

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

#### Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/14/2020

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 01/19/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-1339

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: We, the Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC), support Council File 13- 1339 Mexican Elderberry / Toyon / Adding to Protected Tree List. We believe this code amendment adding the Toyon, which has been designated the official native plant of the City of Los Angeles, and the Mexican Elderberry to the City's list of Protected Trees is an important step in protecting the legacy of this land and its biodiversity.



WILSHIRE CENTER  
KOREATOWN  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



December 14, 2020

Councilmember Elect Mark Ridley Thomas

Councilmember Herb Wesson

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

Councilmember David Ryu

Councilmember Elect Nithya Raman

Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, California  
90012

**Re: Community Impact Statement for Council File: 13-1339**

Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

We, the Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC), **support Council File 13-1339 Mexican Elderberry / Toyon / Adding to Protected Tree List.** We believe this code amendment adding the Toyon, which has been designated the official native plant of the City of Los Angeles, and the Mexican Elderberry to the City's list of Protected Trees is an important step in protecting the legacy of this land and its biodiversity.

The protected tree ordinance is intended to safeguard native biodiversity of Los

Angeles and expansion of the protected tree list to include toyon and Mexican elderberry is intended

to expand the reach of that ordinance. Mexican Elderberry and Toyon are both shrubs whose berries attract butterflies and provide food and shade for a large variety of native birds. Both of these plants have been an important part of the local environment, and were prized by Native American tribes, such as the Chumash, Tongva, and Tataviarn. The protection of younger specimens is important to ensure healthy recruitment of the two additional shrub species.

The WCKNC requests that:

(1) shrub species be replaced in-kind rather than allowing for reduction in diversity of these landscapes by substituting impacts on one species by

planting another species,

(2) the threshold size for protection be the presence of a cumulative diameter of 4 inches of all stems at 4.5 feet above ground level

(3) that a full list of the protected trees along with links to visuals for each tree be added to the LADBS demolition pre-inspection checklist to ensure these trees are not destroyed during building demolitions and

(4) that the proposed expansion of the protected tree list be adopted expeditiously.

WCKNC fully supports **support Council File 13-1339 Mexican Elderberry / Toyon / Adding to Protected Tree List** and asks that the above considerations particularly the inclusion of protected tree information as part of the LADBS pre-demolition inspection be added to this ordinance.

Sincerely,

The Wilshire Center-Koreatown Neighborhood Council

PNB 400

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Los Angeles, CA 90010

[wcknc.info@gmail.com](mailto:wcknc.info@gmail.com)

CC: Board of Public Works

Los Angeles Urban Forestry Division