City of Davis

Davis, CA

Mayor Gloria Partida

Pledge Summary

The City of Davis has a population just shy of 67,000 and is located in the Central Valley of northern California about 11 miles west of Sacramento. Davis has a long history of environmental stewardship which includes the support of monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Our urban wildlife, open space, stormwater pollution prevention, integrated pest management, and water conservation programs have long included the use of nectar bearing native plants and least toxic pest management as key elements. In addition to using and promoting pollinator friendly landscaping, Davis has had direct influence on monarch butterflies via collaboration with local researchers and community members to propagate and plant milkweed on suitable city properties. The City of Davis is committed to supporting monarch butterflies and we look forward to implementing additional actions to build greater public awareness and support of the species.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.
- 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.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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.

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

Systems Change

- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Gloria Partida	2022	3/31/2022	Leadership Circle

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.).

600

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.)

200 youth and 300 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.

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Residential yards, community gardens, open space and habitat areas

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

Outreach materials provided via this program have been helpful

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

Help the community become aware of the conservation needs for the monarch butterfly, but also bring greater attention to global wildlife conservation needs.

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?

Media content has been helpful.

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

Lot's of steam generated by the increased outreach. Many youth groups becoming interested in doing bigger projects.

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:

June 28th 2022

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

Proclamation Recognizing June 28th as Monarch Butterfly Day in Davis, CA

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Butterfly Day Proclamation.pdf

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to

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identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

During review of three large development plans, staff added comments on landscaping plans to include milkweed and other native nectar bearing species.

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.

Complementary Milkweed Seeds.docx

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

one half pound of showy and narrow-leaf milkweed seed was given out to the community with educational material on monarchs and their conservation.

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

2000

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

City Council, Chamber of Commerce, City of Davis

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

City Lands Manager and Open Space Lands Manager at the City of Davis

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

Commitment to continued inclusion of native flowers and milkweed in open space restoration projects.

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

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below.

No specific documents available. Link to Opne Space Program and recent North Pond Uplands restoration project: https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/community-development-and-sustainability/open-space-program/habitat-restoration-and-enhancement

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

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

600 acres

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.

Annual control of invasive perennial pepperweed, yellow starthistle, barbed goat grass and medusa head grass in open space and habitat areas using a mixture of grazing, mowing and targeted herbicide applications.

Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

City Council, Planning Department, Code enforcement

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

Complete

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.

The City of Davis enacted its Outdoor Lighting Control Ordinance in 1998. https://library.qcode.us/lib/davis_ca/pub/municipal_code/item/chapter_8-article_8_17

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

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07-IPM-Policy_SR.pdf

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

City Council, Natural Resources Commission, Open Space and Habitat Commission, Tree Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission.

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

Complete

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.

The City adopted it's Integrated Pest Management Policy and Procedures for municipal operations in 2016. Part of City Council's approving motion was to ban the use of neonicotinoids and use only least toxic herbicides and insecticides only when other non-chemical control methods have failed. https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/public-works-utilities-and-operations/integrated-pest-management

Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

art 1.jpg

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

art 2.png

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

art 4.jpg

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

art 3.jpg

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

Davis Arts Commission, City Council

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

80

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

Over the last 15 years, several pollinator themed art pieces were commissions and permitted for installation at various public spaces around the City of Davis. Examples have been attached.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

home grown butterflies.jpg

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

what kinds of flowers attract butterflies.jpg

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

10

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

Information on the signs varies, but generally center on the theme of pollinating insect conservation. Some signs are more specific to certain pollinating species such as butterflies and many encourage least toxic pest control.

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

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

The City of Davis operates a public community garden. Community gardeners are encouraged to to plant native flowers along with their vegetables to extend the availability of nectar for pollinating species. The City has partnered with the UC Davis Arboretum to plant milkweed along bike paths connecting the City to the University campus. The City has also worked with community volunteers to plant milkweed within stormwater detention and conveyance facilities.

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.

Two departments within the city

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

Wildlife Resource Specialist worked with Public Works stormwater maintenance crews to modify mowing timing within stormwater basins to allow flowering plants to be available for butterflies and other pollinators. Wildlife resource specialist also provided input on the inclusion of milkweed in landscape plans for a Park restoration capital improvement project.

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

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

1

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

City staff encouraged the Cannery HOA to modify mowing schedules for landscapes street margins.

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

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0

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

na

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

We plan to pursue this task in 2023

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?

Girls Scouts of America

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

60

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

City of Davis Parks Department staff assisted the local Girl Scout troop by delivering free mulch to their butterfly garden project.

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.

CG map.jpg

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)

Established in Davis' award-winning Central Park in the early 1990s, the gardens are currently maintained by a volunteer-led nonprofit organization in partnership with the City of Davis. Our volunteers strive to create beautiful demonstration gardens and engaging educational programs that will motivate local gardeners to adopt more sustainable gardening practices. The Community Garden is located in the heart of Davis at the Central

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Park at 3rd and B streets (adjacent to the U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame at 303 3rd St, Davis, CA)..

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

Central Park Gardens, City of Davis

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.

0.51

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