City Council District 4

Boston, MA

City Councilor Andrea Campbell

Pledge Summary

City Councilor Andrea Campbell represents District 4 in the city of Boston, which includes parts of Dorchester, Mattapan, Roslindale, and Jamaica Plain; one of the most diverse districts in the City. Unfortunately, many of our neighborhoods have historically been under-resourced and under-served, which is why she often says that if we solve the issues plaguing District 4, we solve the issues of the entire City of Boston. In pushing the City to serve all its neighborhoods equitably, environmental justice is one of the issues that rises to the top. Monarch butterflies play a crucial role in our ecosystem, so Councilor Campbell is happy to take this pledge and do her part to protect their habitat in Boston.

Action Items Committed for 2021

Communications and Convening

- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
City Councilor Andrea Campbell	2021	4/1/2021	Signatories

Action Items

In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the

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number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

84

Of the total number of individuals engaged, how many youth (0-18) were reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan. - Dec.)? If none, please write 0." (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)

84 adults

In total, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created in your city in the last 12 months? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 3). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

2

Where was the habitat created this year? Example locations may include residences, schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, shared public spaces, and more.

Residences, schools, community gardens/urban farms

How are you leveraging the Mayors' Monarch Pledge program to engage marginalized communities, such as low-income communities or communities of color?

The district that Councilor Campbell represents is has a significant population of low income communities of color.

What was your community's motivation for taking and continuing to work on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge?

Promoting awareness and action on environmental issues in our District is important to us since we cover many environmental justice communities.

What resources have been most helpful to you thus far and what new resources would you like to see to help meet your goals? What resources would be useful to help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

At the City Council level in Boston, we don't have funds or authority to dictate the planting of monarch habitats on City land. Therefore our greatest influence came through educating our resident leaders and non-profits about the issue and advocating to the Parks Department during budget season. The basic info on the NWF website about the role and importance of monarchs was helpful for this, but it would have been helpful to have more educational material to send. Due to a recently passed charter amendment, the City Council will have more input on the budget line items in years to come, which will help the

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District 4 City Councilor more leverage in advocating for equitable access to high-quality, usable nature.

What else should we know about your monarch butterfly conservation efforts over the last year?

While we have limited authority over city land management and maintenance, we did our best to ask key players who manage both public and private open spaces about their actions to preserve monarchs.

Selected Action Items

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Monarch Infographic.png

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

We reached out over email to some of the main urban farm and community garden managers (Urban Farming Institute, Trustees, Boston Food Forest Coalition) in our district to share information and ask how they planned to support the Monarch population. Some did not respond, but others wrote back that they "do plant native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in our urban farm spaces to help restore the monarch butterfly population and many other native pollinators and species."

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

Primarily Boston Parks and Recreation Department

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.

We engaged with our Parks Department about this live during the budget process to ask if they will 1) plant more milkweed and nectar plants and 2) make sure our mowing/maintenance operations preserve milkweed and native nectar plant planting programs. They said that they do nurture the growth of milkweed and nectar plants, but could not make sure all mowing and maintenance practices were mindful of this due to the immense amount of property they maintain and their lack of capacity. There are some

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designated areas in parks and urban wilds throughout the city for milkweed and nectar plants to thrive where they are not touched.

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Monarch Infographic.png

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

40. Apple Grove Ashmont Hill Association Ashmont Valley Neighborhood Association Bloomfield Park Neighborhood Association Codman Square Neighborhood Council Codman Square Residents Association Codman Task Force Community Improvement Association (CIA) Dorchester United Neighborhood Association (DUN) Erie/Ellington Neighborhood Association Fayston Street, Lawrence Ave, Blue Hill Ave, Quincy St, Magnolia, Howard Ave Neighborhood Association Fields Corner Civic Association Franklin Field Crime Watch Franklin Field South Greater Bowdoin Geneva Neighborhood Association Greater Chamberlain Neighborhood Association Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council Harvard Blue Hill Circle Harvard Commons Harvard/Washington Neighborhood Association Intervale, Normandy, Devon, Brunswick, Stanwood St, Columbia Road Residents Association Lower Mills Civic Association Lucerne Garden Resident Association Meeting House Hill Melville Park Association Mount Bowdoin Betterment Association Mt Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association Pasadena, Supple, Columbia Roads Neighborhood Association Peabody Slope Neighborhood Association Redefining our Community (ROC) River Street Civic Association St. Marks Area Civic Association Talbot Harvard Triangle (THT) Talbot Norfolk Triangle (TNT) United Neighborhood Association (UNA) West of Washington Coalition (WOW) West Selden and Vicinity Neighborhood Association Woodrow Avenue Neighborhood Association (WANA) Woodbourne Neighborhood Association Wellington Hill Neighborhood Association

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions implemented for mowing and maintenance programs.

We included our info graphic and called attention to it in our weekly community announcements that is sent to resident leaders all over our district. Most did not respond, but a handful let us know that they were in fact planting monarch habitats in their yards.

Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

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Unfortunately during our outreach described above, no one expressed interest in partnering to add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants.

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Due to a high capacity of legislative work happening on the Council, we did not have the human capital to follow up and pursue partners for this effort during the spring/summer.

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