

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 21, 2023

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Zack Moshonas, Environmental Compliance Coordinator

SUBJECT: Mayors' Monarch Pledge 2023 Workplan

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Committee of the Whole recommend Council to approve the Mayors' Monarch Pledge Workplan and direct Staff to implement the Workplan as presented;

AND THAT Committee of the Whole recommend Council to approve \$5,000 be funded through the Vegetation Management account to implement the Workplan;

AND THAT Committee of the Whole recommend Council to endorse and sign the National Wildlife Federation Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

BACKGROUND:

The National Wildlife Federation developed the Mayors' Monarch Pledge which is an initiative where Municipal leaders commit to implementing action items with the goal of developing habitat for the Monarch butterfly and raising community awareness about the decline in the Monarch population. By adopting this pledge and implementing the Workplan, Mississippi Mills will join many other cities, towns, and municipalities who are taking action to help the Monarch. The Workplan includes areas where the Municipality can lead by action as well as empowering community members to participate and take action.

The workplan includes five action items which can be implemented in 2023:

1. Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat;
2. Host or support a native plant seed giveaway;
3. Launch a PR campaign to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes;
4. Add or maintain milkweed or nectar producing plants in public community gardens / at municipal facilities; and
5. Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that supports the reestablishment of native habitats for monarchs and other pollinators.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Staff recommend that Council approve the Monarch Pledge Workplan budget of \$5,000 which will be funded by the 2023 Vegetation Management account which has a balance of \$50,000 and will be used for vegetation management throughout the Municipality.

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by:

Zack Moshonas,
Environmental Compliance Coordinator

Cory Smith,
Director of Roads and Public Works

Approved by,

Ken Kelly,
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Mayors' Monarch Pledge Workplan