

MOTION

The pomegranate is one of the most recognizable symbols in the Armenian culture. Celebrated for centuries in Armenian art, mythology, religious texts and literature, the pomegranate is a powerful symbol that represents abundance, prosperity, generosity and fertility. After the horrific events of the Armenian Genocide in 1915, many Armenian artists have used pomegranates as a theme in their art, lyrics, and poems to describe a wide range of emotions, from suffering to hope, rebirth and survival of a nation.

This year April 24 marks the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Preparations are underway throughout the world to commemorate the lives lost during the Genocide. The City of Los Angeles, home to the largest community of the Armenian Diaspora, has formally recognized the genocide and each year commemorates this tragedy with the Armenian-American community. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the City of Los Angeles should reaffirm its support of the Armenian-American community's demand for justice, by commemorating this momentous occasion with a lasting, living and citywide expression of the City's respectful remembrance.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Recreation and Parks Department be instructed to acquire and plant 100 pomegranate trees in parks throughout the city, including at least one tree on the South Lawn of City Hall, and the remaining trees to be planted in each of the 15 council districts.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the Recreation and Parks Department to work with each Council office to coordinate the location of the trees in each district, to place a plaque or a sign at the location of the trees dedicating the tree to the victims of the Armenian Genocide, and to ensure the maintenance and survival of the trees.

Presented by: Paul Krikorian
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

Seconded by: Wendy Martinez
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