Resolution supporting the City of La Crosse's participation in the Cities with Nature initiative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Cities with Nature (https://www.citieswithnature.org/) is a "unique initiative that recognizes and enhances the value of nature in and around cities across the world," and "provides a shared platform for cities and their partners to engage and connect, working with shared commitment towards a more sustainable urban world"; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse Common Council approved its 2009 *Strategic Plan for Sustainability*, which includes a goal to preserve and enhance its natural resources, including wildlife habitat, forests, water, wetlands, and bluff lands; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse is in the process of updating its *Strategic Plan for Sustainability* by creating a Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, nature can play a significant role in mitigating carbon emissions, supporting the Common Council resolution to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse is part of the Driftless Area which offers many unique ecosystems and natural areas that are important to its identity, economy, beauty, biodiversity, and culture; and

WHEREAS, future sustainable development and human well-being depends on our ability to confront current biodiversity threats, protect ecosystems, and commit to their longevity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse that it hereby supports the City of La Crosse's participation in the Cities with Nature initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nature will be included in the future vision and plans for our city, specifically the Climate Action Plan, and we recognize the multiple benefits offered by nature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Planning, Development, & Assessment Department will work with other appropriate City departments in collaboration with other communities in the pursuit of a more sustainable urban world.

I, Nikki M. Elsen, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse on December 9, 2021.

Nikki M. Elsen, WCMC, City Clerk City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

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