# ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

The Environmental Advisory Board of the City of Raleigh held a meeting on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 303, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 West Hargett Street, Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh, North Carolina, with the following present:

**BOARD MEMBERS**
Anya Gordon, Chair
Rob Gelblum, Vice Chair
Laurel Passera
Brian Starkey
Justin Senkbeil
Beverley Clark
Larry Larson
Todd Kennedy

**STAFF**
Megan Anderson, Sustainability Office
Cindy Holmes, Sustainability Office
Fred Battle, SWS Director
David Scarborough, Assistant SWS Director
Bianca Howard, SWS Environmental Coordinator
Terri Godwin Hyman, SWS Communications Specialist

**CITY COUNCIL**
David Cox, City Council Member

**ABSENT**
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## I. Call to Order
Ms. Anya Gordon called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

## II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
The minutes from the June meeting were approved.

## III. Public Comment
There were no public comments received.

## IV. Presentations

a. Solid Waste Services Update
Fred Battle, David Scarborough and Bianca Howard updated the board members about the projects going on in Solid Waste Services. The projects presented included Multifamily Recycling, Volume Based Systems (PAYT), Fleetmind, Textiles Recycling, and Composting. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes. The Solid Waste Services staff assured the board they would come back with updates in the future to inform the work of the board.

## V. Staff Reports

a. BeeCity
Staff provided a copy of the Bee City Resolution to the board members along with information regarding the new pollinator webpage. There will be an update on Bee City at Urban Agriculture Day.

b. Award Program revisions
The board members decided to create a subcommittee for the Annual Awards Event. The board members that volunteered for this subcommittee are Larry Larson, Justin Senkbeil and Brian Starkey. A report from this subcommittee will be made at the August meeting.

c. FY17 Annual Report
The board members briefly discussed the Annual report and agreed to review the draft at the August meeting.

d. FY18 Work Plan
The board members briefly discussed the Work Plan and agreed to review the draft at the August meeting.

e. Urban Agriculture Day
Urban Agriculture Day is scheduled for October 21, 2017 at the Historic Mordecai Gardens Visitor Center.

**VI. Other Business/Announcements**

**a.** Next Meeting – August 10, 2017
**b.** Urban Agriculture Day – October 21, 2017

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Attachments: Solid Waste Services Presentation

# Solid Waste Services Environmental Advisory Board Update

**Solid Waste Services**
**July 13, 2017**

# Agenda

- Multifamily Recycling Project
- Volume Based Systems (PAYT) Update
- Fleetmind Update
- Textiles Recycling Project
- Composting
- Questions

# Multi-Family Community Recycling Proposal Presentation

Solid Waste Services
June 13, 2017

# What was Covered?

- Background
- Development Process
- Strategies
  - Phase 1 & Phase 2
  - Education & Outreach
- Next Steps

# Background

- Waste Reduction Task Force Recommendations

- Council Directions to Staff
  - PAYT
  - Alternatives to Mandatory Recycling
  - Expand recycling to MFC's

# Where are We Headed?

- ✓ Recycling convenient and accessible for all residents
- ✓ Provide a continued high level of quality and service to all residents
- ✓ Committed to achieving a sustainable future

# Benefits for Multi-family Residents

- Cans emptied on a regular basis
- Larger containers
- Clear contact information regarding concerns or changes
- Increased education regarding what is acceptable to recycle.
- Not a “one-size fits all”

