

## **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, the monarch butterfly is one of the most iconic and studied butterflies in North America, widely admired for its beauty; and

**WHEREAS**, the monarch butterfly is extremely beneficial, pollinating many cultivated flowers and crops, and serving as an indicator species for the ecological health of large geographical areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the monarch butterfly's annual migration, which has been described as one of the most spectacular in the insect world, is now classified as a threatened phenomenon by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature; and

**WHEREAS**, the western population of monarchs, which overwinter in California, has declined by more than 99% since the 1980s, from an estimated 4.5 million monarchs to less than 2,000 counted at overwintering sites in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, a major reason for the decline is the widespread loss of the milkweed plant, the only plant monarch butterflies lay their eggs on, as well as it being the monarch's primary larval food source; and

**WHEREAS**, the entire community can play a critical role in providing habitat for monarchs and other pollinators by planting milkweed and nectar plants and reducing pesticide use;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Chris Hoy, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim on June 10, 2024, that I will continue to participate in the

### **MAYOR'S MONARCH PLEDGE**

and through the signing of the National Wildlife Federation's Mayor's Monarch Pledge, commit the City of Salem to voluntarily help restore habitat for the monarch encourage all people of Salem to do the same.

**DATED** this tenth day of June, 2024.

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Chris Hoy  
Mayor

