

CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION 31548

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3 A RESOLUTION concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides by the City of Seattle;
4 supporting a national moratorium on neonicotinoids, urging the White House Task Force on
5 Pollinator Health to recommend such a moratorium, urging the US Environmental Protection
6 Agency to institute such a moratorium, and urging the US Congress to revive legislation to enact
7 such a moratorium; and urging retailers operating within the City of Seattle to ensure that no
8 plants, seeds or products containing neonicotinoids are offered for sale.

9 WHEREAS, bees and other insect pollinators are under great environmental stress, experiencing
10 die-offs and diminishing populations, and putting major sectors of agriculture and food
11 security at risk; and

12 WHEREAS, the Food Action Plan of the City of Seattle commits the City to use its purchasing
13 and contracting power, and to support programs, policies and projects, to promote local,
14 sustainably produced food, and access to healthy food for all residents; and

15 WHEREAS, agriculture is among the largest sectors of the economy of the State of Washington,
16 accounting for over 49 billion dollars in total revenue and 13 percent of the state's
17 economy; and

18 WHEREAS, pollinators are critical to key Washington crops, such as tree fruit; over one-third of
19 all agricultural production worldwide is dependent on pollinators; and

20 WHEREAS, the United States Geological Survey has highlighted the growing use of
21 neonicotinoids in the United States, and found significant neonicotinoid contamination in our
22 nation's waters; and

23 WHEREAS, Neonicotinoids, one of the most widely used *classes of* insecticides in the world,
24 are systemic, persistent neurotoxins that spread throughout a treated plant including to the pollen
25 that is gathered by pollinators; and

26 WHEREAS, An independent review of more than 800 scientific studies concluded that
27 neonicotinoids are causing significant damage to a wide range of beneficial invertebrate species
28 and are a key factor in the decline of bees; and

WHEREAS, responding to scientific concern over the impact of neonicotinoids on pollinators,
the European Union in 2013 instituted a two-year moratorium on use of neonicotinoids,
while cities, including Spokane, WA, Eugene, OR, and Sherwood, MN, have instituted
bans against municipal use; and

1 WHEREAS, United States House of Representatives Bill 2692, the “Save America’s Pollinators
Act” of 2013, is currently pending in committee; and

2 WHEREAS, in August 2014 the US Fish and Wildlife Service announced plans to phase out use
3 of neonicotinoids on National Wildlife Refuges across the country, and the US
4 Geological Survey released information on the pervasive appearance of neonicotinoids in
aquatic environments throughout the Midwest; and

5 WHEREAS, in July 2014 President Obama directed the White House Task Force on Pollinator
6 Health to publish within 180 days a strategy to stop the decline of pollinators and help
7 restore populations to healthy levels; and

8 WHEREAS, the US Environmental Protection Agency has allowed registration, sale and use of
9 neonicotinoids while it carries out an assessment, and is not scheduled to issue its report
until 2018; and

10 WHEREAS, the City’s Interdepartmental Team on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which
11 includes representatives from Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle City Light,
12 Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Center, Finance and Administrative Services, Seattle
Department of Parks and Recreation and Seattle Public Libraries, has recommended
13 eliminating the use of neonicotinoids at City facilities; NOW, THEREFORE,

14 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
15 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

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17 Section 1. The City of Seattle will not purchase or use any neonicotinoid pesticides for any
18 purpose and will seek to use only pollinator-friendly methods of weed and pest control on any City-
19 owned or operated land.

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21 Section 2. The Mayor and the Seattle City Council supports a national moratorium on the
22 sale and use of neonicotinoids.
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1 Section 3. The Mayor and the Seattle City Council strongly urges the US House of
2 Representatives to pass the Save America's Pollinators Act (H.R. 2692).

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4 Section 4. The Mayor and Seattle City Council strongly urges the Environmental
5 Protection Agency (EPA) to suspend the registration of imidacloprid, clothianidin,
6 thiamethoxam, dinotafuran and any other neonicotinoids until the EPA can complete its
7 environmental assessments.
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10 Section 5. The Mayor and the Seattle City Council strongly urges the White House Task
11 Force on Pollinator Health to recommend or institute an immediate moratorium on all uses of
12 neonicotinoids.
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15 Section 6. The Mayor and Seattle City Council strongly urges businesses operating
16 within the City of Seattle to take immediate steps to ensure no plants, seeds, or products
17 containing neonicotinoids are purchased, sold, or used within the City of Seattle.
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19 Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2014, and signed
20 by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day
21 of _____, 2014.
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23 _____
24 President _____ of the City Council
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1 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:
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4 _____
5 Edward B. Murray, Mayor
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7 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2014.
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9 _____
10 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

11 (Seal)
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FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Josh Fogt	

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides by the City of Seattle; supporting a national moratorium on neonicotinoids, urging the White House Task Force on Pollinator Health to recommend such a moratorium, urging the US Environmental Protection Agency to institute such a moratorium, and urging the US Congress to pass legislation to enact such a moratorium; and urging retailers operating within the City of Seattle to ensure that no plants, seeds or products containing neonicotinoids are offered for sale.

Summary of the Legislation:

This resolution states City Council's policy intention to end the purchase and use of pesticides containing the chemical ingredient neonicotinoids on city owned property, as neonicotinoids are believed to be harmful to pollinating insects and associated with colony collapse disorder. The resolution also encourages the federal government to take regulatory action and encourages local business to end the sale of products containing neonicotinoids.

