

RESOLUTION NO. 3565

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF RED LODGE, MONTANA
DESIGNATING RED LODGE 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 450 species of native bees in Montana, along with introduced honey bees, 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, Red Lodge and the region's local economy can benefit 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 is comprised of native vegetation that is pesticide free or nearly pesticide free with undisturbed spaces for nesting and wintering all while providing connectivity between habitat areas to support their movement and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the goals of BEE CITY USA are consistent with the City's Urban Forestry Management Plan, Growth Policy, and Energy Conservation Plan, which all seek to ensure a healthy and sustainable living environment for Red Lodge residents; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Red Lodge, chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows:

1. The Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor and shall establish the Tree and Bee Committee to facilitate the BEE CITY USA program.
2. The Council Representative of the Parks, Trees and Recreation Board is designated as the BEE CITY USA Liaison.

3. The Red Lodge Bee City Committee is authorized to and shall:
- a. **Celebration:** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year to showcase Red Lodge'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 Red Lodge 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).
 - 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 the 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) an 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 Urban Forestry Management Plan, to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation.
 - f. **Plan Review:** Review the Urban Forestry Management 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.
 - g. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of Red Lodge'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 \$100 renewal fee based on Red Lodge's population.

ADOPTED by the City Council of Red Lodge, Montana, this 9th day of March, 2021.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Larson", written over a horizontal line.

WILLIAM LARSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Loni Hanson", written over a horizontal line.

LONI HANSON, City Clerk

