

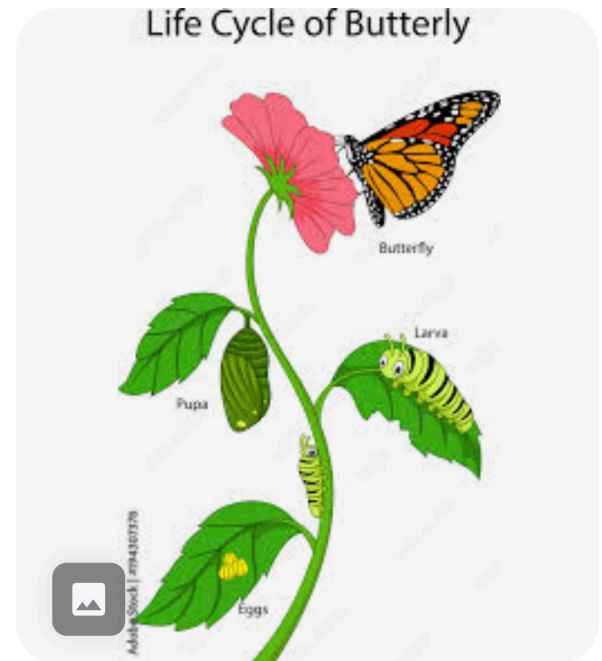
# Butterfly & Pollinator Garden Centennial Park PROPOSAL

**BACKSTORY** Not only are butterflies beautiful and fascinating, they, together with other pollinator insects, are essential to the existence of all fruit and vegetable bearing plants.

Over 180 butterflies are native to Venice. Unfortunately, 90% are no longer here due to habitat loss, including the loss of native plants, climate change and herbicides.

**Western Monarch Butterflies** migrate between the Rocky Mountains and our coastal beaches, including Venice. Migratory monarchs are now classified as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

**DIET** Native Milkweed is essential for eggs, chrysalis & caterpillars; the butterflies need pollinator flower nectar and native host plants.



**PROPOSAL FOR CENTENNIAL PARK** Our proposal is to plant Milkweed and native Pollinator host and flowering plants in the currently bare spaces in Centennial Park. The precise locations for planting in Centennial Park will be determined together with LA Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), to create a beautiful and important habitat for all butterflies, including monarchs, and pollinator insects.

Discrete **informative signage** will accompany the plantings, enabling visitors to learn the wonders of Butterflies and Pollinators.

Consistent with the thematic design of Centennial Park, this garden references the **history of Venice**: Abbot Kinney was an horticulturalist and Venice has an unique ecological history. The garden also ties into resources in the adjacent **Venice Public Library** and provides opportunities for **arts and educational programming** for schools and the whole community.

**TEAM** Janin Paine, native Venetian and creator of several Butterfly Gardens in Los Angeles, is our fearless leader. She is joined by the VNC Preserving Places Committee, the Verdant Venice Group, LA Parks Foundation, and numerous volunteers.

**BUDGET** This is a NO COST volunteer project. Plants will be provided by LA Parks Foundation. Labor is volunteers through Habitatz, (Janin's butterfly group),

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Verdant Venice Group and Chamber in Action. School and community volunteers and VNC Outreach will be invited. Mulch, irrigation and maintenance will be in coordinated with RAP.

