

Proposal to Hume City Council

Proposal:

- *Convert our dry, barren, unflattering, visually unpleasing road islands into vibrant nature parks for our local pollinators.*

Bee populations across the globe are in heavy decline. This should concern everyone.

As our most hard-working pollinators they are responsible for pollinating 1/3 of our food supply globally.

In order to support our local bee population I believe Hume City Council need to play their part in the greater scheme of things. As many other councils across the world have already taken this initiative.

As a resident of Hume for the past 30 years, my proposal is simple and would be mutually beneficial to not only our treasured wild pollinators but also to council.

By transforming our barren, patchy, road side green spaces into an urban nature paradise.

Methodology:

Plant an array of wildflower seeds which are bee friendly in otherwise barren green spaces adjacent to our most used roads. i.e. the land corridor adjacent Pascoe Vale Road between Coleraine Street and Somerton Road.

This corridor is a suitable location due to the amount of green space on either side as well as the large road island located in the centre of the road.

Positives:

- Council will see drastic reduction in maintenance expenditure of the space due to the eliminated need of mowing.
- Will encourage walking within the communities which lowers the incidence of heart disease, diabetes, asthma and depression of our residents.
- Street greenery will help water soak into the ground, filtering out pollutants.
- Will help further cool streets and help counter the urban heat island effects.
- Will be visually appealing to both residents and visitors of our area as this space is often parched yellow in Summer due to consecutive heat waves. Whereas indigenous local wildflowers will blossom.
- Put Hume City Council on the map in regards to sustainability, supporting biodiversity and taking the first steps in becoming a pollinator friendly council within Melbourne.

Conclusion:

The adoption of this proposal by Hume City Council will prove to residents that our council is progressive, aware of current ecological concerns and is willing to take the step in the right direction.