City Council Meeting
03-23-26
Item
1.B.4.

Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Chris Orosz, Recreation Manager

Reviewed by: Kristin Riesgo, Community Services Director

Approved by: Joseph D. Irvin, City Manager

Date prepared: March 2, 2026 Meeting date: March 23, 2026

Subject: Mayors' Monarch Pledge

RECOMMENDED ACTION: 1) Authorize Mayor Silverstein to sign the National Wildlife Federation Mayors' Monarch Pledge, renewing the City's commitment to help save the monarch butterfly; and 2) Direct staff to implement measures to meet the commitments of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in support of monarch and pollinator conservation.

FISCAL IMPACT: No additional appropriation is required. Funding for this project is included in the Adopted Budget for FY 2025-26 in Account No. 100-4003-5107-00 (Outdoor Recreation, Contract Personnel) and 100-4010-5130-00 (Park Maintenance, Parks Maintenance).

WORK PLAN: N/A.

DISCUSSION: Council has supported the Mayors' Monarch Pledge (Pledge) since 2018 and has annually renewed the City's commitment to the National Wildlife Federation's initiative to save the monarch butterfly and other important pollinators. Staff have worked with various community and state organizations to install pollinator gardens in City parks and conduct educational programs. To continue the City's participation in this important environmental project, staff have planned to implement measures in 2026 and 2027 to achieve Pledge goals, which include:

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

- Add native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in City parks, which may include Legacy Park, Malibu Bluffs Park, Trancas Canyon Park, Charmlee Wilderness Park, and Las Flores Creek Park.

- Expand the outdoor education program for students, educators, and the broader community by offering lectures on topics such as planting native milkweed, removing non-native plants, maintaining healthy ecosystems, and understanding threats to pollinators. The program will also include guided nature walks in partnership with local youth and senior groups.

- Create a social media campaign promoting pollinator gardens and species protection.

- Work with County and State agencies to provide educational outreach opportunities and native plant give-a-ways.

- Plant and maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at Malibu Bluffs Park in spring 2026.

- Support citizen science efforts that help monitor monarch habitat and migration health.

ATTACHMENTS: None.