



**RIDGEFIELD PARKS BOARD
MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025
RACC - Columbia Assembly Room
510 Pioneer Street, Ridgefield, WA 98642**

I. GENERAL SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

- 1. Flag Salute**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Late changes to the agenda**

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone requesting to speak to the Board regarding all items not subject to a specific Public Hearing may come forward at this time. Please state your name and limit comments to three minutes. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Minutes from the August 13, 2025 Meeting**

IV. BUSINESS

- 1. Bee City USA: Process, Requirements, and Considerations - Corey Crownhart, Park Manager**
- 2. Staff Introduction: Ryan Thamert, Director of Public Works, and Miranda Lange, Public Works Infrastructure Deputy Director - Corey Crownhart, Park Manager**

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone requesting to speak to the Board regarding all items not subject to a specific Public Hearing may come forward at this time. Please state your name and limit comments to three minutes. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

VII. FROM THE BOARD

VIII. ADJOURN

**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

MEETING DATE: September 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Approval of Minutes from the August 13, 2025 Meeting

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

STAFF CONTACT:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 8.13.25 Parks Board Minutes



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2025**

Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

I. GENERAL SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

- 1. Flag Salute**
- 2. Roll Call**

<p>Present: Chair Brigid Taylor Vice Chair Sandy Schill Board Member Beth Bicknell Board Member Alex Earl Board Member John Rafanelli Board Member Jessica Pace Board Member Elianna Galvan</p> <p>Absent:</p>
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3. Late changes to the agenda

None

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone requesting to speak to the Board regarding all items not subject to a specific Public Hearing may come forward at this time. Please state your name and limit comments to three minutes. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the June 11, 2025 Meeting

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2025, Parks Board Meeting.

<p>RESULT: ADOPTED (UNANIMOUS)</p> <p>MOVER: Vice Chair Sandy Schill</p> <p>SECONDER: Board Member Alex Earl</p> <p>AYES: Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Schill, Board Member Bicknell, Board Member Earl, Board Member Rafanelli, Board Member Pace, Board Member Galvan</p>

IV. PRESENTATION

1. Partnership Update - Davis Park Native Plant Flowerbed Improvements

Corey and the Ridgefield Garden Club shared an update on the Davis Park Native Plant Flowerbed Improvements. The project replaced two flowerbeds in Davis Park with native plants to enhance ecological function, reduce maintenance needs, and provide educational value through interpretive and plant identification signage. The new flowerbeds have reduced irrigation needs and decreased City staff maintenance time while improving the habitat.

2. Parks & Trails Graphic Sign Standards Manual

Corey shared the Parks & Trails Graphic Sign Standards Manual with the Parks Board members. The manual is designed to guide developers, contractors, and designers in creating signage that aligns with Ridgefield's brand, aesthetic, and long-term vision for public spaces.

V. BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Approval - 2025 Parks Board Work Plan Q2 Report - Corey Crownhart, Park Manager

A motion was made and passed to approve the 2025 Parks Board Work Plan Second Quarter Report as presented.

RESULT:	ADOPTED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Board Member Jessica Pace
SECONDER:	Vice Chair Sandy Schill
AYES:	Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Schill, Board Member Bicknell, Board Member Earl, Board Member Rafanelli, Board Member Pace, Board Member Galvan

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone requesting to speak to the Board regarding all items not subject to a specific Public Hearing may come forward at this time. Please state your name and limit comments to three minutes. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

Corey shared upcoming projects for multiple parks, and announced Ryan Thamert as the new Public Works Director and Miranda Hamilton as the Deputy Director for Public Works.

VIII. FROM THE BOARD

IX. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Kim Strickler, Parks Board Clerk

Brigid Taylor, Chair

**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

MEETING DATE: September 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Bee City USA: Process, Requirements, and Considerations

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

Bee City USA is a national certification program of the Xerces Society that recognizes cities for their commitment to pollinator conservation. The program encourages habitat creation, reduced pesticide use, and public education to support native bees and other pollinators. This agenda item provides an overview of the Bee City USA framework and highlights the environmental and community benefits of participation, including biodiversity support, partnerships, and positive visibility. No action is requested from Parks Board at this time.

STAFF CONTACT: Corey Crownhart, Park Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. PB2025.09.10 - Bee City USA Staff Brief - 2025.09.05



Research Brief: Bee City USA

Process, Requirements, and Considerations

Parks Board of Commissioners
Wednesday, September 10, 2025



Introduction

Overview

- What is Bee City USA
- Potential Benefits to Ridgefield
- Adoption Process
- Ongoing Work Required
- Case Studies of Other Municipalities

Tonight's Objective

Review the impacts and value of the Partnership and Park Improvement

What is Bee City?

National Recognition Program

- Administered by Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
- Recognizes cities and campuses dedicated to pollinator conservation

Program Focus

- Habitat creation and enhancement
- Reduce reliance on harmful pesticides
- Public awareness and community education





Potential Impacts

Biodiversity & Ecosystem Health

- Protects native pollinators, vital for food webs and seed production
- Helps maintain resilient ecosystems in city parks and open spaces
- Reduces risk of further pollinator decline at local and regional scales

Community Value

- Educational opportunities for schools and civic groups
- Builds partnerships with nonprofits and neighborhood associations
- Enhances Ridgefield's reputation as a sustainability leader

Adoption Process

1. Assign a city liaison
2. Form or designate a Pollinator Committee
3. Draft and adopt a Council Resolution
4. Submit application and \$200 annual fee
5. Plan an annual public education event
6. Submit annual progress report to maintain certification





Ongoing Work Required

Habitat & Maintenance

- Coordinate pollinator-friendly planting and maintenance
 - *COR Engineering Standards Vol. 3 already requires this*
- Utilize Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices
 - *COR O&M already adhere to these principles*

Education & Reporting

- Host at least one annual outreach event
 - *COR's Spring Festival would be a prime candidate*
- Provide signage and online presence of commitment
 - *Easily incorporated into communications strategies*
- Track and report activities annually

Comparable Cities

Vancouver, WA (2025)

- Hosted Pollinator Festival; Established partnerships with nonprofits and schools.

Hillsboro, OR (2019)

- Integrated pollinator policies into city planning and parks maintenance.

Eugene, OR (2018)

- Expanded native habitat across parks and open spaces.



Parks Board Questions





Contact Us

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Parks, Trails, and Recreation Division*

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(he/him)

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Thank You

The City of Ridgefield, Washington

**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

MEETING DATE: September 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Staff Introduction: Ryan Thamert, Director of Public Works, and Miranda Lange, Public Works Infrastructure Deputy Director

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

In July 2025, longtime Public Works Director Chuck Green retired after years of service to the City of Ridgefield. Following his retirement, Ryan Thamert was appointed Director of Public Works and Miranda Lange as Public Works Infrastructure Deputy Director. This agenda item provides the Parks Board with an opportunity to be formally introduced to Ryan and Miranda as they assume their new roles and continue overseeing the City's public works operations, with the parks division as a key component. No action is requested from the Parks Board at this time.

STAFF CONTACT: Corey Crownhart, Park Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

None