



Silver Lake Reservoir Phase 3 Community Meeting - December 2, 2006 **Follow-up Survey Results**

Please note: A total of 51 participants completed the survey form. Each survey was assigned a number (in parentheses) to identify the respondent. The responses have been regrouped by category and placed in order to indicate community priorities based on the number of responses for each of the various topics of feedback. This survey is not meant to signify any kind of consensus since the number of participants cannot wholly represent the greater Silver Lake community. It's purpose is to allow participants to provide feedback to the project designers and to help their concerns and opinions be heard by the elected city representatives.

1. What is your most important issue or concern about the reservoir?

Parking & Traffic (9 Responses)

- (1) Parking – where will all the people who use the new facility park. We do have to consider the homeowners on W. Silverlake Dr. and Silverlake Dr.
- (7) Hoping there will be no parking lot created around the reservoir.
- (8) Parking?? When these phases are complete, people will be parking everywhere – removing spaces needed by homeowners.
- (19) There really needs to be a crosswalk at Armstrong & Silverlake that allows pedestrians to go across Silverlake Blvd.
- (40) That there may be too many cars parked on the streets because it does not look like there is a planned parking area on the east side.
- (41) My primary concerns are the apparent lack of cooperation w/ DOT RE: traffic safety and with the environmental impact on the opposite side of the street (where parking happens). As a resident, I am worried about trash, which is already a problem no one addresses but residents.
- (46) I am an avid Silver Lake bicyclist, and there are many living here. I am gravely concerned about keeping an adequate and SAFE bike lane in this 2nd phase. As you know, the first phase narrowed the street and got rid of bike lane making it now more dangerous than ever!! Please keep & widen the bike lane in Phase 2.
- (49) Traffic on Silver Lake Blvd. – I strongly feel there needs to be a traffic signal at the intersection with Armstrong Ave. – after you almost get hit by a car a couple of times the danger there becomes apparent.
- (51) That our streetside parking doesn't get bombarded by people strolling, picnicking, so forth; for opened areas, emphasize locals to walk to lake/area.

Public Safety (9 Responses)

- (1) Public safety = “Drowning + Violence...” Who is on call (full time) to respond to the above (immediately), day and night, now the public is allowed by the water?
- (23) Safety at night for walkers. Trash – trashcan that are emptied
- (24) Safety. On Silverlake Blvd. along the lake cars speed along and pedestrians attempt to cross the street. Slow traffic down and add a stoplight or pedestrian cross between Earl & Armstrong



- (25) 1. Loitering after hours. We will need a greater police presence around the lake to ensure this does not happen. 2. No restroom facilities – we don't want this to become a place for "other" undesirable activities. 3. Crosswalks/stop sign on Silverlake Blvd. (at Earl?)
- (26) Opening the meadow from dawn to dusk is a huge potential for crime! I do not believe that the 89% who wanted the meadow open meant 24 hrs. a day!
- (28) I want surrounding areas (eucalyptus grove & meadow) to be safe areas. Enough visibility so that the people can't hide in bushes or behind trees. Also I want water features to still be pleasant views with a natural feeling. Adequate but not obtrusive lighting.
- (31) That it stays "safe" and not get run down or neglected
- (32) Safety for pedestrians. Put signals or crosswalks at Earl St. & maybe Armstrong. Fix Tesla for pedestrians.
- (37) Safety – safe access. We need crosswalks, stop signs, left turn lanes, etc.

Design & Landscape (8 Responses)

- (29) The long term (~10 years) design problems and possibilities created by taking the reservoirs off line. I'd love for the reservoir to be a powerful example of a community-created space that shows the mutually beneficial relationship between humans and nature. I'd love for it to be so well-designed as an eco-system, that it minimizes the need for large bureaucratic inputs to maintain.
- (30) The plantings on West Silverlake Dr. stop at Hawick because of the blue herons, it would look more natural to blend the plantings into the blue heron area and then fence it off to curb intrusion into their habitat.
- (38) To keep it a reservoir or an enclosed body of water. To preserve its natural beauty.
- (43) Maintain the rustic parklike atmosphere. Don't beautify too much. Any demonstration gardens or water features should be designed to minimize their impact on the overall atmosphere.
- (44) Beautiful design – a place for residents to walk & gather – a symbol of the community
- (45) Greenspace! Simple things like having a flat grassy area to play frisbee or a gathering area outdoors for our community. Sure, we've got Griffith Park, but the reservoir is distinctly Silver Lake, and we have so little green space to come together as a community of people.
- (48) Sustaining its uncovered beauty forever. Always being a view lake.
- (50) I love the idea of planting native species around the meadow with some identifying interpretive signs. Also, kudos for the floating island idea. Future: highlight beauty and sound of water flowing from Ivanhoe to Silver Lake.

