

A RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LEAGUE
CITY TO APPLY FOR DESIGNATION AS A BEE CITY USA
AFFILIATE

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 and free to nearly free of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the more than 3,600 species of native bees in the United States, along with introduced honeybees, 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, pesticides (including insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides), 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 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 City of League City should be certified a BEE CITY USA community because several parks and areas within the City provide for pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the Dr. Ned and Fay Dudney Nature Center perpetually conserves 148 acres with ecologically and sensitive and regionally significant habitats in League City; and

WHEREAS, conservation of the coastal prairie and coastal riparian habitats is important to a wide variety of animals, plants and pollinators, such including native bees and butterflies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, that 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 League City chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows:

Section 1. The City of League City Planning Department is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor.

Section 2. The Assistant Director of Planning Department is designated as the BEE CITY USA Liaison.

Section 3. Facilitation of League City's BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the Keep League City Beautiful Committee.

Section 4. The Keep League City Beautiful Committee is authorized to and shall:

- a. Celebration: Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year to showcase League City'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 street sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage on the City of League City website 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 your recommended native plant species list and integrated pest management plan (explained below).
- c. Habitat: Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not limited to, Identifying and inventorying League City's real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; creating a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; and, tracking (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced.
- d. Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management: Create and adopt an integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
- e. Policy & Plans: Establish, through the City, a policy in the City of League City's Comprehensive Plan 2035 to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation and review the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan and other relevant documents to consider improvements to pest management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures.
- f. Renewal: After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of League City's BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year's BEE CITY USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on League City's population.

Section 5. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary to complete this transaction.

Section 6. All resolutions and agreements and parts of resolutions and agreements in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of conflict only.

Section 7. It is hereby found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution was passed was open to the public and that advance public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED the ____ day of _____, 2021.

PAT HALLISEY
Mayor

ATTEST:

DIANA STAPP
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

NGHIEM V. DOAN
City Attorney