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Dear City Councilors,

Eugene is a great place to observe native pollinators in their natural habitat. The city does an excellent job of maintaining parks and open spaces to support our many native bees and honey bees. Eugene deserves to be recognized for its efforts by becoming a Bee City USA. Becoming a Bee City also provides support to the city to help grow and improve their pollinator protection efforts.

In a time of rapidly growing technology, spreading of misinformation and misleading advertising from chemical companies that manufacture and distribute bee-killing pesticides, it is critical that cities do their part to educate local residents about protecting bees.

The University of Oregon has already adopted the Bee Campus resolution and been officially recognized as a Bee Campus USA! Announcing that Eugene has joined 70 other cities across the US to be a Bee City USA amplifies the important message that Bees need our protection! In Oregon, we already have Ashland, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Talent, and Wilsonville committed to their Bee City USA certification!

There are simple things we can each do to help combat pollinator loss. When a City makes simple choices such as choosing to plant pollinator-friendly plants to provide bees forage and maintaining pesticide-free bee habitat areas—we help address the crisis of pollinator decline and extinction.

By becoming a Bee City USA we endorse a set of commitments, defined in a resolution, for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet.

Sincerely,

Krystal Abrams
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