City of San Luis Obispo

San Luis Obispo, CA

Mayor Erica A. Stewart

Pledge Summary

The City of San Luis Obispo is located on the Central Coast of California and is in the path of the Monarch migration. We have a documented roosting site in town that we are monitoring, are working with community groups to increase pollinator plants and habitat around town in support of this iconic species. Mayor Erica A Stewart and all city staff are committed to supporting the Pledge and working on Monarch butterfly protection!

Action Items Committed for 2025

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.
- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- 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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- 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.
- Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

Past Pledge Archive

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Erica Stewart	2026	2/4/2026	
Mayor Erica A. Stewart	2025	4/30/2025	Signatories
Mayor Erica A Stewart	2023	3/30/2023	
Mayor Erica A. Stewart	2022	2/14/2022	Signatories
Mayor Erica Stewart	2021	3/4/2021	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.).

50

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.)

35

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.

3

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.

Private residences, parks, shared public spaces.

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

Looking for spaces for restoration and educational signage in marginalized communities about the Pledge and what the public can do to protect monarchs.

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

We have a documented roosting site in San Luis Obispo and several other local eucalyptus groves where monarchs are recorded annually so protecting those roosting locations for the preservation of this iconic species.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]

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?

Educational signage templates would be helpful to distribute for community education.

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

We partnered with the Western Monarch Trail/California State Parks Association and installed educational signage (in english and spanish) in Mission Plaza about the threats to monarchs and a demonstration nectar garden around the signs.

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:

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

Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]

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

We partnered with the California Native Plant Society to host community milkweed giveaways and different Rotary clubs to conduct planting projects in City open space properties for habitat expansion. We also partnered with neighborhood groups to adopt City parks and planted milkweed and nectar gardens to support overwintering monarchs.

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.

City Parks staff (15 participants) received a presentation from the City Biologist about the Mayors Monarch Pledge and 3 neighborhood groups also received a presentation about what they can do to protect monarch butterflies.

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

Monarch migration patterns, threats to their population, nectar gardens and maintenance program improvements to protect special habitat was discussed with parks staff and our Beautification Gardener was engaged to plant/support native nectar plants at different parks and planter areas where he works.

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

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

75

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

30

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

California Native Plant Society, 2 Rotary groups helped to support the event.

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]

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)

989 Chorro Street

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

California State Parks Association

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.

0.1

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Junior Ranger Camp (2 sessions during the summer and spring break) received a presentation on Monarch butterflies, their significance, threats to the population, how to support them, and how native nectar plants are easy to plant and help increase the habitat available for migrating monarchs.

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0

Please list the names of the schools you are working with.

Laguna Middle School, Pacific Beach Highschool

What resources, if any, are you providing to educators?

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]

Leaflets with monarch butterfly education are provided to the students documenting their habitat needs and threats to their population.

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

100

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

We conducted these presentations with City staff.

How many acres of monarch and pollinator habitat have been planted through this effort? 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.

0.1

What is the maintenance schedule to ensure planted habitat is maintained?

Planted areas are checked bimonthly after planting and then monthly after the plants have become established.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u513:v1.14.0.49966]