



City of Bowie

Memorandum

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Angel L. Jones, City Manager

STATUS REPORT

1. Municipal Honeybee Program

In early May, the City expanded its honeybee program with the acquisition of nine Italian Honeybee colonies, placed at additional locations including the roof of the Kenhill Center near the Community Garden and Food Pantry Garden, Centennial Park near the pollinator garden, the Bowie Golf Course near the 11th hole, and the Public Works property adjacent to the Yorktown neighborhood. Italian Honeybees are valued for their gentle temperament and strong honey production, and despite the summer heat all colonies are thriving in their new homes. Community response has been positive. Golfers have enjoyed watching the hives while waiting to tee off, and food pantry volunteers at Kenhill are pleased to have them on the roof. It is worth noting that this is a sustainability and pollinator-health initiative rather than a revenue program; as a passive agricultural undertaking, it is neither intended nor capable of being profitable. Consistent with standard practice, no honey will be harvested from the new colonies this first season, as they need their stores to overwinter successfully.

2. Replacement of Three (3) Leaf Collection Boxes - Streets Division

The FY27 budget allocates for the replacement of three (3) leaf collection boxes to be used by the streets division. The Public Works Department has identified a Virginia Sheriff Association Contract, #27-08-070, and determined that Infrastructure Solutions Group of Mechanicsville, Virginia, was awarded a contract for leaf collection boxes meeting the needs of the streets division. Seeking new bids would not be expected to yield better results.

The cost of the leaf collection boxes is \$42,168. Although this amount exceeds the \$39,000 budget, there are sufficient funds in the Equipment Acquisition and Replacement fund to absorb the additional \$3,168.

As provided by Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven-day notice of intent to issue a purchase order to Infrastructure Solutions Group in the amount of \$42,168.