

MEMORANDUM



TO: VICTOR CARDENAS, CITY MANAGER
FROM: KATHERINE OPPERMANN,
BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION STAFF LIASON
SUBJECT: FUERST PARK PLANT IDENTIFICATION SIGNS
DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2023

Mayor and Council –

This is a long time coming, as the Beautification Commission has been working on this project for some time.

- Victor

The Beautification Commission, with assistance from Landscape Architect Rick Meader and DPW Sign Technician John Talbot, recently completed their project to install plant identification signs within the Fuerst Park Monarch Waystation.

The Fuerst Park Monarch Waystation was originally planted in the spring of 2015 by the Novi Beautification Commission as a small 570 sq ft garden featuring various native plants. In 2016, the garden was expanded by an additional 2400 sq ft prairie-style area seeded with a perennial butterfly mix. The two garden sections are separated by a pathway, and the new signs are installed around the smaller, original garden.

The plant identification signs feature the common name, scientific name, and photo of each plant. Additionally, a QR code on each sign allows visitors to the park to scan a sign with their phone to take them to cityofnovi.org, where even more information about each plant is available.

Native plants not only provide beauty and a valuable resource to wildlife like birds, bees, and butterflies but are also typically easier to grow and maintain as they are well adapted to our soil and climate. It is the Beautification Commission's hope that residents and visitors to the park might be empowered with this knowledge and feel inspired to plant native flowers in their own gardens.

