

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
MAYOR

JUNE LAGMAY
City Clerk

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
Executive Officer

When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No.

Office of the
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012
General Information - (213) 978-1133
Fax: (213) 978-1040

SHANNON HOPPE
Council and Public Services
Division

www.cityclerk.lacity.org

April 18, 2012

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council File No. 12-0353,
at its meeting held April 17, 2012.



City Clerk
io

12-0353
28

MAR 07 2012

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

MOTION

The current restoration of City Hall Park has given Angelenos the opportunity to re-assess our approach towards landscape design, water usage, and plant selection. Indeed, our official city flower and tree is the Bird of Paradise and the Coral Tree; neither of which is native to our area. Given that this restoration effort has included a lot of input from the native plant community, it is a great opportunity to educate the public about California flora and natural history by naming an official "native plant."

The *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, commonly known as Toyon, as well as Christmas berry and California holly, is a common shrub native to California that is drought-adapted. Toyon typically grows from two to five meters and has a rounded to irregular top. Its leaves are evergreen, alternate, and sharply toothed, and it produces small white flowers in the summer. The plant attracts butterflies, and has a mild, hawthorn-like scent. The berries provided food for local Native American tribes, such as the Chumash, Tongva, and Tataviam. The berries also can be made into jelly and tea. In the 1920s, collecting Toyon branches for Christmas became so popular in our City that the State of California passed a law forbidding its collection on public land.



As the Toyon is a native plant to California, drought-adapted, and part of California history, it would be an ideal choice for the City's official native plant.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council adopt the Toyon as the official native plant of the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY:

Richard Alarcón
RICHARD ALARCÓN
Councilmember, 7th District

ADOPTED

APR 17 2012

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

SECONDED BY:

[Signature]

[Signature]
MAR 7 2012

ORIGINAL