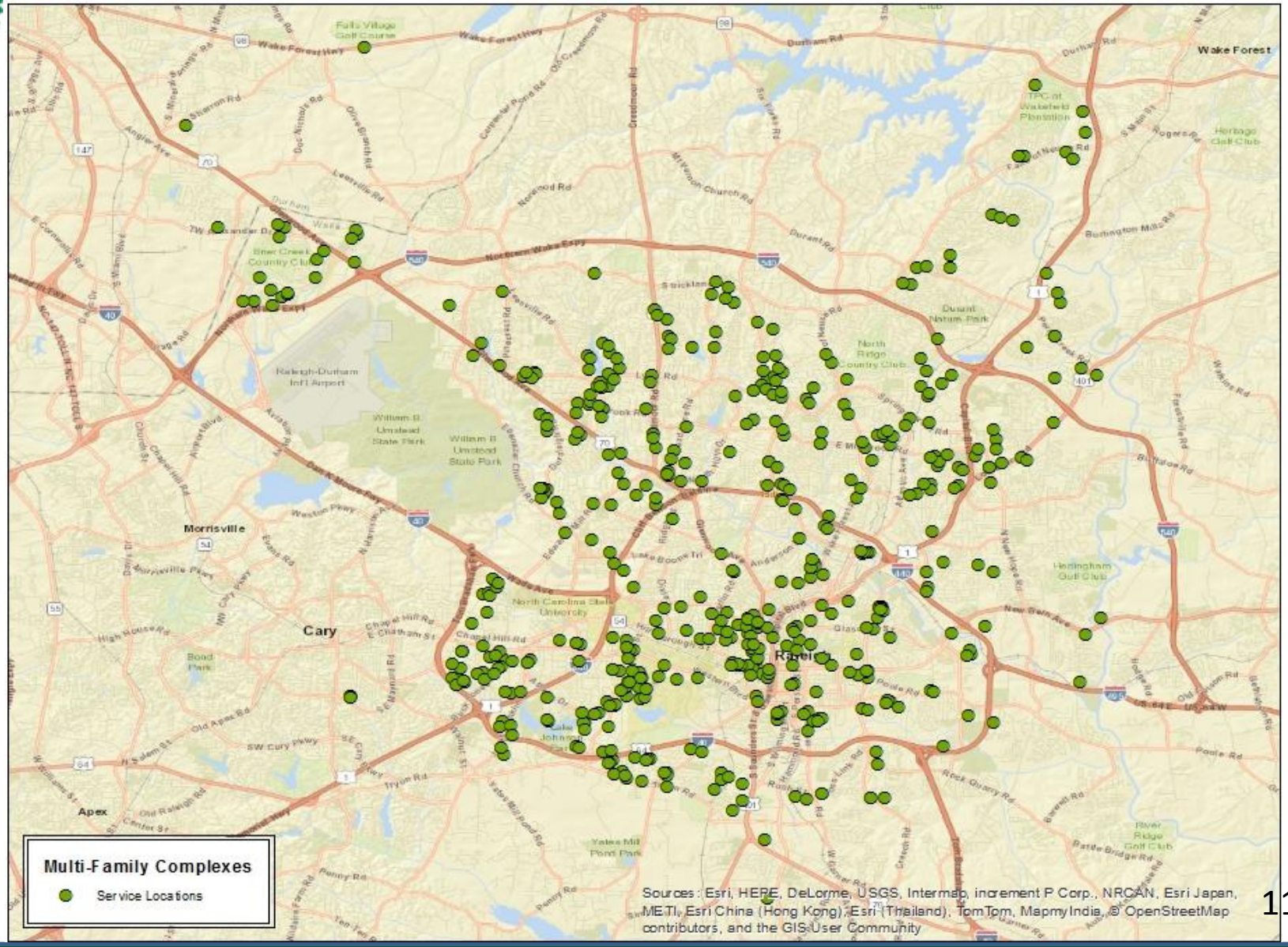
# How Do We Increase Recycling?

- Increase disposal options
- Provide training for property staff and tenants
- Encourage property owners to make educational opportunities available
- Provide educational materials

# Development Process

- ✓ Inventoried all multi-family communities sites
- ✓ Evaluated space and capacity needs
- ✓ Surveyed communities property owners
- ✓ Identified priority areas

