

Resolution No. 2024-XXX N.C.S.
of the City of Petaluma, California

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PETALUMA APPROVING AN
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR CITY EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, AND
LESSEES**

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma’s existing IPM policy was adopted in 1999; and

WHEREAS, in response to best practices and community concerns, the City of Petaluma’s current pest management practices rely predominantly on mechanical and organic pesticides methods; and

WHEREAS, updating the IPM Plan has been a top Council priority since 2022; and

WHEREAS, the draft IPM policy reflects the issues and concerns raised through outreach efforts including groups interested in pesticide reduction, Rooster Run golf course, and the Recreation, Music, and Parks Commission; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Integrated Pest Management Policy is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines (Commonsense Exemption) because it can be seen with certainty that amending the City’s pest management practices to reflect the updated IPM policy that reduces pesticide use will not have a significant effect on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the project is also categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) as the use of pesticides will result in minor and temporary changes to existing public facilities and will be less invasive than prior City practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Petaluma as follows:

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct and incorporated into this resolution as findings for the Petaluma City Council.
2. Adoption of the Integrated Pest Management Policy is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines (Commonsense Exemption) because it can be seen with certainty that amending the City’s pest management practices to reflect the updated IPM policy that reduces pesticide use will not have a significant effect on the environment. The project is also categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) as the use

of pesticides will result in minor and temporary changes to existing public facilities and will be less invasive than prior City practices.

3. The Integrated Pest Management Policy attached hereto as Exhibit A is approved subject to all reservation of rights and contingencies set forth above. The City’s existing IPM policy, which was adopted in 1999 and is attached to the concurrent staff report as Attachment 2 is hereby repealed and replaced with Exhibit A.
4. The City Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

Under the power and authority conferred upon this Council by the Charter of said City.

REFERENCE:

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted by the Council of the City of Petaluma at a Regular meeting on the 18th day of March 2024, by the following vote:

Approved as to
form:

City Attorney

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor



EXHIBIT A
CITY OF PETALUMA
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE:

Establish an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program that preserves and protects City resources while minimizing risks to human health and the environment resulting from pest establishment, damage, and control.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the City of Petaluma to follow the widely accepted principles of Integrated Pest Management. The basic principles are the use of least-toxic methods for pest control, the goal of removing only the target organism, and minimization of risks to human health, beneficial non-target organisms, and the environment. The policy includes consideration of a "no action" approach to pest management to minimize the use of chemical pest control methods.

It is further the policy of the City of Petaluma to discontinue the use of synthetic pesticides which pose a threat to human health and focus on long-term prevention or suppression of pests or their damage with minimum impact to human health and the environment and non-target organisms, unless exempted through the process defined in this Policy. Under no circumstances shall the City, its employees, contractors, and lessees use pesticides prohibited from use by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

APPLICABILITY:

This Policy applies to City Departments, contractors, and lessees who perform pest management activities on any City property.

PROCEDURES:

While it is the responsibility of all City staff, contractors, and lessees to comply with this Policy, the City shall designate a qualified IPM Coordinator to oversee the IPM Program and develop and maintain an IPM Procedures Manual. The Procedures Manual shall be consistent with this IPM Policy and, at minimum, contain the following:

- 1) List of approved IPM control methodologies, including preventative measures.
- 2) List of prohibited products or processes.
- 3) Procedure for considering and allowing exemptions to this policy.
- 4) List of exempted product names, the location at which application is allowed, and the duration for which the exemption has been granted.
- 5) Process for receiving, compiling, and making public records available related to this policy.

EXEMPTIONS:

In the event a pest(s) threatens the health or safety of staff, the public, or the structural integrity of City facilities, the IPM Coordinator may approve an exemption to this policy. Exemptions may be granted for single applications or pilot use cases or for a defined term, but in no case shall an exemption be granted for an unlimited duration. Mitigating actions may be required by the IPM Coordinator to minimize potential impact on non-target organisms.