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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth

Councilor Jamie Cassutt-Sanchez

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler

Councilor Signe I. Lindell

Councilor Renee Villarreal

A RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, 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 honey bees, the residents of the United States 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

1 pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

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

10 **WHEREAS**, Integrated Pest Management (“IPM”) is a decision- making process for
11 managing pests that uses monitoring to determine pest injury levels and primarily uses cultural,
12 mechanical, physical, and biological tools to minimize health, environmental, and financial risks.

13 **WHEREAS**, the IPM method uses extensive knowledge about pests, such as infestation
14 thresholds, life histories, environmental requirements, and natural enemies to complement and
15 facilitate biological and other natural control of pests and uses the least toxic synthetic pesticides
16 only as a last resort to manage pests; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the preservation of historical and cultural landscapes and traditions is a long
18 standing and defining value of Santa Fe, and pollinators, native plants, and agriculture are intrinsic
19 components of preservation; and

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

22 **WHEREAS**, the application process to be designated a Bee City USA requires that a
23 committee be formed to handle the various aspects of the program; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Randall Davey Audubon Center has volunteered to facilitate the
25 administration of the ad-hoc committee with one City of Santa Fe (“City”) representative serving

1 as a member of the committee and as a liaison to the City; and

2 **WHEREAS**, a City representative is needed to serve as a liaison to the committee to
3 provide input and expertise as it relates to City functions; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the designation of the City as a Bee City USA affiliate aligns with the City’s
5 “TreeSmart Santa Fe” initiative; and

6 **WHEREAS**, broad community support for the designation exists from many outside non-
7 profit organizations and other groups.

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
9 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that, in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and
10 the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the
11 City of Santa Fe chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and
12 enhancement, resolving as follows:

- 13 1. The City, Water Conservation Section, is hereby designated as the Bee City USA
14 sponsor and will coordinate with the Santa Fe Bee City Committee to achieve the
15 goals of conserving native pollinators.
- 16 2. The Water Conservation Section is designated as the City’s Bee City USA Liaison
17 to the national Bee City USA organization.
- 18 3. The City recognizes the Randall Davey Audubon Center as the host and facilitator
19 organization for the Santa Fe Bee City USA program and the Santa Fe Bee City
20 Committee.
- 21 4. The Santa Fe Bee City Committee is encouraged to accomplish the following
22 initiatives:
 - 23 a. **Celebration.** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat
24 planting or restoration each year to showcase the City’s commitment to
25 raising awareness of pollinator conservation and expanding pollinator

1 health and habitat.

2 b. **Publicity and Information.** Install and maintain at least one authorized
3 Bee City USA street sign in a prominent location; create and maintain a
4 webpage including, at a minimum, a copy of this Resolution and links to
5 the national Bee City USA website; contact information for Santa Fe’s Bee
6 City USA Liaison and Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly
7 activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and Santa
8 Fe’s recommended native plant species list and integrated pest
9 management plan (explained below).

10 c. **Habitat.** Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-
11 friendly habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not
12 limited to, identifying and inventorying the City’s real property that can
13 be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; creating a recommended
14 locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and
15 trees; a listing of local suppliers for those species; and tracking (by square
16 footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or
17 enhanced.

18 d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management.** Adhere to the City’s Integrated
19 Pest Management (IPM) Policy (Section 10-7, SFCC 1987) which is
20 designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the
21 use of non-chemical pest management methods on City property.

22 e. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a Bee City USA
23 affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of the City of Santa Fe’s Bee
24 City USA designation following the format provided by Bee City USA,
25 including a report of the previous year’s Bee City USA activities, and

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paying the renewal fee based on the City's population.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 10th day of March, 2021



ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Kristine Mihelcic (Mar 11, 2021 17:56 MST)

KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY