



CITY OF AURORA, ILLINOIS

RESOLUTION NO. R18-284
DATE OF PASSAGE October 23, 2018

A Resolution Recognizing the Importance of Pollinators to Ecosystem Health, the Value of Increasing Awareness about Pollinators to Support, Protect and Sustain Pollinators (City of Aurora - 18-0920 / KDWK-18.120-PZ/S - AM - Ward).

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora has a population of more than 25,000 persons and is, therefore, a home rule unit under subsection (a) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, subject to said Section, a home rule unit may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, sustainability principles contained in the Aurora Sustainability Plan provide guidance for healthy land use in the City of Aurora; and

WHEREAS, the Aurora City Code allows native landscaping, which reduces storm water runoff; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora, has long been on the annual monarch butterflies' annual migration route of thousands of miles from Mexico to Canada; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators include butterflies, bees, some birds, bats, and other insects that play a crucial role in flowering plant reproduction and given the breadth, severity and persistence of pollinator losses, it is critical to expand efforts to take new steps to reverse pollinator losses and help restore populations to healthy levels;

WHEREAS, native milkweeds are the sole source of food for monarch caterpillars; and

WHEREAS, Illinois designated the iconic monarch butterfly as the official state insect in 1975 as the result of lobbying by Illinois schoolchildren; and

WHEREAS, for migratory pollinators, such as bats, hummingbirds, and the monarch butterfly, we recognize the importance of identification and protection of our nectar corridor;

WHEREAS, scientific studies point to the rapid decline of the monarch butterfly due to the loss of milkweed habitat needed to lay their eggs and for their caterpillars to eat, resulting from development, land management practices, and chemically-aided agriculture in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, the decline of pollinators, including the North American monarch, which serves as an iconic species, has potential negative consequences for natural ecosystems as well as for human food production, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently studying the species to determine if it should be listed under the Endangered Species Act; and

WHEREAS, on a national level, conservation organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have undertaken efforts to restore and enhance milkweeds and other nectar-producing plants to help restore pollinators habitat in open spaces, suburban and urban gardens, and other locations; and

WHEREAS, because there are many different species of milkweed in the U.S., it is important to recognize that only native milkweed species are vital to the restoration and survival of the monarch habitat in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Foundation, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, Greater DuPage Wild Ones, and River Prairie Group of the Sierra Club are encouraging communities to plant native milkweed and valuable nectar plants where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2018, the Planning and Development Committee of the Aurora City Council reviewed said Planning and Zoning Project and the before mentioned recommendations and recommended APPROVAL of said petition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Aurora, Illinois, to support the preservation of the Monarch butterfly and other pollinators in the Midwest.

RESOLUTION NO. R18-284
DATE OF PASSAGE October 23, 2018

PASSED AND APPROVED ON October 23, 2018

AYES 12 NAYS 0 NOT VOTING 0 ABSENT 0

Kristina Bohman
Alderman Bohman, Ward 1

Salvador Mesiacos
Alderman Mesiacos, Ward 3

Art Franco
Alderman Franco, Ward 5

Acheke Hart-Burns
Alderman Hart-Burns, Ward 7

Walter Bugg
Alderman Bugg, Ward 9

Alderman Jenkins
Alderman Jenkins, At Large

Jimmy Garza
Alderman Garza, Ward 2

Walter Donnell
Alderman Donnell, Ward 4

Michael Saville
Alderman Saville, Ward 6

Richard Mervine
Alderman Mervine, Ward 8

John Lofchie
Alderman Lofchie, Ward 10

John O'Connor
Alderman O'Connor, At Large

ATTEST:

Wendy McCambridge
City Clerk

Richard C. [Signature]
Mayor

18-0920

RECOMMENDATION

TO: THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

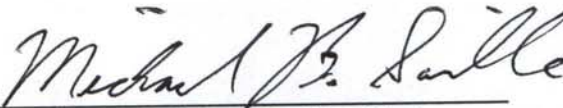
FROM: THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Planning & Development Committee at their Meeting on Thursday, October 11, 2018

Recommended **APPROVAL** of a Resolution Recognizing the Importance of Pollinators to Ecosystem Health, the Value of Increasing Awareness about Pollinators to Support, Protect and Sustain Pollinators (City of Aurora - 18-0920 / KDWK-18.120-PZ/S - AM - Ward).

VOTE 3-0

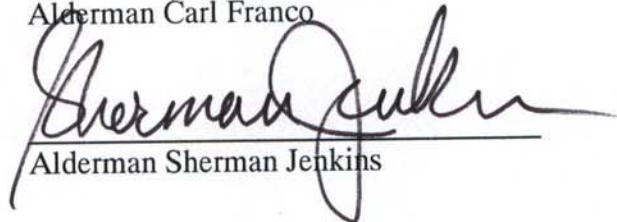
Submitted By



Alderman Michael Saville, Chairman



Alderman Carl Franco



Alderman Sherman Jenkins

Alderman William "Bill" Donnell, Alternate

Dated This 11th Day of October, 2018