

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY, STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Affirming
Clackamas County's Support of
Pollinators



Resolution No. _____

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Whereas, pollinators include animals such as bees and other insects, birds and bats that transfer pollen from flower to flower resulting in the fertilization and subsequent seed and fruit production for plants; and

Whereas, pollinators play a vital role in the health of our forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife habitat, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development and tourism opportunities for communities; and

Whereas, three-fourths of the earth's flowering plants and 35% of the world's food crops depend on animal pollination to reproduce, and over 150 food crops in the United States depend on pollinators, including nearly all fruit and grain crops; and

Whereas, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has reported that between \$235 billion and \$577 billion worth of annual global food production relies on direct contributions by pollinators; and

Whereas, the agricultural industry in Clackamas County is a critical part of our local economy, and together with the nurseries, greenhouses and food production industries, generates a localized gross product of more than \$277 million; and

Whereas, the world is facing a climate change crisis brought on by the rise of carbon dioxide levels, and Clackamas County is developing a Climate Action Plan that will state our intended actions to reduce our carbon footprint; and

Whereas, populations of important pollinators including bees are declining at alarming levels, and climate change and habitat loss are contributing to pollinators' increasing vulnerability; and

Whereas, Clackamas County has a strategic priority to honor, utilize, promote and invest in our natural resources.

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NOW THEREFORE, the Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners resolves as follows:

1. Where and whenever appropriate, Clackamas County will take steps to install and maintain pollinator gardens and pursue other actions on its lands and infrastructure to improve these animals' ability to survive, flourish and thrive.
2. Where and whenever appropriate, Clackamas County will take steps to install, promote and maintain the use of mason bee boxes and other similar items, and natural features, that promote healthy pollinator activity and habitat.
3. County departments' have adopted integrated measures within their operating policies and practices to better reflect the absolute importance of pollinators, and to minimize the impact of any actions that could hurt pollinator populations.
4. The county will promote to our community the importance of pollinators and the actions that Clackamas County is taking to help them thrive, as well as actions our residents and stakeholders can take to do the same.
5. The county's forthcoming Climate Action Plan will include adaptation actions and best practices that can help pollinators in our community continue to persist, with further recommended actions on how our body can help them.
6. The county and its departments will annually recognize and promote National Pollinator Week and other related celebrations as appropriate.

DATED this ___ day of January, 2020

Chair

Recording Secretary