

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Los Angeles City Council adopted the Biodiversity Motion (CF 15-0499) to prioritize actions that protect and enhance native biodiversity in the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, cities like Los Angeles that are located in global biodiversity hotspots can, and should, become biophilic havens for native species and serve as refuge for species by providing habitat, adequate food/prey, and shelter; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved the creation of the Biodiversity Interdepartmental Team to study and report back on recommendations for how to integrate biophilic, or nature-centered design into City projects, citywide development projects, and citywide-scale planning, and to report on the health, environmental and economic benefits of biophilic design for building occupants and urban environments; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment's (LASAN) Biodiversity Team and members of the Biodiversity Interdepartmental Team are working to better integrate biodiversity elements/considerations into City projects; and

WHEREAS, the Biophilic Cities Network is a global network of partner cities, organizations, and individuals committed to planning and designing cities with abundant nature where residents have rich contact with the natural world. The Biophilic Cities Network provides an opportunity for partner cities to network, distribute resources, share lessons learned/best practices; and

WHEREAS, to formally become a Biophilic Cities partner, cities need to submit an official resolution, narrative statement, and a list of unique indicators; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is developing Biodiversity Guidelines that will help project managers incorporate biodiversity-friendly practices into their designs. The guidelines will advise public and private landholders on how to best design projects and sustainably manage properties in order to improve habitat quality and enhance local biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles aims to become a City where all Angelenos value biodiversity, honor and respect nature, and steward the natural world, ensuring that ecosystems are protected,

enhanced, and restored, environmental and public health benefits are maximized and equitably shared by all, and that Los Angeles is a resilient, biophilic City for generations to come; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles declares its support for the principles of the Biophilic Cities Network and commits to promoting, educating, and collaborating with participating member municipalities to support urban biodiversity and create opportunities for all Angelenos to connect with nature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LASAN on behalf of the City of Los Angeles are authorized to formally seek and secure membership into the Biophilic Cities Network as a partner city.