

Handroanthus impetiginosa—Pink Trumpet Tree

Handroanthus impetiginosa (formerly *Tabebuia avellanae*) or Pink Trumpet Tree is in the tropical family known as Bignoniaceae. All members of this family have opposite, compound leaves and trumpet-shaped flowers in pink, lilac or yellow colors. Other showy tree species in this family on Victoria Avenue are *Catalpa*, *Chitalpa*, *Jacaranda* and *Paulownia*. These are all useful street trees in sub-tropical coastal areas or protected inland districts around the world. Typically, these species are briefly deciduous and form spectacular spherical clusters of flowers when the branches are mostly bare of leaves in the early spring (March-May). *Handroanthus spp.* are generally pest and disease free.

The two most commonly planted species of *Handroanthus* in Southern California are *H. impetiginosa* (Pink Trumpet Tree) and *H. chrysotricha*, the Yellow Trumpet Tree. The Pink Trumpet Trees grow more vigorously in Riverside. The flowers on these trees are 2-3 inches long and are a delicate pink with yellow throats. A large number of specimens are present in the median strip of the Avenue between McAllister and Tyler. Others are present on parkways.

