

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSED PILOT PROJECT APPLICATION FOR
THE COMPOSTING AND FOOD WASTE REDUCTION COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENTS FOR FY 2022**

WHEREAS, in 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law, and in 2022, funded \$10.2 million for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Composting and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) Pilot Projects program;

WHEREAS, the purpose of CFWR is to provide assistance through a cooperative agreement to municipalities, counties, local governments, or city planners in the United States to carry out planning and implementation activities that will – generate compost; increase access to compost for agricultural producers; reduce reliance on, and limit the use of, fertilizer; improve soil quality; encourage waste management and permaculture business development; increase rainwater absorption; reduce municipal food waste; and divert food waste from landfills;

WHEREAS, projects are scored based on an evaluation criteria review by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Evaluation criterion includes: consistency with purpose and priorities of CWFR, projected positive impact and measurable outcomes, fiscal plan and resources, and collaboration with partners. Additional priority considerations include economic benefits, incorporating plans to make compost easily accessible, integrating food waste reduction strategies, and including a robust plan that describes collaboration;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria commits to support the WasteSmart Strategic Plan and Environmental Action Plan 2040 action-item of evaluating organics processing market readiness and feasibility of curbside organics collection; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit applications for an allocation of funds up to \$300,000 through the USDA’s 2022 Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project for the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia:

1. the City Council hereby supports this application for an allocation of up to \$300,000 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project;
2. the City Council hereby commits to include funds for its cost share of agency funds up to \$75,000 for the CWFR Pilot Project, if awarded, in its Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget; and,
3. the City Council hereby grants authority for the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required under this program.

Adopted: _____

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, CMC, City Clerk