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**RESOLUTION NO. 210042**

**City of Gainesville Resolution  
in support of being certified BEE CITY USA**

**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 City of Gainesville has 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 pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

**WHEREAS**, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat

(A) is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season to provide diverse and abundant nectar and pollen, since many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted;

(B) is free to nearly free of pesticides, as many pesticides can harm pollinators and/or their habitat;

(C) comprises undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, unmown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering; and

(D) provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a long-term approach to maintaining healthy landscapes and facilities that minimizes risks to people and the environment by: identifying and removing the causes of pest problems rather than only attacking the symptoms (the pests); employing pests' natural enemies along with cultural, mechanical, and physical controls when prevention is not enough; and using pesticides only when no other method is feasible or effective; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Gainesville, Florida should be certified a BEE CITY USA community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA**, in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them the City of

47 Gainesville chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement,  
48 resolving that

- 49
- 50 1. The City Manager’s office is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor and will assign  
51 duties and designees as necessary.
  - 52 2. The City Manager’s office is authorized to and shall:
    - 53 a. **Celebration:** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or  
54 restoration each year to showcase Gainesville’s commitment to raising awareness of  
55 pollinator conservation and expanding pollinator health and habitat.
    - 56 b. **Publicity & Information:** Install and maintain at least one authorized BEE CITY USA  
57 street sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage on the city  
58 website which includes, at minimum a copy of this resolution and links to the national  
59 BEE CITY USA website; contact information for your BEE CITY USA Liaison and  
60 Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has  
61 accomplished the previous year(s); and your recommended native plant species list and  
62 integrated pest management plan (explained below).
    - 63 c. **Habitat:** Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly  
64 habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not limited to, Identifying and  
65 inventorying Gainesville’s real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly  
66 plantings; creating a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers,  
67 grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; and,  
68 tracking (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or  
69 enhanced.
    - 70 d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management:** Create and adopt an integrated pest  
71 management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and  
72 expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
    - 73 e. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each  
74 February, apply for renewal of Gainesville’s BEE CITY USA designation following the  
75 format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year’s BEE  
76 CITY USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on Gainesville’s population.
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79 PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November  
80 2021.

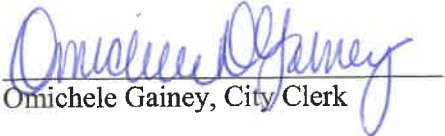
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Lauren Poe  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Omichele Gainey, City Clerk