MOTION

Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code provides that the Council, Cultural Heritage Commission, or Director of Planning may initiate consideration of a proposed site, building, or structure as a Historic-Cultural Monument. After reviewing and investigating any such Council-initiated designation, the Cultural Heritage Commission shall approve or disapprove in whole or in part the proposed inclusion and submit a report upon such action to Council.

Council District 4's Toluca Lake neighborhood includes many buildings that are architecturally rich and worthy of preservation. One such historic treasure is the Hope Estate, located at 10350 West Moorpark Street, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602. The estate, approximately 15,000 square feet in size and set on a 5.2-acre site, was built in 1939 for Bob and Dolores Hope. The English traditional-style home was designed by architect Richard Finkelhor, who designed and renovated homes for numerous other Hollywood icons. In the mid-1950s, architect John Elgin Woolf, known for his Hollywood Regency-style, was commissioned to remodel and update the Hope Estate. The home was known to be a place for large gatherings and intimate visits from celebrity neighbors like Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

In a report published in January 2013 for the Sherman Oaks-Studio City-Toluca Lake-Cahuenga Pass Community Plan Area, SurveyLA—the City’s Historic Resources Survey—has identified the Hope Estate as an example embodying the theme of a residence of an important person in the entertainment industry, 1908-1980. Bob Hope had a prolific career as a comic actor, singer and dancer. He won five honorary Academy Awards and one humanitarian award.

It is imperative that the City's historic-cultural resources are celebrated and its historic architecture preserved for future generations. The Hope Estate, located on Toluca Lake's Moorpark Street, is an architectural treasure and integral to theme and context of the Toluca Lake neighborhood, as identified in SurveyLA.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council determine, as provided in Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter AND that the need for action came to the attention of the City Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council initiate consideration of the Hope Estate, located at 10350 West Moorpark Street, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602, as a City Historic-Cultural Monument under the procedures of Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code, and instruct the Planning Department to prepare the Historic-Cultural Monument application for review and consideration by the Cultural Heritage Commission.

I FURTHER MOVE that after reviewing the application, the Cultural Heritage Commission submit its report and recommendations to the Council regarding the inclusion of the Hope Estate in the City's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

PRESENTED BY:  
DAVID RYU  
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:  
[Signature]