

**CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION NO. #23-04-058**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TEMPORARY EXCEPTION TO SECTION 22-2 OF  
CITY CODE, PUBLIC NUISANCE, IN SUPPORT OF ‘SLOW MOW MAY’**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Vadnais Heights is supportive of a temporary exception to City Code, Section 22-2, Public Nuisance, allowing property owners to grow grass in their yards taller than 10 inches during the month of May; and

**WHEREAS**, insects, especially bees, serve a significant and critical role as pollinators of plants including agricultural plants; and

**WHEREAS**, the ideal pollinator-friendly habitat is one comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season; and

**WHEREAS**, the formative period for establishment of pollinator and other insect species and the many songbirds and other urban wildlife species that depend upon them occurs in late spring and early summer as they emerge from dormancy and require flowering plants as crucial foraging habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, "No Mow May" is a voluntary community science initiative that encourages property owners to limit lawn mowing practices during the month of May to provide early season foraging resources for pollinators that emerge in the spring, especially in urban landscapes when few floral resources are available; and

**WHEREAS**, "Slow Mow May" is a voluntary community science initiative that acknowledges the limitations of "No Mow May" and instead encourages property owners to think beyond "No Mow May" toward a year-round yard that is water, wildlife, and pollinator friendly; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Vadnais Heights would like to increase pollinator-friendly habitat by encouraging voluntary pollinator-friendly lawn-care practices on private property and on city-owned properties as feasible for the whole summer, but particularly in the month of May during this formative period.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Vadnais Heights recognizes Slow Mow May to actively promote and educate the community about the critical period of pollinator emergence, generation of crucial pollinator-supporting habitat and early spring foraging opportunities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that for the duration of the month of May, the City of Vadnais Heights shall suspend the enforcement of City Code, Section 22-2, Public Nuisance, and

voluntarily delay homeowner lawn-care practices until June, allowing pollinator species to emerge and early flowering grasses and forbs to establish, which may result in ground-cover exceeding established ordinance height restrictions, and; that during the month of May, the City of Vadnais Heights shall not issue citations for excess grass height.

This Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor and attested to by the City Administrator this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

Attest:

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Mike Krachmer, Mayor

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Kevin Watson, City Administrator

(SEAL)