



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

THROUGH: Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Kimberly A. McNeeley, M.Ed., CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department 

DATE: May 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Staff Response to Resolution No. 20220303-029, Bee City USA Affiliation

This memo serves as a response to Austin City Council Resolution No. 20220303-029 directing the City Manager to work with the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) and partners to apply, sponsor, execute and oversee becoming a Bee City USA affiliate.

Thanks to the collaboration between the Department and many nonprofit partners, the Xerces Society officially accepted Austin as a Bee City on March 24, 2022. Since becoming a Bee City, the Department and partners have hosted four pollinator garden planting days. The Department will oversee the installation of signage and review existing policies and plans to ensure they align with the City's new Bee City status. Specifically, the Department is developing a policy regarding beekeeping on parkland as it relates to Community Gardens and the observation hive at the Austin Nature & Science Center. The nonprofit partner, Pollinate Austin is developing signage for pollinator gardens and native bee identification.

The Department will continue to collaborate with partners on Bee City implementation and will provide updates annually by May 1st.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Jodi Jay, M.B.A., CPRP
Liana Kallivoka, PhD, PE, LEED Fellow, Assistant Director
Lucas Massie, M.Ed., CPRP, Assistant Director
Suzanne Piper, DBA, Chief Administrative Officer