# MULTIFAMILY COMMUNITIES

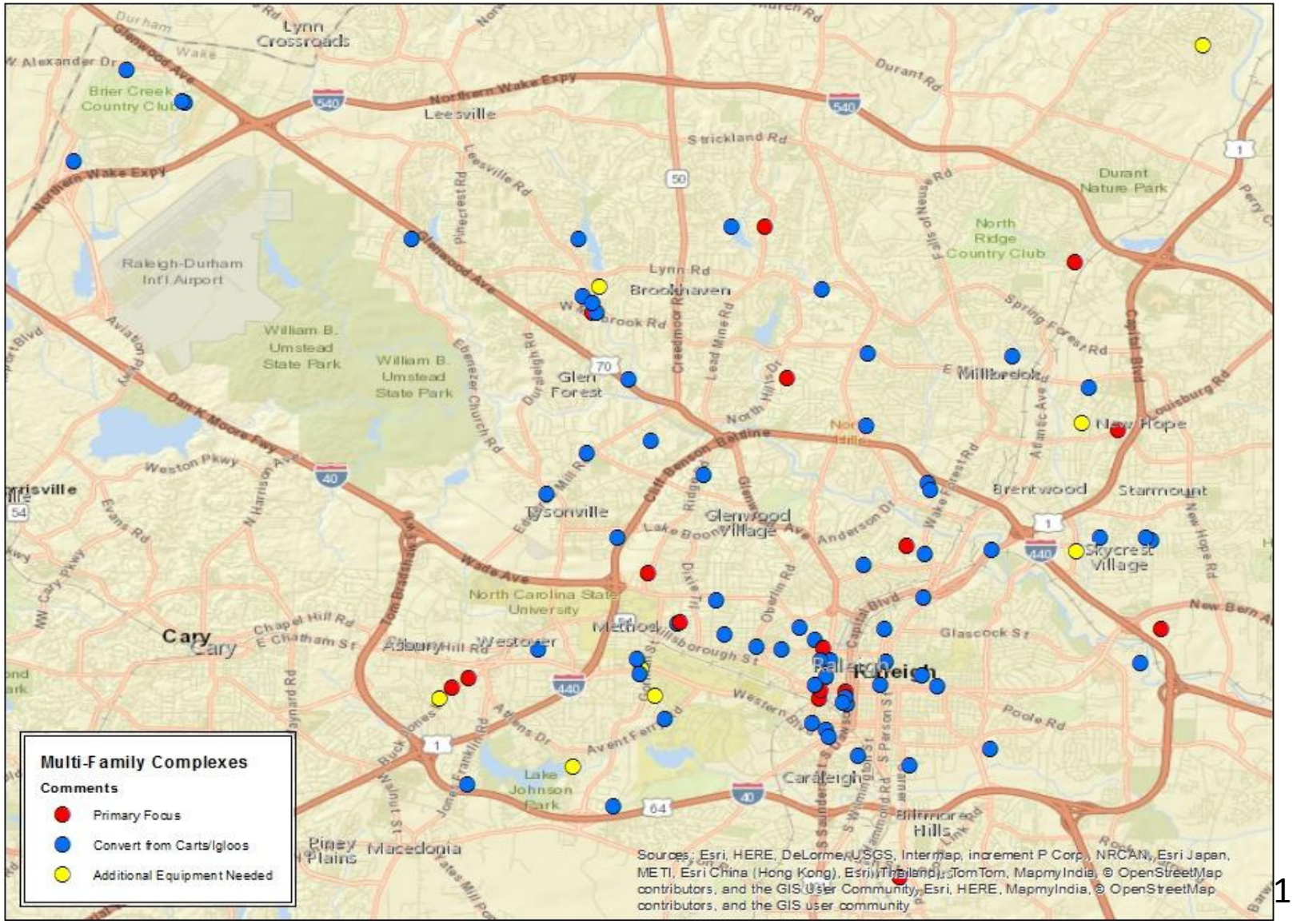


# Multi-Family Community Recycling Proposal

- Install Recycling Cabinets in locations where dumpsters are not feasible (Phase 1)
- Replace current igloo and carts recycling program within multi-family communities with a dumpster program (Phase 2)
- Continuously promote recycling in these communities through educational and training efforts

# MULTIFAMILY COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITIES UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE DUMPSTERS



# Phase 1

## Replace igloos with cabinets

# Phase 1

## Replace igloos with cabinets

- 85 Multifamily communities cannot accommodate dumpsters
- 153 Cabinets to be installed
- 10 of these communities being serviced for first time.

# Phase 1

## Project Time Line

- Develop Communications/Education Strategy *(July-September)*
- Installation and servicing of Recycling Cabinets *(July-November)*
- Communication/Education Strategy Implemented *(September – June)*
- Develop RFP for Dumpsters *(September)*
- Order Equipment *(September)*
- Hire/train Personnel *(May-June)*
- Receive/place Dumpsters *(May-June)*

# Phase 2

## Replace carts/igloos with dumpsters

# Phase 2

## Implementation of Dumpster Program

- 547 Multifamily communities
- 159 Communities being serviced for first time
- 600 Dumpsters to be installed

# Phase 2

## Project Time Line

- Continued training & education of MFC property owners and residents *(FY19)*
- Full implementation of dumpster and recycling cabinet collection process *(FY19)*
- Order remaining equipment *(FY19)*

# Education & Outreach

- Training for property owners and managers
- Provide educational materials and literature to residents
- Site visits

# FY18 Impact

FY18 Recommended Budget

Phase 1 implementation funding of $293,005

- To purchase new vehicles
- To hire additional staff
- To lease dumpsters

One-time costs for FY18 is $336,260

- To purchase Recycling Cabinets and carts

# FY19 Impact

FY19 Budget will include additional costs associated with Phase 2

- Additional truck
- Replacement equipment
- Full year personnel and equipment costs

# Next Steps

- Council approval of the purchase of recycling cabinets
- Education and training begins
- Fall delivery of cabinets
- Begin MFC collections
- Council approval of contract to lease dumpsters
- Locate and change out of equipment
- FY19 implementation of dumpster program

# Volume Based Systems (PAYT) Update

- RFP issued in December of 2016
- Consultant hired in May 2017:
  - Develop longitudinal financial model for volume based solid waste collections program
  - Discuss full cost recovery rate structure
  - Identify case studies and best practices
  - Develop implementation strategies
- Financial model and recommended strategies to be presented in early 2018

# FleetMind

## How SWS Uses the Solution

- Dispatch routes
- Identify excessive break times
- Track performance and productivity
- Bridge communication gap between drivers and back office personnel (Code Enforcement)
- Check missed pick-up validity
- Aids in route balancing

