



**RIDGEFIELD PARKS BOARD
MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 9, 2026
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 12, 2026 Meeting**

IV. BUSINESS

- 1. Consideration of Recommendation — Davis Park Sign Replacement and Community Park Monument Signage Policy - Corey Crownhart, Park Manager**
- 2. Consideration of Recommendation - Bee City USA Resolution - 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 9, 2026

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2026 Meeting

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

STAFF CONTACT:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 8.12.26 Parks Board Minutes



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2026**

Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

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

1. Flag Salute

2. Roll Call

A motion was made and passed to excuse the absence of Board Member Alex Earl.

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

Present:

Chair Brigid Taylor
Vice Chair Sandy Schill
Board Member Beth Bicknell
Board Member John Rafanelli
Board Member Jessica Pace
Board Member Elianna Galvan

Excused: Board Member Alex Earl

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 May 13, 2026 Meeting

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2026 Parks Board Meeting.

RESULT: ADOPTED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Vice Chair Schill

SECONDER: Board Member Rafanelli

AYES: Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Schill, Board Member Bicknell,
Board Member Rafanelli, Board Member Pace, Board
Member Galvan

IV. PRESENTATION

1. 2026 RCO WWRP Local Parks Grant Proposal and Presentation

The Parks Board was provided an update on the City's 2026 grant application to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for the Horn's Corner Inclusive-Design Playground Project. The project advances the Horn's Corner Park Master Plan, approved by the Parks Board and City Council in 2022, and would provide expanded, inclusive recreational opportunities for children and families of varying ages and abilities.

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

Corey Crownhart invited the Parks Board to attend the PROS Plan Open House on September 9th from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at the RACC, immediately prior to the next Parks Board meeting.

VII. FROM THE BOARD

VIII. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Kim Strickler, Parks Board Clerk

Brigid Taylor, Chair

**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

MEETING DATE: September 9, 2026

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Consideration of Recommendation — Davis Park Sign Replacement and Community Park Monument Signage Policy

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

Parks Board will review the proposed replacement sign design for Davis Park and consider recommending approval to City Council. The replacement will address the deteriorating monument sign and align with the City's Park & Trail Graphic Standards. The Board will also review the Community Park Monument Signage Policy, which provides internal guidance for consistent sign designs as community park monument signs are replaced.

Requested Action: Consideration of Recommendation to City Council to approve the Davis Park replacement sign design.

STAFF CONTACT: Corey Crownhart, Park Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. RidgefieldParkSignage2026-DavisPark
2. DRAFT-CommunityParkMonumentSignPolicy



DAVIS PARK

CITY OF
RIDGEFIELD

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Community Park Monument Signage Policy

Parks, Trails, and Recreation Division
Public Works Department | City of Ridgefield

1. Purpose

This policy provides additional direction for the design of Community Park Monument Signage within the City of Ridgefield Parks and Recreation System. It supplements the monument signage standards established in the City's [Parks & Trails Graphic Sign Standards Manual](#).

2. Applicability

This policy applies specifically to new and replacement monument signs at City-owned community parks. It does not modify signage standards for neighborhood parks, trails, natural areas, or other park classifications.

3. Governing Standards

Community Park Monument Signage shall:

1. Be designed in accordance with the City's [Parks & Trails Graphic Sign Standards Manual](#).
2. Be installed in accordance with the City's [Engineering Standards, Volume 3](#).
3. Comply with all other applicable City branding, accessibility, safety, and construction requirements.

If this policy conflicts with an adopted City standard, the adopted standard shall govern.

4. Systemwide Design Consistency

Community Park Monument Signage shall maintain a consistent appearance throughout the park system. The following elements shall be the same for every community park monument sign:

- Text font and treatment
- Sign frame
- Grey City of Ridgefield logo
- Background design
- General sign dimensions, proportions, and layout

The design identified in the [Parks & Trails Graphic Sign Standards Manual](#) shall serve as the standard template for all Community Park Monument Signage.

5. Park-Specific Signature Elements

Each community park monument sign shall include a distinct signature element reflecting the identity of that park. This element may reference the park's:

- Natural features, plants, or wildlife
- Recreational amenities or uses

- History or cultural significance
- Surrounding neighborhood or community
- Established theme or character

The signature element may vary in imagery and color but shall remain consistent with the location, scale, and overall design treatment established by the standard monument sign template.

6. Design Review and Approval

Parks and Recreation staff shall develop each Community Park Monument Signage design in accordance with this policy and all applicable City standards.

The Parks Board shall review the proposed design, including the park-specific signature element, and provide a formal recommendation to City Council. City Council shall review and approve the final design before installation.