Background:

(Include a brief description of the purpose and context of legislation and include record of previous legislation and funding history, if applicable.)
Bees and other insect pollinators are under great environmental stress, experiencing die-offs and diminishing populations, and putting major sectors of agriculture and food security at risk. The Food Action Plan of the City of Seattle commits the City to use its purchasing and contracting power, and to support programs, policies and projects, to promote local, sustainably produced food, and access to healthy food for all residents. A recent study from Harvard University School of Public Health adds to numerous research documenting a direct link between pollinator deaths and colony collapse disorder to neonicotinoids. United States House of Representatives bill 2692, the "Save America's Pollinators Act" of 2013 is stalled in committee and is unlikely to be enacted. In August 2014 the US Fish and Wildlife Service announced plans to phase out use of neonicotinoids on national wildlife refuges across the country. The City's Interdepartmental Team on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which includes representatives from Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle City Light, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Center, Finance and Administrative Services, Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation and Seattle Public Libraries, has recommended eliminating the use of neonicotinoids at City facilities.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

(Please skip to "Other Implications" section at the end of the document and answer questions a-h. Earlier sections that are left blank

should be deleted. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each question.)

This legislation has financial implications.

(If the legislation has direct fiscal impacts (e.g., appropriations, revenue, positions), fill out the relevant sections below. If the financial implications are indirect or longer-term, describe them in narrative in the "Other Implications" Section. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each title and question.)

Appropriations:

(This table should reflect appropriations that are a direct result of this legislation. In the event that the project/programs associated with this ordinance had, or will have, appropriations in other legislation please provide details in the Appropriation Notes section below. If the appropriation is not supported by revenue/reimbursements, please confirm that there is available fund balance to cover this appropriation in the note section.)

Fund Name and Number	Department	Budget Control Level*	2014 Appropriation	2015 Anticipated Appropriation
TOTAL				

*See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.

Appropriations Notes:

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from this Legislation:

(This table should reflect revenues/reimbursements that are a direct result of this legislation. In the event that the issues/projects associated with this ordinance/resolution have revenues or reimbursements that were, or will be, received because of previous or future legislation or budget actions, please provide details in the Notes section below the table.)

Fund Name and Number	Department	Revenue Source	2014 Revenue	2015 Revenue
TOTAL				

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

Total Regular Positions Created, Modified, or Abrogated through this Legislation, Including FTE Impact:

(This table should only reflect the actual number of positions affected by this legislation. In the event that positions have been, or will be, created as a result of other legislation, please provide details in the Notes section below the table.)

Position Title and Department	Position # for Existing Positions	Fund Name & #	PT/FT	2014 Positions	2014 FTE	2015 Positions*	2015 FTE*

TOTAL							
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* 2015 positions and FTE are total 2015 position changes resulting from this legislation, not incremental changes. Therefore, under 2015, please be sure to include any continuing positions from 2014.

Position Notes:

Do positions sunset in the future?

(If yes, identify sunset date)

Spending/Cash Flow:

(This table should be completed only in those cases where part or all of the funds authorized by this legislation will be spent in a different year than when they were appropriated (e.g., as in the case of certain grants and capital projects). Details surrounding spending that will occur in future years should be provided in the Notes section below the table.)

Fund Name & #	Department	Budget Control Level*	2014 Expenditures	2015 Anticipated Expenditures
TOTAL				

* See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.

Spending/Cash Flow Notes:

Other Implications:

a) Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?

(If yes, explain them here.)

No.

b) What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?

(Estimate the costs to the City of not implementing the legislation, including estimated costs to maintain or expand an existing facility or the cost avoidance due to replacement of an existing facility, potential conflicts with regulatory requirements, or other potential costs.)

Undetermined.

c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

(If so, please list the affected department(s), the nature of the impact (financial, operational, etc), and indicate which staff members in the other department(s) are aware of the proposed legislation.)

The City's Interdepartmental Team on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which includes representatives from Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle City Light, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Center, Finance and Administrative Services, Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation and Seattle Public Libraries, has recommended eliminating the use of neonicotinoids at City facilities.

- d) What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?** (Include any potential alternatives to the proposed legislation, such as reducing fee-supported activities, identifying outside funding sources for fee-supported activities, etc.)

The state or federal governments could take action that would likely achieve the objective on a much wider scale, but it is unlikely they will do so in the near future.

- e) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
(If yes, what public hearing(s) have been held to date, and/or what public hearing(s) are planned for the future?)

No.

- f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
(For example, legislation related to sale of surplus property, condemnation, or certain capital projects with private partners may require publication of notice. If you aren't sure, please check with your lawyer. If publication of notice is required, describe any steps taken to comply with that requirement.)

No.

- g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
(If yes, and if a map or other visual representation of the property is not already included as an exhibit or attachment to the legislation itself, then you must include a map and/or other visual representation of the property and its location as an attachment to the fiscal note. Place a note on the map attached to the fiscal note that indicates the map is intended for illustrative or informational purposes only and is not intended to modify anything in the legislation.)

This legislation could affect all city-owned property inside and outside the city by ensuring that neonicotinoid-based pesticides are no longer used on city land. Currently, these pesticides are only used in indoor facilities such as greenhouses when other methods of pest management are unsuccessful.

- h) Other Issues:**

List attachments to the fiscal note below: