

## RESOLUTION No. 37427-

Adopt the Portland Parks and Recreation Integrated Pest Management policy to prohibit the use of Avitrol and other avicides on City-owned property and infrastructure (Resolution)

WHEREAS, the City of Portland recognizes that there are over 200 species of native birds that are found in Portland and are integral to the city's local ecosystems; their health and visibility contributes to the quality of life of residents and visitors and supports numerous recreational opportunities such as the Vaux's Swifts at Chapman School; and

WHEREAS, the city's urban parks are enriched by the presence of native birds and the protection and humane treatment of native birds and other wildlife is a core value of the city's residents; and

WHEREAS, the City has long worked to protect native birds by protecting and restoring avian habitat, reducing avian hazards, and promoting stewardship and appreciation of native birds;

WHEREAS the City has committed to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds on May 7, 2003 (Resolution No. 36135), designating Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge as a Migratory Bird Park with a commitment to protect and enhance habitats for migratory birds (Resolution No. 36210), and adopting new code in the Central City 2035 Plan to mandate bird safe building designs; and

WHEREAS, the City has actively worked to refine its own practices to improve conditions for native birds by publishing and voluntarily applying the 2012 *Resource Guide to Bird Friendly Building Design*, adopting Resolution No. 37034, encouraging the exploration and incorporation of bird friendly design and practices in City plans and policies, developing and following guidelines for vegetation removal and modification to avoid impacts on nesting birds (*Protecting Nesting Birds: Best Management Practices for Vegetation and Construction Projects*), and retrofitting the BES Columbia Boulevard Treatment Building to minimize bird collisions; and

WHEREAS, more than 5,000 people across the Metro Region have enrolled in the Portland Audubon-Columbia Land Trust Backyard Habitat Certification Program to restore their yards for birds and other wildlife; and

WHEREAS, American crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) are native birds protected by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the aforementioned City initiatives; and

WHEREAS, American crows are a remarkably intelligent, interesting species that are part of our urban ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous incidents of crow poisoning in Portland, including largescale incidents in 2014 and 2018 that killed numerous crows in downtown Portland and Northeast Portland and that testing determined was caused by Avitrol, a commercially available avicide; and

WHEREAS, these events resulted in dead and dying crows falling from the sky, having seizures on the ground, and left dead crows scattered across the landscape, on roads, sidewalks, public parks and on private property ; and

WHEREAS, these events raised very significant fear and concern among community members, put people, pets and wildlife at risk, and required a significant mobilization of public and non-profit resources to respond; and

WHEREAS, Avitrol is a restricted-use pesticide with acute oral and dermal toxicity that acts on the central and motor nervous systems to cause distressing behaviors resembling epileptic seizures and that is potentially harmful or lethal to non-target species through direct consumption or secondary poisoning; and

WHEREAS, similar events have been documented in other cities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the use of such avicides is unnecessary, inhumane, and inconsistent with City policies and practices on City property and infrastructure and with the City's ongoing efforts to protect native birds and other wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Portland Parks and Recreation (PP&R) maintains an Integrated Pest Management Program that is used by many City bureaus as best management practices for use of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, PP&R has developed a policy, attached as Exhibit A, to prohibit the use of avicides on PP&R property; and

WHEREAS, City Council direction is required to direct other bureaus to follow specific elements of the PP&R IPM program, such as this policy to ban the use of avicides on City-owned or -managed property and infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all bureaus within the City of Portland are directed to apply the Parks and Recreation Integrated Pest Management policy to prohibit the use of Avitrol and other restricted use avicides on land owned or managed by the City of Portland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City will work with partners, such as the Audubon Society and others to promote awareness of the regulations and risks surrounding the use of such avicides.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City will work with partners such as the Audubon Society and others to promote stewardship of birds and other wildlife and humane solutions to resolve human-wildlife conflicts.

Adopted by the Council, JUN 05 2019  
Commissioner Nick Fish

Prepared by: Kaitlin Lovell  
Date Prepared: May 15, 2019

**Mary Hull Caballero**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By



Deputy

Agenda No.  
**RESOLUTION NO. 37427-**  
 Title

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<p><b>INTRODUCED BY</b>                  Commissioner/Auditor:  <b>FISH</b></p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>5-28-19</u></p>
<p><b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Wheeler</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish <i>SMS</i></p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Hardesty</p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Eudaly</p>	<p>Mary Hull Caballero                  Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <i>[Signature]</i>                  Deputy</p>
<p><b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Bureau:                  Bureau Head: <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Prepared by: Kaitlin Lovell/James Allison                  Date Prepared: May 15, 2019</p> <p>Financial Impact &amp; Public Involvement Statement</p> <p>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Portland Policy Document                  If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document.                  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>City Auditor Office Approval:</b>                  required for Code Ordinances</p> <p><b>City Attorney Approval:</b>                  required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan <i>[Signature]</i></p>	<p><b>ACTION TAKEN:</b></p>
<p>Council Meeting Date <b>June 5, 2019</b></p>	

**AGENDA**

**TIME CERTAIN**   
**Start time: 10:15**

**Total amount of time needed: 30 Minutes**  
 (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

**CONSENT**

**REGULAR**   
**Total amount of time needed: \_\_\_\_\_**  
 (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Hardesty	3. Hardesty	✓	
4. Eudaly	4. Eudaly	✓	
Wheeler	Wheeler	✓	