Albuquerque

Albuquerque, NM

Mayor Tim Keller

Pledge Summary

Albuquerque is the largest city in New Mexico. Its varied landscape, from the banks of the Rio Grande to Chihuahuan desert mesas and the foothills of the Sandia Mountains, supports diverse wildlife communities. Our city is home to many endemic and migratory species, including a diversity of butterflies and other pollinators. Mayor Keller is committed to advancing Albuquerque as a leader in resilient, equitable and long-term environmental solutions, and he pledges to raise awareness and community support for the conservation of monarchs and other pollinators. A hive mind of leaders from the ABQ BioPark and other community stakeholders will build upon existing education and engagement programs to advocate for pollinator protection.

Action Items Committed for 2024

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Tim Keller	2026	5/4/2026	
Mayor Tim Keller	2025	3/10/2025	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2024	3/15/2024	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2023	3/13/2023	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2022	12/15/2021	Leadership Circle
Mayor Tim Keller	2021	4/7/2021	Leadership Circle

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

300

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.)

175

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.

Right-of-ways, cultural institutions such as the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden, Zoo and Tingley Beach, Open Space Visitor Center

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

Tingley Beach is a city owned free public park managed by the ABQ BioPark, in which a pollinator garden was installed with associated interpretive signage. The interpretive signage copy is in both Spanish and English.

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

The ABQ BioPark is the number one visited cultural attraction in New Mexico with over 1 million visitors annually. Furthermore, the ABQ BioPark's mission is to foster meaningful connections between people and nature. Additionally, the ABQ BioPark vision is to envision a future where are communities are connected to nature and committed to its protection. By having the City of Albuquerque signing onto the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors Monarch Pledge, guests are able to better understand the importance of pollinators and subsequently help protect them for future generations.

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

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

The guide, "Grounding Habitat Work in Environmental Justice, Equity, and Inclusion: A Guide for Communities" has been particularly useful as the City of Albuquerque expands its strategies for increasing equity and inclusion at community-based events taking place at various cultural institutions across the City of Albuquerque.

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

The New Mexico BioPark Society's Species Survival Officer for Invertebrates Pollinators, Anna Walker, led the effort to add the monarch (Danaus plexippus) and migratory monarch (Danaus plexippus plexippus) to the Red List of Threatened Species. The effort was reported on by numerous large media outlets around the globe, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Associated Press, among others. Additionally, the ABQ BioPark Entomology Department in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been participating in the captive rearing of the Sacramento Mountain Checkerspot Butterfly, which currently habitats in designated Critical Habitat of the Sacramento Mountains.

Selected Action Items

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

Children's Seed Festival.jpg

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How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

500 seed packets

How many people attended your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

1909

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to host the event?

The Rotary Club of Albuquerque, City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation, City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Department, ABQ Backyard Refuge Program, Xerces Society, Pollinator in the Neighborhood, New Mexico BioPark Society Species Survival Office, Think Like a Bee, Albuquerque Beekeepers Association

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

Tingley Beach, 1800 Tingley Drive SW. Tingley Beach is a free public facility with approximately 500,000 guests annually. Interpretive signage teaches guests the importance of pollinator, pollinator habitat, and what one can do at home to support pollinators in their community.

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

ABQ BioPark, New Mexico Department of Agriculture

What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 0.5 acres). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones. Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.5

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field

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(Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

42

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

Organizations that helped find volunteers include The Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, Santa Fe Botanic Garden through Santa Fe Master Naturalist Program, and Pajarito Environmental Education Center. Some of the agencies/ land managers that permit routes on their land include ABQ Open Space, ABQ BioPark, Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, and Petroglyph National Monument.

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

New Mexico Butterfly Monitoring Network is a community science driven butterfly data collection effort. Timed count transects (Pollard Walks) are performed throughout the summer on over 30 survey routes across the state. Monarchs have been observed on 14 of these routes, 8 of which are in the Albuquerque area. A total of 140 monarchs have been observed since the program started in 2020. Over time we will be able to get an index of abundance of monarch butterflies on each route, which can help us see if conservation efforts are working to boost population numbers. (https://www.thebutterflynetwork.org/program/new-mexico-butterfly-monitoring-network)

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

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What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

1.5

Please describe the extent of revisions or maintenance to invasive species removal programs, as well as the practices or techniques used to remove the invasive plants.

The City of Albuquerque will utilize integrated pest management techniques and best management practices that comply with industry standards set by agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Centers for Disease Control, and American Mosquito Control Association; and will follow best practices related to pollinator conservation in creating Integrated Pest and Pollinator Management Plans.

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Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Jackalope Bees and Butteflies Campaign.jpg

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

15

Please describe the educational information on the sign(s), and provide any links to externally purchased sign(s).

ABQ BioPark has continued its partnership with Jackalope (local retail store) to have several pollinator displays throughout the Botanic Garden and Zoo with associated QR codes with pollinator information, to include the importance of pollinators, nighttime pollinators, how to install a pollinator garden, beneficial insects, and beneficial pollinator plants to install in a pollinator garden. Similar signs are installed at Tingley Beach, a free public park with an associated pollinator garden. In addition, educational signs are located in the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden's "Power of Pollinators" Butterfly Pavilion explaining the various types of pollinators, the importance of pollinators, and what one can do at home to support pollinators.

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