur.

An economic analysis published just weeks ago estimated that fur production in Europe has an environmental cost of roughly €226 million (~ \$260 million) annually in harms from pollution, resource depletion, local disamenity, and invasive alien species.^{xiv} The industry's heavy emissions have been linked to chronic respiratory diseases and premature deaths across Europe. Consequently, advertising standards committees in France, the UK, Denmark, Holland, Finland, and Italy have ruled that claims portraying fur as environmentally friendly are "false and misleading."^{xv} In 2018, France's advertising authority stated, "Numerous reliable reports show that the production of fur is extremely cruel and polluting, and that the final product contains toxic substances."^{xvi}

Ending the sale of new fur products in Urbana aligns with the growing national and international momentum recognizing its inherent cruelty and environmental harm of the fur industry. A 2025 survey by Colorado State University's Animal Human Policy Center of public perspectives on fur products found that two-thirds of Massachusetts voters support prohibiting the sale of fur products from animals raised in fur factory farms.^{xvii}

Other communities across the country as well as the entire state of California have enacted similar prohibitions on the sale of new fur products. Numerous countries have passed bans or restrictions on fur factory farming altogether. Meanwhile, most fashion brands and retailers have gone fur-free in response to growing consumer demand for humane and sustainable alternatives. Ending the sale of new fur products in Urbana will strengthen this movement and reflect the clear values of our residents.^{xviii}

For these ethical, public health, and environmental reasons, we respectfully urge the Urbana City Council to support the passage of Ordinance No. 2026-07-021. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marc Ayers
Illinois State Director
Humane World for Animals

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- ⁱ Humane World for Animals. 2025. EU science body, EFSA, declares systemic animal suffering on Europe's fur farms. Retrieved from <https://www.humaneworld.org/en/news/eu-science-body-efsa-declares-systemic-animal-suffering-europes-fur-farms>.
- ⁱⁱ Faunalytics, 2013. Dying For Fur: A Report On The Fur Industry In China. Retrieved from <https://faunalytics.org/dying-for-fur-a-report-on-the-fur-industry-in-china/#>.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Voluntary surveys by the USDA suggest there are likely fewer than 100 mink fur farms remaining in the U.S., and the industry has plummeted in the last decade. Tracking of fox fur farms in the U.S. is nonexistent. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Mink (July 2023). Retrieved from <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/2227mp65f>.
- ^{iv} E.g., Pickett, H. and Harris, S. 2025. The Case Against Fur Factory Farming: A Scientific Review of Animal Welfare Standards and Welfur, Respect for Animals. Retrieved from <https://www.furfreealliance.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Case-against-fur-farming.pdf>
- ^v Humane World for Animals. 2025. Coyotes, foxes among hundreds of animals saved from fur and urine farm in Ohio. Retrieved from <https://www.humanesociety.org/blog/animals-rescued-fur-urine-farm-ohio>.
- ^{vi} The AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals advise that "methods [of euthanasia] based on hypoxia will not be appropriate for species that are tolerant of prolonged periods of hypoxemia," (p. 16). American Veterinary Medical Association, AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2020 Edition (2020). Retrieved from <https://www.avma.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/2020-Euthanasia-Final-1-17-20.pdf>.
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- ^{viii} Wheeler, D. A. H., H. Hettige, P. Martin, and M. Singh, The Industrial Pollution Projection System. <https://doi.org/10.1596/1813-9450-1431>.
- ^{ix} The Guardian. 2013. Is the fur trade sustainable? Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/sustainable-fashion-blog/is-fur-trade-sustainable>.
- ^x Fur Free Alliance. 2016. European Commission withdraws children's wear with toxic fur. Retrieved from <https://www.furfreealliance.com/european-commission-withdraws-childrens-wear-with-toxic-fur-collars/>.
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- ^{xii} Georgia H. 2023. Virus in Furs: How fashion-fueled mink farms are the perfect petri dish for a future pandemic. *The Pathologist*. Retrieved from <https://thepathologist.com/outside-the-lab/virus-in-furs>.
- ^{xiii} Humane Society International. 2023. Fur industry accused of greenwashing as new report reveals carbon footprint of fur fashion far higher than other materials. Retrieved from <https://www.hsi.org/news-resources/fur-industry-accused-of-greenwashing-as-new-report-reveals-carbon-footprint-of-fur-fashion-far-higher-than-other-materials/>.
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- ^{xv} The Guardian. 2012. 'Eco-friendly' fur ad banned: Fur breeders' campaign ruled misleading by ASA. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2012/mar/21/eco-friendly-fur-ad-banned>.
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- ^{xvii} Niemiec, R. 2025. New Research Shows Strong Public Support for State Fur Bans in the Northeast. Retrieved from <https://sites.warnercnr.colostate.edu/animalhumanpolicy/public-perspectives-and-effective-messaging-on-fur-farming-in-the-northeastern-united-states/>.
- ^{xviii} Polling shows that a majority of Massachusetts voters support legislation to stop the sale of clothing and other products containing fur from animals. Humane Society Legislative Fund, Massachusetts voters support ban on fur products (2019). Retrieved from <https://hslf.org/press-release/2019/05/massachusetts-voters-support-ban-fur-products>; Fur Free Alliance, Majority of Massachusetts voters want to make it illegal to sell fur clothing (2017). Retrieved from <https://www.furfreealliance.com/majority-massachusetts-voters-want-make-illegal-sell-fur-clothing/>.

PUBLIC INPUT

From [REDACTED]
Date Mon 7/27/2026 6:24 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

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Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hello and good evening,

I write to encourage all members of city council to consider a full and total ban on **all** ALPRs (automated license plate readers) in city limits. This includes but is not limited to Flock, Motorola Vigilant, Leonardo ELSAG, and Rekor.

There is no meaningful argument for the presence of ALPRs here or anywhere. I applaud so far there has been a lack of them in Urbana, a sign of strength compared to our neighbors who rush to sell the data of their citizens, offering up our privacy on the altar of Big Tech!

Now is time to have courage and to be leaders in opposition to the developing surveillance state. When your friends and family ask you, "What side were you on?" tonight will surely be part of your answer: On the side of the people, or on the side of the elites.

Sincerely, a concerned and proud Urbana citizen