Maintenance (8 Responses)

- (11) Maintenance! Who will pick up the trash?
- (12) Safety, dumping ground for garbage, excessive parking & traffic congestion
- (27) Ground's maintenance has always been meager in the past. The improvements proposed might require more care. Franklin Res. is a sad example of long term neglect.



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- (33) Maintenance of new open spaces. Assurance that the new open spaces will not become a new haven for the homeless & drug users (those now residing along Riverside Dr. and the L.A. River)
- (34) Long term viability of the whole endeavor = prefer upkeep & updating over decades
- (36) Trash, pollution, possible increase in crime
- (42) Love the idea of opening it up for public use – just want to make sure there is adequate maintenance (trash pick-up, landscaping, etc.)
- (47) All plants and trees will be properly maintained. Grounds will be free of trash.

Wildlife (7 Responses)

- (1) That it remains a place of natural (though man-made!) beauty – whether we have access to it or not – and that the wildlife is protected.
- (6) The most important issue is to preserve green space and existing wildlife habitats. If after this is accomplished some areas can be made accessible for public low level use such as walking trails, etc. then it should be a secondary priority.
- (10) Why open the meadow? Leave it to the coyotes. We could create a safe walking path on the outer perimeter of the meadow without going all the way into the meadow.
- (13) Keeping a rustic natural look that invites wildlife
- (14) The wildlife access along the fence is too close to “D.G. Sitting” area. Wildlife could harm kids.
- (18) That it provide people and wildlife with a place of mutual sustenance. As a place where wild and human activity co-mingle.
- (35) Maintaining the integrity for the existing ecosystems safety

General (3 Responses)

- (16) I signed a petition (Paul [Apostle]) and want to take my name off. He misrepresented the issue.
- (17) That it be used primarily by those in the local community.
- (22) Noise

Fencing (2 Responses)

- (1) If the meadow on W.S. Lake Dr. is opened up with a walkway will there be 2 fences and will there be ample parking?
- (39) I live on W. Silverlake Dr. between Moreno & Hawick. I look over the present fence because the house is above the street level. I am concerned about another fence planned closer to the lake, because it would interfere with my view of the lake. I don't want another fence closer to the lake. People walking at street level would have to look through 2 fences to see the lake.

Open Space (2 Responses)

- (9) Preserve open space for the enjoyment of the people walking/running around it to look at, and for neighboring residents. Open space – untouched – is a rare prize.
- (21) Make it accessible to the public.

Lighting (1 Response)



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(15) Lighting on Armstrong!

2. What is your next most important issue or concern about the reservoir?

Open Space/Amenities/Activities (10 Responses)

- (4) That it becomes accessible to a limited degree.
- (6) Any public access/use development should be for passive recreational activities such as walking, running, etc.
- (5) The type of people that will be attracted to use the area – how will the noise be and the clean up.
- (10) If the meadow is opened:
 - Sunrise to sunset only. Limited “enhancements.”
 - Wildlife biologist should continue to monitor impact on resident wildlife.
 - Easy system for reporting use violations. Will there really be money for this? Oversight is usually the first thing to go in a budget crunch.
- (19) Benches & tables, please
- (20) Access to the meadow soon!
- (31) That people get to enjoy nature but does not become a place to come and spend the day
- (39) I would prefer that the eucalyptus grove not be open to the public.
- (40) Some things are best preserved and I think to look at something like the reservoir and not being able to go in is a good idea. Let it be (we will also need extra patrol and attention of open areas)
- (45) Is it ridiculous to think that the reservoir might eventually be open for swimming? I know the design of the reservoir is tough for that because of the gradation into the water. But, holy cow, to have an outdoor park and an outdoor swimming area would make this one of the most livable areas in the country.

Wildlife (9 Responses)

- (25) 4. Wild life – we need to protect their habitat. 5. Homeless refuge – we need to make sure we don't become the next Santa Monica. 6. Parking – may need to consider “permit” restrictions in neighboring streets
- (26) Coyotes!!! It is crazy to have a walkway near their den – when people can access the walkway near the park – at night.
- (27) How will the growing population of coyotes be handled. Will the proposed improvements improve their habitat and contribute to population growth?
- (32) Maintain animal wildlife. Change proposed east side/meadow fence/path closer to street – keep bushes behind fence to preserve wildlife.
- (33) Maintain the area as an open wildlife preserve. And introduce native plants (bird friendly) where appropriate.
- (36) Wildlife
- (37) Wildlife – we love them – they need to be protected
- (43) Maintain people-free zones as needed to protect & encourage wildlife habitats
- (46) Also – I am very much against opening up the eucalyptus grove. The migration of the blue heron, egrets – and other wildlife that nests & calls that area their home would



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be disturbed & frightened, and no longer live there if the groves were opened. Show some respect!! Thx

Maintenance (6 Responses)