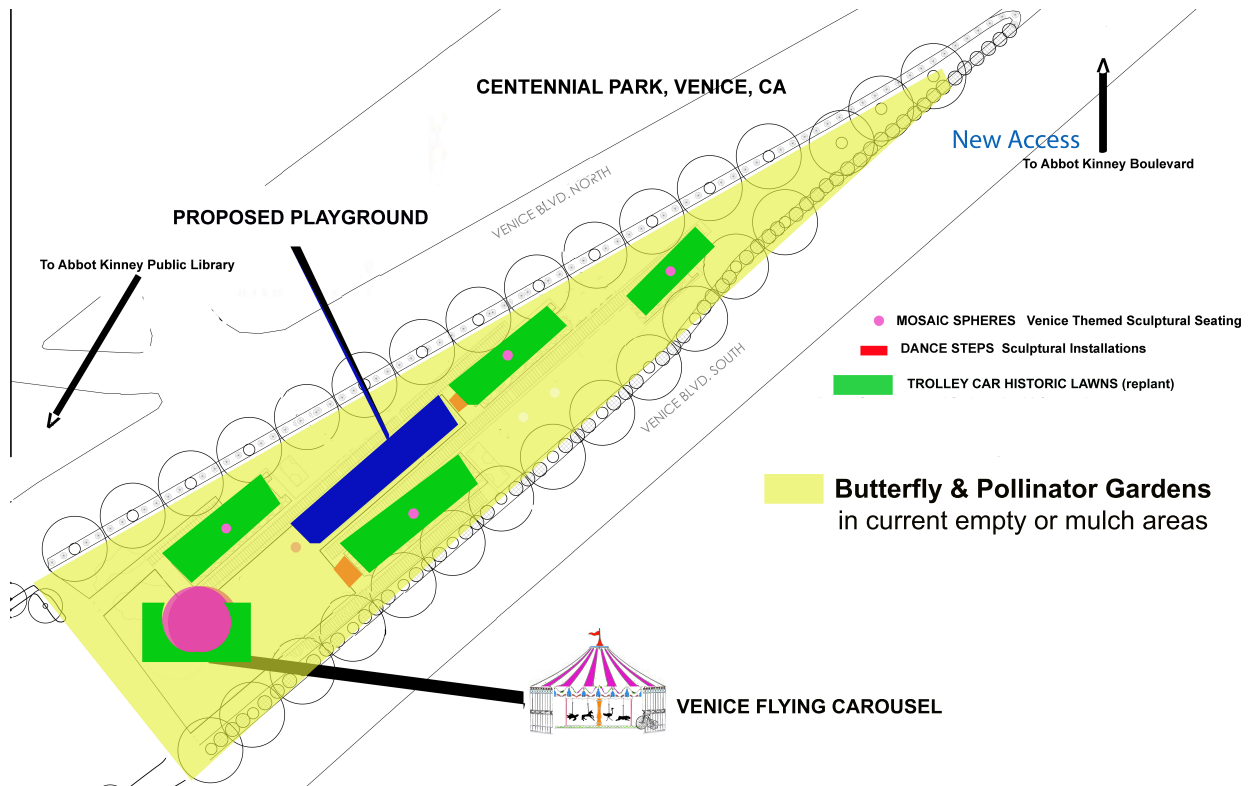
**SCHEDULE** Once approved, we will coordinate preparation and planting with RAP. We anticipate plantings to be done over the span of one month. Phase 2: Creating a swale to collect rainwater and benefit all plantings.

**SITE** Centennial Park is a prominent green space on Venice Boulevard between the Venice Public Library and Abbot Kinney Boulevard. It is designed as a tribute to Venice's fascinating history.

The Butterfly and Pollinator Garden plantings will be within empty garden beds. This complies with RAP's designation of the park for low impact "passive uses."

The plantings will compliment and coordinate with other amenities and projects planned for Centennial Park, such as the mosaic balls, carousel (which also has butterflies), trees (strongly recommended), replanted lawns and benches (requests to RAP) and a proposed children's playground. We also support enabling the proposed pedestrian connection from Abbot Kinney Boulevard through the park and hope the new perimeter fencing will be moved to a more community friendly location. This will all provide for wonderful strolls and delightful experiences for all visitors to the park.

## SITE PLAN - BUTTERFLY & POLLINATOR GARDEN IN THE EMPTY AREAS



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**PLANT LIST** These are a few of the hundreds of native plants which we would draw from in creating the Butterfly and Pollinator Garden:



**Milkweeds (*Asclepias fascicularis*)**

Asclepias species are critical to the survival of monarchs. Adult female monarchs lay their eggs on milkweeds so the young caterpillars can eat these delectable plants. **Select milkweeds native to your region to best support the monarch butterflies.**



**California Sunflower (*Encelia californica*)**

Native to coastal scrub, the California sunflower is insect central. Its large, cheerful daisy-like flowers that bloom bountifully from spring to fall beckon numerous native bees, honeybees, butterflies, ladybugs and other beneficial insects. Hard prune California sunflower between fall and late winter to improve its shape



**Big Berry Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glauca*)**

With the largest berries of any manzanita, big berry manzanita has a sculptural aesthetic, alluring urn-shaped winter flowers and evergreen foliage. Big berry manzanita will reliably grow to 10 feet tall and wide.

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Big berry manzanita provides cover for all kinds of wildlife, draws hummingbirds and pollinators to its winter nectar, and brings birds and mammals who eat its spring berries.



**California Lilac (Ceanothus spp)**

The ceanothus has much to enjoy: the striking blue flower clusters in spring, the lush evergreen foliage or the tons of native bees — including cute bumblebees — who feed on it. Many choices include grown covers and shrubs. Ceanothus requires good drainage and wants no summer water after it's established.



**Pink Chaparral Currant (Ribes malvaceum)**

Fast growing to 5 or 6 feet, pink chaparral currant and its elegant flower tassels bring enchantment to California winter gardens. It provides food for critters throughout the year: hummingbirds and other pollinators covet its nectar in fall, winter and spring, and birds relish the berries from spring to summer.

