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RESOLUTION NO. 1715R.06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ELIZARIO, TEXAS, DESIGNATING THE CITY OF SAN ELIZARIO AS A "POLLINATOR DISTRICT"; AND PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION AND PROMOTION OF POLLINATOR INITIATIVES TO INCLUDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WHEREAS, the City of San Elizario ("City") is located within the Chihuahuan Desert and this region has been identified as North America's highest bee diversity and designated as one of the top five such areas in the world; and

WHEREAS, the City has identified sustainable agriculture and the preservation of a rural lifestyle as a top priority as is detailed within its comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the City is focused on economic development opportunities that are sustainable such as from pollinator industries; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the uniqueness of its physical location for bee diversity and the demand for the commodity of medical grade honey within the healthcare industry, and supports efforts to grow this business opportunity in the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of San Elizario, Texas, that:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of San Elizario hereby designates the City as a "Pollinator District", which designation will assist in promoting pollinator initiatives bringing economic development opportunities to the City.

Section 2. The Council authorizes staff, with the assistance of the Bee Biodiversity Initiative, Auburn University, Alabama, to craft and establish a program that will assist in the development of the honey industry, in particular the production of medical grade honey.

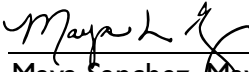
Section 3. Staff is advised to include in the pollinator program guidelines regarding the following:

- 1) **Insecticide Use:** Protect the Pollinator District to include prevention of insecticide use in city limits, as well as work with right-of-way entities and surrounding areas to minimize agrochemical use, ideally, herbicide and fungicide use as well. This will enable the City to gain community support for and involvement in the program.
- 2) **Training:** Train community members to become urban beekeepers. Working with the El Paso Beekeepers Association, for example, will enable the development of a bilingual curriculum to teach new and experienced beekeepers on how to produce high quality honey. The goal is to work over the course of one-year to produce medical-grade honey.
- 3) **Establish Honeybee Forage.** Solicit and coordinate with property owners for honeybee forage on their land. Bee forage fields will assist in determining which plants improve the medicinal quality of honey. In addition, the fields will also involve native plantings, which can help improve soil quality for future sustainable agriculture work such as in medicinal and dye crops.

Section 4. This Resolution shall be effective upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this, the 25th day of July 2017, by a vote of 5 (ayes) to 0 (nays) to 0 (abstentions) of the City Council of San Elizario, Texas.

CITY OF SAN ELIZARIO, TEXAS



Maya Sanchez, Mayor