

MOTION

Irene Tovar, born in Boyle Heights and raised in Pacoima, has spent her life fighting injustice and discrimination against the Latino community and communities of color more broadly, including expanding access to affordable education, removing racial barriers to employment, and empowering Latino leaders.

Ms. Tovar attended both the Los Angeles Valley College and California State University, Northridge (CSUN), taking nine years to earn her Bachelor's Degree because she did not have access to financial aid or loans and her family lacked the resources to put her through college in four years. During her time at CSUN, she was one of five Latino students on campus. This disparity in enrollment and access to financial aid became a motivating force for her work to advocate and work for expanded equity and access to education.

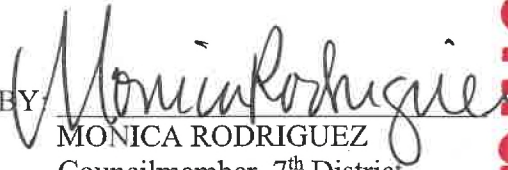
As part of this advocacy, Ms. Tovar fought to found Los Angeles Mission College in Sylmar. Ms. Tovar, as a recent college graduate, learned that the local community college district had approved a third community college, but approved its location close to CSUN's campus. Ms. Tovar, working with other community members, organized and advocated for the new campus to be instead located in the Northeast Valley, eventually succeeding in the opening of Los Angeles Mission College.

Ms. Tovar also served eight years in Governor Jerry Brown's administration as the first Mexican-American appointed to the State Personnel Board, where she worked to remove barriers to State employment and ensure fair pay for bilingual State workers who were relied on for translation services, but compensated at the same rates as monolingual workers. In her role at the State, she also advocated for the appointment of Latinos to prominent positions of power including the Supreme Court of California and the State's Recreation and Parks Park Architect.

In recognition of Irene Tovar's decades of leadership in fighting to expand access to education, fair pay, and championing of communities of color, it is appropriate that the City name the intersection of Hubbard Street and Eldridge Avenue, adjacent to the Los Angeles Mission College, as "Irene Tovar Square."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection at Hubbard Street and Eldridge Avenue be named as "**Irene Tovar Square**" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilmember, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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SEP 12 2025