It can be sited on a border or as a backdrop, or grouped for a low screen.



**Liveforever (Dudleya spp)**

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Dudleyas look especially impressive fall through spring, when their leaves are plumped up. In spring they tempt hummingbirds with a feast of flower nectar. These easy succulents add texture and interest to dry gardens.

All species of Dudleya need a well-drained rock garden or container. Plant Dudleyas with native stonecrops, like broadleaf stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*).

### **California Poppy (*Eschscholzia Californica*)**

State flower, the California Poppy is known for lighting up entire hillsides on the West coast, their bright orange blooms can be planted and enjoyed almost anywhere. These annuals flower from spring all the way into summer and will often re-bloom again in the fall. Native, easy to grow and tolerant of most soils, bee friendly!



**Coastal Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*)** - The Coast Live Oak is an iconic, majestic tree that serves as a cornerstone for wildlife and the surrounding ecosystem. It is easily- recognized by its gnarled branches and grand canopy. The Coast Live Oak flowers each spring and its acorns attract a wide variety of birds and butterflies - over 270 species rely on these trees for habitat and food. With its rich green foliage and unique branching pattern, the Coast Live Oak is a favored choice for both residential and commercial landscapes. It is one of the only California native oaks that thrives in coastal environments, it enjoys fog and mild winters.

Find helpful planting tips a [bloomcalifornia.org](http://bloomcalifornia.org)



**Additional Resource: [NWF.org/nativeplantfinder](http://NWF.org/nativeplantfinder)**

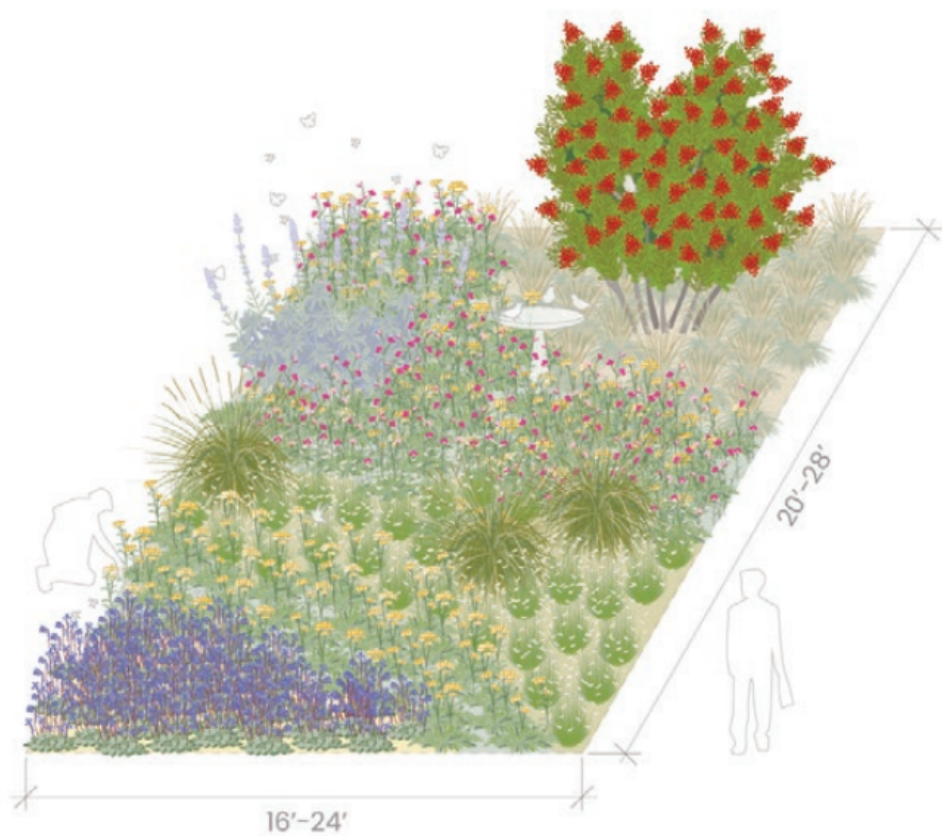
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## B. Sunny Pollinator Patch

Areas with full sun are perfect for drought-adapted native flowering plants, which also serve as important sources of food and shelter for pollinators and birds.

### 80-140 TOTAL PLANTS (plus seed)

Purple Clarkia (seed)	10-20 Desertbells
1 White Sage	15-25 Blue Grama
1 Toyon	20-30 California Fescue
3 Deergrass	30-60 Common Yarrow



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