

## RESOLUTION CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

Presented  
by \_\_\_\_\_

1 WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul is dedicated to promoting and maintaining a healthy urban and natural environment  
2 today and in the future; and  
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4 WHEREAS, pollinating insects, such as bees, are integral to a healthy ecosystem and to a wide diversity of essential  
5 foods, including fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and  
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7 WHEREAS, such pollinators, bees in particular, are threatened by the loss of natural flowering habitat, pesticide use,  
8 pathogens and parasites; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the use of pesticides in general for control of harmful pests sometimes has unintended consequences  
11 against beneficial insects such as pollinators; and  
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13 WHEREAS, there has been increased scrutiny specifically on the link between a class of pesticides commonly used  
14 that contain neonicotinoids and a decline in pollinators; and  
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16 WHEREAS, the City's Parks and Recreation Department conducts a number of activities that are aimed at increasing  
17 pollinator populations such as:

- 18 • Designs all new and renovated facilities with a consideration for adding natural areas with beneficial pollinator  
19 friendly plantings where possible.
- 20 • Has restored and maintains 2,300 acres of existing naturalized park areas using local ecotype beneficial  
21 pollinator friendly plants.
- 22 • Provides ornamental gardens that now include high pollinator valued plants and currently display 600 hanging  
23 baskets with flowers sourced as non-neonicotinoid from growers, and grows an additional 15,000 plants  
24 internally without the use of chemicals in a greenhouse.
- 25 • Employs an existing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program for all grounds work.
- 26 • With the exception of some premier facilities, the vast majority of neighborhood and regional parks including  
27 the Como Conservatory gardens, are maintained pesticide free, e.g., dandelions are left untreated.  
28 Additionally, looking to convert by over seeding little used turf areas with more beneficial clover where  
29 possible.
- 30 • Forestry plants a diverse array of tree species and performs limited chemical treatment for Emerald ash borer  
31 using internally injected non-neonicotinoid insecticides.
- 32 • Works closely with the University of Minnesota Bee Squad on bumble bee surveys using volunteers and  
33 providing hands-on education programs on bees and pollinators  
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35 WHEREAS, the City supports bee keeping and has developed rules to guide residents and business on how to properly  
36 keep bees in Saint Paul; and  
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38 WHEREAS, the City has a number of pollinator friendly lands and gardens that include Hamline Midway, Sun Ray and  
39 Riverview Libraries, Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, Como and Lilydale Regional Parks, Highland 18 Hole Golf Course; and  
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41 WHEREAS, the City has an active partnership with neighborhoods and the Capitol Region Watershed District to  
42 increase the number of boulevard rain gardens; each rain garden is planted with a number of pollinator-friendly species; and  
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44 WHEREAS, Saint Paul Regional Water Services and Public Works Department Street Maintenance protects pollinators  
45 by refraining from using pesticides on any of its grounds; and  
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47 WHEREAS, the City's Parks and Recreation Department is partnering with the University of Minnesota Bee Lab to  
48 research community apiaries at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and to develop educational opportunities for the public to learn  
49 how they can help bees; and  
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51 WHEREAS, the City is partnering with Public Art Saint Paul on a creative public art project “Bee Real, Bee  
52 Everywhere” project funded by Knight Foundation to improve bee habitat and educate and inspire the public to protect bees and  
53 other pollinators; and  
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55 WHEREAS, some specialized facilities such as the Como Park Conservatory, golf course fairways and greens, or  
56 premier athletic fields may have a higher need for use of pesticides and exceptions for such areas are recognized as not yet  
57 having reasonable alternatives; and  
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59 WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota preempts any powers of local governments to regulate any and all matters  
60 concerning the registration, labeling, distribution, sale, handling, use, application, or disposal of pesticides; and  
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62 WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the public interest for the City to demonstrate its commitment through the  
63 use of best management practices such as up-to-date integrated pest management (IPM) which eliminates the use of harmful  
64 pesticides on public property wherever possible in favor of reasonable alternatives; and  
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66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Saint Paul shall:  
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- 68 a) Direct all city departments to develop an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program for use on all public  
69 grounds and exterior spaces within the city to protect pollinators; and
  - 70 b) Provide city employees routine education that promotes and assists in protecting pollinators and provides ideas  
71 in creating favorable pollinator habitat; and
  - 72 c) Work with partners at re-purposed recreation centers to ensure knowledge of and compliance to Integrated  
73 Pest Management practices; and
  - 74 d) Eliminate the use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city grounds; specific exceptions are allowed for the Como  
75 Park Conservatory, golf course fairways and greens, or premier athletic fields such as McMurray, Dunning,  
76 Rice & Arlington, CHS Fields, and when used, follow all best practices when applying, e.g., the appropriate  
77 timing of applications; and
  - 78 e) Explore piloting an alternative pest management system on a portion of a golf course green or fairway, and on  
79 a premier athletic field; and
  - 80 f) Reduce the use of all pesticides and systemic insecticides wherever possible and phase out entirely as safer  
81 and reasonable alternatives become available; and
  - 82 g) Require all city departments with any inventory of materials containing neonicotinoids to discontinue their use  
83 and properly dispose of them unless a justifiable need has been identified by another department. If such a  
84 need is identified, the product shall be officially inventoried and applied in a controlled and limited manner  
85 according to all current application best practices. The need and use of such products shall be reviewed by  
86 departments on an ongoing basis until a reasonable alternative is identified; and
  - 87 h) Include planting of flowering natural areas in the design of new or renovated public spaces, and restore  
88 existing spaces with pollinator favorable habitat when opportunities to do so are manageable; and
  - 89 i) To the best of its ability, the city will source plant material and trees from nurseries that do not use  
90 neonicotinoids; and
  - 91 j) Communicate to the public, through City websites, signage and other means, efforts to protect pollinators  
92 including the delineation of parks and public spaces that are pesticide free zones; and
  - 93 k) Encourage all property owners in the City of Saint Paul – residential, commercial, and institutional – to be  
94 more conscious of pollinator stewardship practices, including ending the purchase and sale of plants treated  
95 with systemic insecticides; planting more pollinator friendly plants on their property; and not using pesticides,  
96 including systemic insecticides, on their property.  
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