



# **Repeal of No Mow May**

# Background



- National campaign advocated by Bee City USA
- Purpose: to support pollinator populations by encouraging residents to delay lawn mowing during the month of May.
- Greatest Impact: increased awareness about pollinators
- Mixed results & unintended challenges:
  - Proliferation of invasive plant species in unmanaged lawns.
  - Negative impacts on neighborhood aesthetics and property values.
  - Increased complaints about overgrown and unsightly lawns.
  - Difficulty in enforcing.
- City Council Study Session, October 2024



# Background



- **Recommendation:** Approve the repeal of No Mow May provision of the vegetation management code and focus on alternative strategies.
- By repealing the No Mow May initiative and focusing on alternative strategies, the city will:
  1. Restore Lawn Maintenance Standards
  2. Invasive Species
  3. Promote Alternative Pollinator-Friendly Practices
  4. Provide Education and Resources
  5. Evaluate Long-Term Strategies



## Closing

- Based on feedback, Sustainability Council believes while well-intentioned, the No Mow May initiative has presented challenges that outweigh its benefits.
- Sustainability Council believes the City should explore other sustainable approaches to pollinator conservation that balance ecological goals with community needs.