City of League City

League City, TX

Mayor Nick Long

Pledge Summary

League City is a waterfront community nestled along the shores of Clear Creek in Galveston County, Texas, with a 2022 population of 116,824. It's located in the Greater Houston Metropolitan area with close proximity to Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. League City is home to the South Shore Harbor Resort and Conference Center and two Regional Parks (Challenger 7 Memorial Park and Walter Hall Park). Additionally, there are 16 City Parks, including the 148 acre Dr. Ned and Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center. The City is also part of the Great Texas Birding Trail. League City has begun efforts to save our State insect, the Monarch Butterfly, and other pollinators by signing the pledge to encourage our citizens to provide pollinators with a healthy habitat throughout the City.

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Nick Long	2026	1/22/2026	
Mayor Nick Long	2025	3/25/2025	Signatories
Mayor Nick Long	2024	2/19/2024	Signatories
Mayor Nick Long	2023	2/23/2023	Signatories
Mayor Pat Hallisey	2021	4/29/2021	

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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.).

2500

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.)

1500 Youth and 1000 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.

0.02

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.

An Eagle Scout candidate and us (City of League City) created a huge new Pollinator Garden out at Hometown Heroes Park in August and September 2023. This was most of the 0.02 acres of new habitat that we created in 2023.

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

We completed a proclamation for the entire general public and also placed the news on our City website and social media sites. This was more then we did the first time we received this designation back in 2021. We also planted the new Pollinator Garden in a public space that is easily accessible to anyone and everyone in the community.

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

The residents and entire community are supportive of the program. They love all of the education and outreach that we have done with this program and want to see it continued.

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?

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The one resource item that has been the most helpful in getting the public involved with this initiative would be social media. All of our social media posts regarding pollinators and Monarchs are always popular. Everyone loves the photos and information that we are able to post and share. I am not really sure what other resources would be useful or helpful to be honest with you.

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

Staff continues to be excited about the initiative. We continue to look for ways to obtain native milkweed to place into our Pollinator Gardens. We are also excited to report that we had a local Eagle Scout candidate create, design, and construct a massive Pollinator Garden at one of our City Parks earlier this year.

Selected Action Items

Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

4/11/2023

Title of Proclamation (i.e. – Monarch Day or Pollinator Week):

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation-MayorsMonarchPledge.doc.pdf

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

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

Hometown Heroes Park Pollinator Garden #2.JPG

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

Hometown Heroes Park Pollinator Garden #3.JPG

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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)

Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City, TX 77573. Hometown Heroes Park lies within the two-way migration path from Mexico to Canada and back for the Monarch Butterflies. The Pollinator Garden was constructed to provide the necessary habitat for Monarchs to make the annual trip and provides an educational opportunity for Hometown Heroes Park visitors.

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

City of League City Parks Department, League City Garden Club, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, Galveston Bay Area Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists, Native Plant Society of Texas Clear Lake Chapter, Local Boy Scout Troops, Eagle Scout candidate Ramon Padilla and friends and family members.

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.

0.01

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

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

Nature Center Garden Club #7 3-9-23.jpg

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

Nature Center Garden Club #5 3-9-23.jpg

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

Nature Center Garden Club #3 3-9-23.jpg

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

Nature Center Garden Club #2 3-9-23.jpg

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

Nature Center Garden Club #1 6-3-23.jpg

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

We partnered with the League City Garden Club for our pollinator garden and Monarch Waystation projects. They were built a few years ago, but the Garden Club comes out 3-4 times each year to help us maintain the gardens from season to season. They love taking ownership of the gardens and always send out 5-10 volunteers every time we have a planting and/or cleanup event.

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

10

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

There were 10 Green Milkweed plants that were added to the garden in late Spring 2023. These were plants that were added to the current 4-5 Green Milkweed plants that already have been established and growing over the past several years. There are also well over 15-20 large pollinator plants that have been established within the gardens and bloom in the Spring, Summer, and Fall seasons. We have seen an increase in the local Monarch butterfly population within the locations of these gardens over the past year.

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.

Benoit Prairie Preserve Volunteer Work Day 11-1-23 #1.jpg

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

Benoit Prairie Preserve Volunteer Work Day 11-1-23 #2.jpg

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

Benoit Prairie Preserve Volunteer Work Day 11-1-23 #3.jpg

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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.

0.5 acres this year

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.

We had 2 volunteer workday events with the Galveston County Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists at our Dick Benoit Prairie Preserve. This is a 44-acre park that still contains native coastal prairie. We have been slowly removing invasive species over the past 2 years at this location. The invasive species that have been removed have mainly been Chinese Tallow. The Chinese Tallows have been cut down with chainsaws by experienced and trained volunteers. They are then woodchipped and left on the property to decay. Later in the Winter the entire site will be shredded/mowed in an effort to keep the trees from coming back in the Spring. We will also start an annual shredding/mowing program on the prairie to help keep the invasives in check and also to assist the growth of prairie grasses and wildflowers.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Sign - Nature Center Pollinator Garden.jpg

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

Sign - Heritage Park Rain Garden.jpg

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

7

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

The information on the educational signage is as follows: Monarch Flyway information and description of Native Plant and Pollinator Gardens and why they are important at the Dr. Ned and Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center (3 signs); Description of Rain Gardens and how Native Plants help Pollinators at the Ghirardi Family WaterSmart Park (3 signs); Description of Rain Gardens and how Native Plants help Pollinators at Heritage Park (1 sign)

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