FleetMind

# FleetMind

## Anticipated Timeline for Phase II:

| Project Milestone | Estimated Completion Date |
|---|---|
| Project Kick-Off Meeting | 8/1/2017 |
| Train COR Equipment Operators and back office users | 8/21/2017 |
| Install FM Mobile Hardware | 8/28/2017 |
| All FM Equipped Trucks Ready for Dispatch | 9/05/2017 |
| Deploy the FleetMind System | 9/05/2017 |
| Go Live with all garbage and yard waste trucks | 11/07/2017 |
| FM Project Closeout | 8/28/2018 |

FleetMind

# Textile Recycling Program

Council directed staff to investigate residential curbside textile recycling program

- Request for Proposals posted in March 2017
- Selected Simple Recycling as vendor
- Implementing 3 year Pilot Program
  - To begin early 2018

# Textile Collections

-Curbside collection for residents' convenience
-Every other week collection on the same day as recycling pickup.
-Residents of single-family detached homes and townhomes only.

# benefits

- Decrease waste dumped into South Wake Landfill and extend Landfill's life;
- Reduce city's costs for disposal;
- Increase Raleigh's overall waste diversion rate;
- Increase residents' awareness of textile waste.

# Organic Diversion Opportunities within SWS

- Curbside collection of yard waste
- Compost production at Yard Waste Center
- Seasonal grease collection
- Downtown business collection

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nnecting the Capital Area
GO Raleigh
HOLIDAY GREASE COLLECTION
November 2, 2016 - January 15, 2017
Don't Let Grease Clog Up Your Holiday Season
Oil

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# Composting: Possible Partnerships

- Convention Center food waste collection
- Composting classes at Wetland Center
- Anaerobic digester at Neuse River plant
- Wake County compost bin sales
- NCSU Compost Learning Lab

# Questions

# RESOLUTION NO. (2017) - 479

## A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING RALEIGH 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 90% of the world's wild plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and free to nearly free of pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, due in part to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with the honey bees that were brought to the United States from Europe in the 1700s, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, vegetables and even dairy products--one in every three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination; and

**WHEREAS**, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases; 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 nurseries and growers; and

**WHEREAS**, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat:

- Provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession throughout the growing season;
- Provides water for drinking, nest-building, cooling, diluting stored honey, and butterfly puddling;
- Provides undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for wild pollinators
- Is pesticide-free or has pesticide use carried out with least ill effects on pollinators;
- Is comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial forbs, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees in landscapes because many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted;
- Includes, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness; and,
- Provides for safe and humane removal of honey bees when required.

**WHEREAS**, supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions among community stewards, backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Gardeners, local businesses, faith-based organizations, and nature-related organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, 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, Raleigh chooses to support and encourage pollinator habitat creation and enhancement on both public and private land; and

**WHEREAS**, Raleigh should be certified a *BEE CITY USA* community because:

- The Environmental Advisory Board will celebrate pollinators and pollinator habitat each year at an annual awards program(s);
- BEE City information and the resolution will be added to the City's website with educational information and resources for the community about pollinator activities and opportunities;
- The staff in the Office of Sustainability, Parks and Recreation Department and others will document the existing program(s) to enhance pollinator habitats at nature preserves, parks

and other city departments; and work with local community groups to document pollinator activities happening in the community.

- The City's Comprehensive Plan will be updated to include a reference to BeeCity as a best practice.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, RALEIGH resolves as follows:

1. The Raleigh Office of Sustainability is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor.
2. The Assistant Sustainability Manager of Raleigh is designated as the BEE CITY USA liaison.
3. Facilitation of the Raleigh BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the **Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)**.
4. The EAB is authorized to, and should:
    a. **Celebration**: Annually celebrate National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase Raleigh's commitment to enhancing 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 Raleigh website which includes, at minimum, a copy of this resolution, links to the national BEE CITY USA website, contact information for the local government's BEE CITY USA liaison Assistant Sustainability Manager, contact information for the "EAB Committee," and 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, which can include, but is not limited to:
        i. Identification and inventory of Raleigh real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings.
        ii. Creation of a recommended locally native species list to include forbs, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species.
        iii. Maintain a pesticide management plan that supports pollinators.
        iv. Dissemination of informational and educational materials to the public.
        v. Tracking annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced by square footage and/or acreage.

    d. **Policy**: Establish, through the Raleigh 2030 Comprehensive Plan, acknowledgment of the BEE CITY USA designation as a best practice for establishing long term support for pollinators and habitat.

    e. **Plan Review:** Review the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and other relevant documents to review pesticide management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures.

    f. **Renewal:** After completing the first full pilot year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each January, this will be evaluated by city staff for application for renewal of the Raleigh'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 renewal fee based on Raleigh's population.

**Adopted:** June 20, 2017