STATE OF NEW YORK

4088

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 2, 2021

Introduced by Sen. HINCHEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to utilizing pollinator friendly road maintenance techniques

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 14-a of the transportation law, as amended by chapter 661 of the laws of 1972, is amended to read as follows:

§ 14-a. Preservation of agricultural lands, public park and recreational lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges and historical sites. **(a)** The commissioner of transportation shall cooperate and consult with the commissioners of agriculture and markets, parks and recreation, environmental conservation and health in developing transportation plans and programs so that such programs include measures to maintain or enhance the desirable natural characteristics of the land traversed. Such cooperation and consultation shall be effected and implemented by memoranda of understanding which shall be entered into between the commissioner of transportation and each of such commissioners. Such memoranda of understanding shall provide for review of proposed transportation projects by such commissioners at all stages of progress, including preliminary and final planning and during construction, and for the cooperation by the department of transportation necessary to facilitate such review. Such memoranda of understanding shall also provide that the commissioner of transportation shall implement any suggestion or recommendation made by any of such commissioners which he deems feasible in connection with the preservation of agricultural lands, lands of public parks and recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges and historical sites.

(b) Roads, medians and right-of-ways under the jurisdiction of the state shall utilize pollinator friendly maintenance techniques. Such techniques shall include, but not be limited to, planting and seeding native, locally appropriate low-mow or no mow grasses and wildflowers,

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD08390-01-1

implementing mowing strategies that limit disturbances during periods of highest use by pollinators, minimizing the use of pesticides, implementing the application of integrated vegetation management, and any other technique deemed appropriate for pollinator friendly maintenance.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.