

RESOLUTION NO. 9031

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF RENO AS A BEE CITY USA AFFILIATE WITHIN THE XERCES SOCIETY BEE CITY USA AND BEE CAMPUS USA NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS.

WHEREAS, the mission of BEE CITY USA is to galvanize communities to sustain pollinators, responsible for the reproduction of almost 90% of the world's flowering plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants with a minimum of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the more than 3,600 species of native bees in the United States, including some 1,000 species native to Nevada,¹ we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, poor nutrition, excessive use of pesticides, parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, pollinator-friendly communities can benefit local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

WHEREAS, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat (A) Is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season to provide diverse and abundant nectar and pollen, since many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted; (B) is free to nearly free of pesticides, as many pesticides can harm pollinators and/or their habitat; (C) comprises undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, unmown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering; and (D) provides connectivity (corridors) between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a long-term approach to maintaining healthy landscapes and facilities that minimizes risks to people and the environment by: identifying and removing the causes of pest problems rather than only attacking the symptoms (the pests); employing pests' natural enemies along with cultural, mechanical, and physical controls when prevention is not enough; and using pesticides only when no other method is feasible or effective; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters broad-based community engagement in environmental awareness and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the rapid growth and continuing development of the Reno area contributes to the continuing loss of pollinator habitat; and

WHEREAS, the Reno Master Plan, ReImagine Reno, and other public documents highlight the community's need for: • Local food and small farm agriculture,² • Mitigation of the

impacts of climate change,³ • Wildlife habitat and corridors,⁴ • Partnerships with external organizations;⁵ and

WHEREAS, Reno should be certified a BEE CITY USA community because affiliation with Bee City USA brings Reno into a network of other developing cities who are adopting creative ways to enhance, enlarge and fortify pollinator habitat.

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the city of Reno chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows: 1. The City of Reno Parks and Recreation Department is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor. 2. The City of Reno Parks Maintenance Division is designated as the BEE CITY USA Liaison. 3. Facilitation of Reno’s BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the Biggest Little Bee City USA Committee. 4. The Biggest Little Bee City USA Committee is authorized to and shall: a. Celebration: Host at least one educational event or pollinator planting or restoration each year to showcase Reno’s commitment to raising awareness of pollinator conservation and expanding pollinator health and habitat. b. Publicity & Information: Install and maintain at least one authorized BEE CITY USA sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage which includes, at minimum: a copy of this resolution and links to the national BEE CITY USA website; contact information for your BEE CITY USA Liaison and Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and a recommended native plant species list and integrated pest management plan. c. Habitat: Develop and implement a program to create and/or expand pollinator friendly habitat, which can include, but is not limited to: • Identification and inventory of Reno property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; • Creation of a recommended locally native species list to include forbs, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; • Encouraging least toxic integrated pest management practices throughout the City in accordance with the City’s IPM practices; • Helping to maintain pesticide free areas, and striving to create additional pesticide free areas throughout its Parks and open space systems; • Dissemination of informational and educational materials to the public; and • Tracking annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced by square footage and/or acreage. d. Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management: Implement IPM strategies that include non-chemical techniques and reduced pesticide use on City property with least toxic and most effective techniques, while recognizing that pesticides are necessarily used to treat critical needs, including: • Defensible space and rights of way - to maintain the safety of the citizens of Reno; and • Compliance with NRS 555.150 - which requires the treatment of noxious weeds on your property. e. Policy & Plans: Review the Reno Master Plan, ReImagine Reno, and the City’s Development Codes to encourage pollinator-friendly habitat and pest management practices, and acknowledge the BEE CITY USA designation during future plan and policy updates. f. Renewal: After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, the Biggest Little Bee City USA Committee shall apply for renewal of Reno’s BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year’s Biggest Little Bee City USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on Reno’s population.

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Upon motion of Council Member Duerr, seconded by Council Member Weber, the foregoing resolution was adopted this 27th day of April, 2022, by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Duerr, Weber, Brekhus, Delgado, Jardon, Reese, Schieve

NAYS: None


ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVED this 27th day of April, 2022.


HILLARY L. SCHIEVE
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RENO

ATTEST:


MIKKI HUNTSMAN
CITY CLERK AND CLERK OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RENO, NEVADA



6.5A:

LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION Allow community gardens, demonstration gardens, small-scale agriculture, community supported agriculture (CSA), the raising of some animals for food purposes, and other efforts by residents, property and business owners, and community groups to expand food production within Reno and throughout the region. Explore the feasibility of integrating community gardens and/or fruit and nut trees into parks, neighborhoods, or other locations where irrigation can be provided using existing facilities and a formal maintenance agreement can be established (i.e., with an HOA). 7.1D: ENVIRONMENTALLY-SENSITIVE AREAS Promote the protection and conservation of significant wildlife habitats, slopes, stream and drainageway environments, prominent ridgelines, mature stands of trees, and other natural and scenic resources for purposes of wildlife survival, community education, research, recreation, and aesthetics. 6.5F: PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS Identify and support public/private partnerships to finance innovation, development, and adaptation of healthy food production methods that are sustainable and suited to the Northern Nevada climate and ecosystem. 8.6C: PARTNERSHIPS Explore opportunities to partner with public, private, and nonprofit organizations to leverage available resources and promote innovation. **Exhibit A** Resolution designating Reno as a Bee City USA Affiliate References 1 Best Management Practices for Pollinators on Western Rangelands, Xerces Society, 2018 Inference drawn from Figure 1: “Bee Diversity in the West”. 2 ReImagine Reno Section 6.5, “Fresh, Healthy, Local Food Production” 3 ReImagine Reno, p 60, “Impacts of Climate Change” 4 ReImagine Reno, Section 7.1, “Natural Resources and Environment” 5 ReImagine Reno, Sections 6.5F and 8.6C, “Partnerships”