

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: May 4, 2015

SUBJECT: Environmental Advisory Committee - Letter of Support

PRESENTER: Environmental Advisory Committee Representative

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1.) Letter of Support from the Environmental Advisory Committee

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Board of Commissioners is requested to approve the attached letter of support, authored by members of the Environmental Advisory Committee, for an application being submitted by the City of Hendersonville, the City's Environmental Sustainability Board, and the City's Tree Board to become a certified Bee City affiliate. The Committee has worked with the applicants, who have requested this letter of support for the program's application.

This program is a designation awarded by the national nonprofit Bee City, USA, which "endorses a set of standards for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet. Cities, towns and communities across America are invited to adopt these standards and become a Bee City USA affiliate." Other bee cities in North Carolina include Asheville, Carrboro, and Matthews; Talent and Ashland, Oregon are the only other designated cities in the US.

Hendersonville is already a certified Tree City and this program will augment educational awareness efforts and best practices to enhance habitats for pollinators and bees locally. The Environmental Advisory Committee supports the City's application, as only municipalities are eligible to become designated affiliates.

Through this letter of support and future efforts, the Henderson County Environmental Advisory Committee will assist the City's Environmental Sustainability Board and Tree Board with pollinator education and outreach, as well as best management practices to ensure healthy pollinator species thrive in Henderson County.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve this letter of support from the Henderson County Environmental Advisory Committee for an application being submitted by the City of Hendersonville, the City's Environmental Sustainability Board, and the City's Tree Board to become a certified Bee City affiliate.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve a letter of support from the Henderson County Environmental Advisory Committee for an application being submitted by the City of Hendersonville, the City's Environmental Sustainability Board, and the City's Tree Board to become a certified Bee City affiliate.

