

1 RESOLUTION R-2017-5 3

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE LONGMONT CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZING THE  
3 IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING POLLINATORS  
4 IN THE CITY OF LONGMONT

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6 WHEREAS pollinators of all kinds, including native bees, wasps, butterflies and European  
7 honey bees, are a critically important part of our agricultural and food systems, and their  
8 pollination of a significant amount of our food supply is extremely important to food production  
9 and is valued at \$20 to \$30 billion annually in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS many of the trees and plants that beautify our landscapes and form key  
11 elements of our ecosystems rely on pollinators to propagate and to contribute to ecological  
12 services, and

13 WHEREAS declines in the populations of pollinators, including commercial European  
14 honeybees, wild bees, butterflies and birds as well as invertebrates in soil and water systems, is of  
15 serious concern; and

16 WHEREAS the improper use of pesticides, changes in land use, and continued land  
17 development all contribute to the loss of habitat and food supply for pollinators, and U.S. cities  
18 and counties have taken steps to raise awareness of this issue and review their policies and  
19 practices; and

20 WHEREAS some scientific studies indicate that more research is needed to understand  
21 how some of the most widely used classes of insecticides may adversely impact beneficial soil  
22 invertebrates and avian and aquatic organisms, contaminate water resources and soils, and

1 translocate throughout all parts of plants including the pollen and nectar that is gathered by  
2 pollinators; and

3 WHEREAS natural stressors such as parasites, pathogens (bacterial, viral and fungal  
4 diseases), poor nutrition, and habitat loss combined with improper or excessive application of  
5 chemical pesticides can endanger pollinators; and

6 WHEREAS, since labeling is not required for some treated plant materials, their  
7 introduction into the environment may be unintentional; and

8 WHEREAS when alternative practices and products may be used effectively and  
9 efficiently to maintain healthy landscapes the use of pesticides may be reduced; and

10 WHEREAS the public has concerns regarding the use, misuse, and overuse of pesticides,  
11 loss of habitat, development, and other negative environmental impacts, and desires to protect and  
12 support pollinators to ensure robust food production and natural ecosystems.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO,  
14 RESOLVES:

15 Section 1

16 A. The City will strive to reduce and minimize pesticide use on City lands and in City  
17 buildings.

18 B. The City, to the best of its ability, will not apply neonicotinoid or other systemic  
19 insecticides on its City rights of way, along watersheds and ditches, on public trees and landscapes  
20 or in its buildings, with exceptions allowed only after consideration of both the necessity of  
21 treatment and of alternative treatments to achieve the necessary protection of those lands, trees or  
22 landscapes.

1 C. The City will create a comprehensive pesticide use policy that will provide  
2 guidance to all City departments for when the use of pesticides may be considered.

3 D. The City will work to enhance safe and healthy pollinator forage habitat on City  
4 lands, including revision of mowing policies where possible to allow wildflowers and other  
5 appropriate flowering species to flourish and feed pollinators.

6 E. The City will support organic and/or sustainable practices on City owned  
7 agricultural lands and consider providing incentives for such practices.

8 F. The City will require integrated pest management to be the normative practice for  
9 farmers leasing City lands.

10 G. The City will make reasonable efforts to purchase landscaping materials, including  
11 plants and seeds that have not been pre-treated with pesticides.

12 H. The City recognizes the importance of pollinators, and will support and engage in  
13 efforts to educate the broader community about integrated pest management habitat enhancements  
14 and protection, and the actions the City is taking.

15 I. The City will express its support for businesses, schools, neighborhoods,  
16 households, municipalities and other entities within the City, and state and federal governments to  
17 adopt pollinator supportive policies. This includes urging all parties, public and private, to reduce  
18 chemical pesticide application and to create habitat that will support pollinators.

19 J. The City will coordinate efforts between City departments and work with  
20 neighboring jurisdictions and stakeholders to develop effective and innovative ways to monitor  
21 pollinators, pollinator health and their habitat; including working collaboratively with local  
22 universities and other professional organizations to support pollinator research and establish a  
23 baseline to monitor pollinator health.

1 K. City staff will share information with the public about the work it is doing to protect  
2 and conserve pollinators in City of Longmont.

3 Section 2

4 The Council repeals all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution,  
5 but only to the extent of such inconsistency.

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7 Passed and adopted this 23rd day of May, 2017.

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11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 MAYOR

13  
14 ATTEST:

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17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 CITY CLERK

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21 APPROVED AS TO FORM

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24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

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27 5/25/17  
28 \_\_\_\_\_  
29 DATE

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33 \_\_\_\_\_  
34 PROOFREAD

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36 5/25/17  
37 \_\_\_\_\_  
38 DATE

39 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:

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42 \_\_\_\_\_  
43 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT

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45 \_\_\_\_\_  
46 DATE

47 CA File: 10338