

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM7.11	ACTION			Ward:All
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Protection for Monarch Butterflies and Bees - by Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to review and to report back to City Council on potential options and programs through which the City can promote and incentivize private and public landowners to work in collaboration to protect and encourage natural habitats so as to sustain and renew the populations of Monarch butterflies (Milkweed planting) and bees that are a critical part of our ecosystem.

Summary

Both anecdotally and through scientific review it is clear that there has been a reduction in the populations of Monarch butterflies and bees every summer. Experts agree that for the most part, these declining populations that are critical to our ecosystem are the result of a loss of habitat. With increasing numbers of farmland and other spaces being converted to residential, industrial and commercial use there are fewer habitats for Monarch butterflies and bees in which to live and multiply. Add to this the use of pesticides and the threat is significant. There are many things, such as the planting of Milkweed that private and public landowners can do to create friendly habitats for Monarch butterflies and bees. Authorities are recognizing the importance of taking action and the role that can be played by many sectors and the City of Toronto should be looking at measures which can be taken in this regard.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM7.11