Following Council approval, installation shall proceed in accordance with the City's established operations and maintenance processes.

7. Implementation

This policy shall be implemented when:

- A new community park monument sign is installed;
- An existing community park monument sign is replaced; or
- An existing monument sign undergoes a substantial redesign.

This policy does not require the immediate replacement of existing monument signs unless replacement is otherwise planned, warranted, and funded.

**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

MEETING DATE: September 9, 2026

AGENDA ITEM NAME: Consideration of Recommendation - Bee City USA Resolution

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

Bee City USA is a national certification program of the Xerces Society that recognizes cities for their commitment to pollinator conservation through habitat creation, reduced pesticide use, and public education. Building on the previous overview, Parks Board will consider recommending that City Council adopt a resolution supporting Ridgefield's participation in Bee City USA. Participation would advance pollinator conservation and create opportunities for community education, volunteer involvement, and local partnerships.

Requested Action: Consideration of Recommendation of Resolution to City Council.

STAFF CONTACT: Corey Crownhart, Park Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. DRAFT-BeeCityUSA-Resolution-Ridgefield-2026.08.31
2. PB2026.09.09-BeeCityUSAConsideration

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF RIDGEFIELD AS A BEE CITY USA® AFFILIATE

WHEREAS, the mission of BEE CITY USA is to galvanize communities to sustain pollinators, responsible for the reproduction of almost 90% of the world's flowering plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and by encouraging the thoughtful, limited, and responsible use of pesticides, with an emphasis on minimizing or eliminating pesticide use wherever practicable; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the more than 3,600 species of native bees in the United States, along with introduced honey bees, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, poor nutrition, irresponsible pesticide use (including insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides), parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, pollinator-friendly communities can benefit local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

WHEREAS, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat (A) is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season to provide diverse and abundant nectar and pollen, since many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted; (B) is managed through limited, thoughtful, and responsible use of pesticides, with an emphasis on minimizing or eliminating pesticide use wherever practicable, as many pesticides can harm pollinators and/or their habitat; (C) comprises undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, unmown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering; and (D) provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a long-term approach to maintaining healthy landscapes and facilities that minimize risk to people and the environment by identifying and removing the causes of pest problems rather than only attaching the symptoms (the pests); employing pests' natural enemies along with cultural, mechanical, and physical controls when prevention is not enough; and using pesticides only when no other method is feasible or effective; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters broad-based community engagement in environmental awareness and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ridgefield should be certified a *BEE CITY USA* community because the City has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, habitat conservation, native plantings, sustainable park and open space management, and public education through its parks, trails, natural areas, and community planning efforts, and because the designation will provide a framework to further support pollinator health, expanding pollinator-friendly habitat, guide thoughtful and responsible

pest management practices, and engage the community in protecting the natural systems that contribute to Ridgefield's quality of life; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the City of Ridgefield chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows:

1. The City's Public Works Department is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor.
2. The Parks, Trails, and Recreation Manager of the Public Works Department is designated as the BEE CITY USA Liaison.
3. Facilitation of the City's BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the Ridgefield Parks Board of Commissions.
4. The Parks Board of Commissioners is authorized to and shall:
 - a. **Celebration:** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year to showcase the City's commitment to raising awareness of pollinator conservation and expanding pollinator health and habitat.
 - b. **Publicity & Information:** Install and maintain at least one authorized BEE CITY USA street sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage on the City's website which includes, at minimum a copy of this resolution and links to the national BEE CITY USA website; contact information for your BEE CITY USA Liaison and Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and your recommended native plant species list and integrated pest management plan.
 - c. **Habitat:** Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not limited to, Identifying and inventorying the City's real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; creating a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; and, tracking (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced.
 - d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management:** Create and adopt an integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
 - e. **Policy & Plans:** Establish, through the City, a policy in the City's Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces (PROS) Plan to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation and review the PROS Plan and other relevant documents to consider improvements to pest management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures.
 - f. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of the City's BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year's BEE CITY USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on the City's population.

ADOPTED AT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON, THIS
___ DAY OF _____, 2026.

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD

Matt Cole, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Julie Ferriss, City Clerk



Research Brief: Bee City USA

Consideration of Recommendation

Ridgefield Parks Board of Commissioners
Wednesday, September 9, 2026



Introduction

Overview

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

Tonight's Objective

Consideration of Recommendation to
City Council

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

Parks Board Discussion





Contact Us

*Public Works Department
Parks, Trails, and Recreation Division*

Corey Crownhart, MSML

(he/him)

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Thank You

The City of Ridgefield, Washington