

**RESOLUTION #6-R-23**

***Amended***

Addition of Bird Safe Glass requirements to Appleton Municipal Code

SUMMARY resolution to add language to the Municipal building code which requires all future construction to analyze and address bird strike risk of large reflective glass surfaces, and also directs the City to evaluate and remediate existing window surfaces on public buildings which meet a certain threshold for bird strike risk and apply reasonable safely measures to these surfaces by 2025.

**Submitted By:** Alderperson Schultz- District 9, Alderperson Meltzer – District 2, Alderperson Del Toro – District 4.

**Date:** June 7, 2023

**Referred To:** Community & Economic Development Dept., Parks Recreation & Facilities Dept., & Legal Services Dept.

**Committee to be reported at:** Community & Economic Development Committee

**Amended At Community & Economic Development Committee, September 13, 2023**

WHEREAS, according to the Audubon Society, up to a billion birds die annually from collisions with windows in our buildings, with research showing that between 54-76% of window collisions are fatal, and;

WHEREAS, such deaths are entirely avoidable by incorporating bird-friendly glass, glass films which are readily available, affordable and nearly impossible to distinguish by humans, while being almost completely safe for birds, and WHEREAS, the City of Appleton was designated a official Bird City in 2017 and has been recognized for its continuing work to support and sustain urban avian populations, and

WHEREAS, a significant number of urban commercial and residential buildings in Appleton incorporate large panes of glass with the capacity to injure or kill birds at a time when bird-friendly glass and glass film alternatives are widely available, yet may not have been available, considered cost-prohibitive or not even considered during construction,

~~and WHEREAS, on Aug. 4, 2020, the Madison Common Council unanimously adopted Wisconsin's first birdfriendly building ordinance which requires large new construction and expansion projects to use birdsafe strategies and materials, a template for developing bird safe glass ordinance language, (Addendum A),~~

~~now, therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Appleton is hereby directed to develop and adopt new ordinance language to incorporate bird safe glass building requirements and define acceptable window glass or glass treatments for any new construction of façades with a certain percentage of window area,~~

and BE IT ~~FURTHER~~ RESOLVED, that the City of Appleton include educational language on its website to inform ~~and compel~~ non-public entities, businesses and urban residential housing managers and owners whose existing buildings have glass panes which meet the bird-strike risk criteria [of Bird City USA's recommendations](#), ~~to do the same~~, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Appleton evaluate and identify all public buildings with existing glass panes at heights and of surface areas which pose a danger for birds and then apply glass safety films or other bird-strike abatement measures as soon as practical and within budget and staffing constraints over time: a. ~~Anytime such a window is replaced in an existing building, it should be replaced with birdfriendly glass or treated with a glass film or abatement application alternative;~~ b. ~~All such windows must be retrofired using bird-friendly glass or alternatives by 2025.~~