

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Davis/Erickson

RESOLUTION 25-028

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF THE HOMER AREA BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE “NO MOW MAY” FOR THE
PROTECTION OF POLLINATORS.

WHEREAS, The City of Homer recognizes the vital role that pollinators, such as bees, play in supporting local ecosystems, agriculture, and food security; and

WHEREAS, Dandelions, often viewed solely as invasive weeds, are an important early-season food source for bees and other pollinators, providing nectar and pollen during a critical time when other floral resources may be scarce; and

WHEREAS, The Homer Area Beekeepers Association (HABA) has reached out to the City to propose a “No Mow May” initiative to encourage homeowners, businesses, and public entities to refrain from mowing lawns and grassy areas where dandelions are in full bloom, typically during the month of May (though sometimes beginning in April in warm springs, or continuing into early June in colder years) thereby supporting pollinator populations; and

WHEREAS, HABA acknowledges that mowing may resume to manage seed heads once dandelions transition from blooming to seeding, balancing pollinator support with property maintenance needs; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer is committed to fostering sustainable practices and supporting community efforts that enhance environmental health and biodiversity within the city and the broader Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer manages public lands, including parks and grassy areas, and has the opportunity to lead by example in adopting pollinator-friendly practices; and

WHEREAS, The Kenai Peninsula Borough oversees large grassy areas around schools and other public facilities within the Homer area, and collaboration with the Borough can amplify the impact of the “No Mow May” initiative; and

WHEREAS, Supporting “No Mow May” aligns with the City’s values of community engagement, environmental stewardship, and partnership with local organizations like HABA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Homer hereby supports the efforts of the Homer Area Beekeepers Association (HABA) to promote “No Mow May” as a means to protect and sustain pollinator populations by preserving dandelion blooms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City encourages homeowners and businesses within Homer to voluntarily refrain from mowing those portions of their lawns and properties where dandelions are in full bloom, while recognizing that mowing to remove seed heads is advisable once blooming has ceased.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Homer directs its staff, including those in the Public Works and Parks Departments, to refrain from mowing dandelion patches on city-managed properties, except where safety, accessibility, or other operational needs require otherwise.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Homer will reach out to the Kenai Peninsula Borough to request their cooperation in adopting similar practices by discouraging the mowing of dandelion patches in large grassy areas around schools and other Borough-managed properties, in support of this pollinator-friendly initiative.

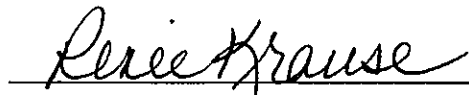
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City will promote awareness of "No Mow May" through its communication channels, including the City website, social media, and community outreach, to educate residents and businesses about the benefits of supporting pollinators and participating in this effort.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 14th day of April, 2025.

CITY OF HOMER


RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:


RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal information: NA

