## City of Gainesville, Florida Office of Mayor Tauren Poe PROCIAMATION

WHEREAS, Monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans, young and old; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 20 years, there has been a 76% decline in the overall population; and

WHEREAS, The monarch is also extremely beneficial, pollinating many cultivated flowers and crops, and serves as an indicator species for the ecological health of large geographic areas; and

WHEREAS, Cities, towns and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly, and the City of Gainesville has declared interest in becoming a Monarch City to be designated by the Monarch City USA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the monarch butterfly recover city by city; and

WHEREAS, Every neighbor of the City of Gainesville can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweeds and nectar to provide habitat for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn and play; and

WHEREAS, On behalf of the City of Gainesville who have already created healthy habitat for these magnificent butterflies, it is my hope that other cities across our nation will also help to ensure that the monarch butterfly will once again flourish across the continent.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim May, 2021 as

## Monarch Butterfly Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in encouraging all our neighbors to plant and protect native milkweed and nectar sources, so that monarch butterflies have the resources necessary to produce successive generations and sustain their spectacular migration through the City of Gainesville.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 20th day of April A.D., 2021.

Tauren Poe Mayor

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