

April 28, 2014

Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, and River Committee  
c/o City Clerk  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 360  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

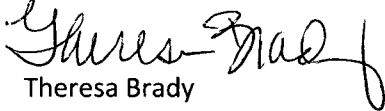
Attn: Adam Lid, Legislative Assistant

Re: Council Motion CF 13-1580

Dear Honorable Members:

The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee strongly supports eliminating anticoagulant poisons from use in City of Los Angeles parks. Anticoagulant poisons kill more than rats and gophers. They also kill or sicken hawks, owls, bobcats, mountain lions, dogs and cats. These animals are capable of controlling rodents in a natural manner. Anticoagulants pose an unreasonable risk to the environment and should be banned from use by City departments.

Sincerely,



Theresa Brady  
Chair

cc: Steven Hartman, California Native Plant Society, LA/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter  
Rosemarie White, Canada Goose Project  
Robert Munsey, Los Angeles Audubon Society  
Muriel Kotin, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society  
Glenn Bailey, Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains  
Joe Phillips, Sierra Club, San Fernando Valley Group  
Debra George, Encino Neighborhood Council  
Cynthia Weichelt, Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

PUBLIC COMMENT COUNCIL FILE 13-1580, Oct. 20, 2014

Poison Free Malibu <poisonfreemalibu@gmail.com> Fri, Oct 17, 2014 at 6:08 PM

To: Michael.Espinosa@lacity.org

Michael

This was also previously sent to Adam Lid, but a return email said he was out of the office.

Joel Schulman

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October 20, 2014

Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, Recreation Committee

City of Los Angeles

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, Recreation Committee Members,

We very much appreciate the concern expressed by the Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, Recreation Committee at its April 26, 2014 meeting concerning rodenticide impact on the wildlife, pets, and children in the parks and open spaces in Los Angeles. We, Poison Free Malibu, have been working on this issue in Malibu and the cities surrounding the western extent of the Santa Monica Mountains. The mountains in Los Angeles extending to Griffith Park are one and the same mountain range, and we are grateful for your stewardship of this land. Los Angeles is adjacent to thousands of acres of open space. Modern supertoxic rodent poisons are spreading throughout the ecosystem there causing massive exposure, disease, and death beyond the intended targets.

We strongly support policy against the use of rodent poisons by the City of Los Angeles and encourage the committee at its meeting on October 20 to take strong action mandating that anticoagulant poisons not be used by the Recreation and Parks Department.

We are especially concerned about the increasing reliance we are finding on diphacinone. Now that the 2nd generation anticoagulants have been banned for consumers in California as of July 1, some people and institutions are mistakenly switching to diphacinone and other 1st generation anticoagulants. Here are 3 links that gives examples of what scientists are recently finding out about diphacinone's effects.

- Diphacinone is what poisoned the famous Griffith Park mountain, P-22 in April. Here is a National Park Service statement about it, identifying diphacinone as the culprit:

<http://www.nps.gov/samo/parknews/gp-lion-exposed-to-poison.htm> (3rd paragraph)

- Here is a news video about P-22:

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2014/04/17/officials-famous-griffith-park-mountain-lion-suffering-from-potentially-deadly-disease/>

- A UCLA scientist has found that diphacinone is the main culprit in her study of rodent poisons in bobcats in our area. She discusses this at: <http://www.urbancarnivores.com/laurels-blog/> (2nd paragraph)

- On October 10, 2014 the California Coastal Commission passed the Santa Monica Local Coastal Plan banning ALL (1st & 2nd anticoagulants, including diphacinone) from the unincorporated areas of the Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone, with the clause:

"The use of insecticides, herbicides, anti-coagulant rodenticides or any toxic chemical substance which has the potential to significantly degrade biological resources in the Santa Monica Mountains shall be prohibited, ..."

See - <http://planning.lacounty.gov/coastal>

- Seven local cities to date - Malibu, Calabasas, Agoura Hills, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village, Moorpark, and Ojai have passed resolutions opposing the use of all anticoagulant rodenticides, including diphacinone.

Diphacinone is commonly used to control squirrels. This is entirely inappropriate where wildlife can have access. There are excellent non-poison traps that are known to be very effective. The only advantage of poison is that it removes the squirrel carcass from visibility. But this is just like discarding toxic waste from your yard to your neighbors. The squirrel escapes into the wild before dying, polluting it and the food chain with the poison! To avoid this overt POLLUTION, the squirrel carcass MUST be recovered in any case, therefore trapping is the superior strategy.

We are the only hope for our wildlife, pets, and children. Much of the reaction to the sad news concerning mountain lion P-22 is that we all intuitively realize that it is our responsibility to care for the vulnerable creatures who are our neighbors, and we have not been doing a good job. They cannot speak for themselves but do so silently through their dead bodies that are found with rat poison in them. It is imperative that we do our part to stop the use of poisons and prevent the poisons from killing other wildlife that feed on them.

Your consideration of new policies in this regard is a great step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Kian Schulman

Poison Free Malibu

[EarthFriendlyManagement.com](http://EarthFriendlyManagement.com)

Fw: NO Rodenticide

maria gritsch <mariafgritsch@yahoo.com> Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 10:27 AM

Reply-To: maria gritsch <mariafgritsch@yahoo.com>

To: "Michael.Espinosa@lacity.org" <Michael.Espinosa@lacity.org>

Dear Mr. Espinosa,

Kindly send this email to whomever  
is handling this issue. Thank you  
in advance.

Sincerely,

Maria Gritsch and Warren TenHouten

On Monday, October 20, 2014 10:21 AM, maria gritsch <mariafgritsch@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell and Honorable Members of the APHAR Committee,

I am a Citizen for Los Angeles Wildlife and I support CLAW's request to remove dangerous rodent poisons from Los Angeles as they poison untargeted wildlife, domestic animals and children. I request that the City Council:

Instruct its agencies to stop the use of anticoagulant rodenticides particularly in our parks, wilderness areas and environmentally sensitive areas.

Create a prohibition or implement drastic reductions of the municipal, commercial, industrial, professional and private use of anticoagulant rodenticides particularly in our hillsides and other ecologically-sensitive areas and/or within 100 feet of parks, school zones, playgrounds and play structures.

Implement a system of punitive fines to be instituted to support protections particularly for rodenticide usage in hillsides and ecologically sensitive areas.

Sincerely,

Maria Gritsch

Warren TenHouten

8854 Lookout Mountain Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 9046