- (1) Rubbish = "Cleaning" Who cleans up and keeps all 'sanitary' on a daily basis?
- (3) That we maintain a [unintelligible] public use policy for the reservoir for the next 100 years.
- (11) Maintenance!
- (18) That we provide for ongoing maintenance of property and plants beyond mow-blow-and-go.
- (38) The plans for Phase 2 and Phase 3 look great, but there is, even now, insufficient upkeep for the park areas adjacent to the Rec Center. The lawns are littered with trash and there is little or no maintenance on the trees and grass. When the Rec Center was built there was no provision for dumpsters. Now the lawn is being torn up by trucks servicing the dumpsters, which are always filled to overflowing and are in a very public place. With the future plans, there also needs to be consideration for mundane topics like upkeep and trash removal. Another concern is safety lighting for walking after dark. By the way, the existing walking path on West Silver Lake is extremely comfortable to walk on. The D.G. path has shown no erosion and is a great walking surface.
- (17) That Recreation & Parks in San Marino be called. Many years ago (I don't know the current situation) this city closed its jewel park – Lacy Park – each weekend because outsiders were using the park for picnics and leaving trash on the ground. This city may have some ideas about what to be aware of when opening up a park-like area.

Design & Landscape (6 Responses)

- (8) I don't like the little path through the eucalyptus trees.
- (12) Maintain the integrity of the reservoir by not turning it into an amusement par[k]. The serenity of the reservoir should not be disturbed.
- (21) Keep it beautiful.
- (28) Maintain natural feeling of the area – keep it a great place to walk and jog – keep it quiet please. Also use native or drought tolerant plantings where feasible.
- (34) Safe & pleasant access without losing the significant visual aesthetics
- (42) Aesthetics – native plants, nice benches, etc. Plans look great!!

Parking & Traffic (5 Responses)

- (7) Traffic/security/vandalism
- (9) Safe path all around the property off the streets. This does not require use of the meadow.
- (22) Traffic
- (35) Traffic
- (50) Recc. some sort of bumps along the existing running space on SLB, even after Phase II is completed.

Public Safety (4 Responses)



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- (13) Security & not overusing or overpopulating – no extra parking. Can not have locked fence unless problems arise.
- (24) I'm concerned about the public intoxication, homelessness, trash, grounds not being maintained. I'm worried a criminal element may be attracted to the open area if access is not limited.
- (41) Large open area, far from street lights, unattended in early morning & late evening hours – could conceivably be an “attractive” nuisance to non-residents, homeless, trouble makers
- (47) Open space will attract gangs at night.

Funding/Scheduling (3 Responses)

- (23) I'd like to see Phase 2 paths and meadow & eucalyptus grove changes occur simultaneously
- (29) I want to see us engage the governance & enforcement issues people are concerned about starting now & think about design & community-awareness solutions to these issues. The question of who's space this is needs to be addressed in the design process (rights and responsibilities). PS I would love to see the northern boundary of the heron preserve to be curved to create a bit more edge @ the reservoir for adult herons.
- (48) How to pay for the above. Stop the prison look with the chain link fences.

Fencing (2 Responses)

- (49) The fence – once the reservoir goes off line, will the fence still be necessary, or can the lake be made to look more like the way Echo Park Lake is set up, with closer access to the water.
- (51) Someday soon a new, less prisonlike fence be built to replace the current. One like the fence surrounding the Rowena (area) reservoir.

Lighting (1 Response)

- (15) Lighting on all “dark” areas along the path – Van Pelt also dark

3. Is there anything else you'd like to share?

Funding/Scheduling (6 Responses)

- (9) If people are favoring further physical changes in the belief that budgets and manpower will be available for patrol, monitoring, and enforcement they are kidding themselves and really leaving things to chance.
- (20) Publication/posting of an updated project timeline. Thank you!
- (25) I'd like to combine Phase 2 & Phase 3. It makes sense to combine these two into one initiative.
- (26) I believe your “group” should really listen to what we wish rather than what you guys gain monetarily.
- (41) I love the idea of this development plan. I hope it reaches far enough into the future to be viable long term. I worry about funding for this park when the reservoir goes off-line and it then is the [purview] of the parks.



(42) Hope this can all happen!! [smiley face]

Open Space/Amenities/Activities (6 Responses)

- (5) This area has been a beautiful, restful area for over 80 years – a nice clean open quiet area for those of us who live around and above the lake – Let's not lose it!
- (12) Griffith Park is very close. Let's try not to turn a serene residential community w/ a walkway into a park.
- (19) Are there any restrooms?
- (48) I would like to see a par course developed in the meadow land open area. Possible pathway around the back lake area.
- (50) Try to have a waste bag stand to encourage forgetful dog owners to pick up refuse [with sketch]. In future, please don't plant bushy evergreens immediately next to a comparatively narrow walking path [with sketch]
- (51) If the lake were to be open to non-motorized boating, it be limited to local residences with licenses issued by the commission either through a lottery or fund raising.

Thanks/Community Involvement (6 Responses)

- (4) Thank you for the walkway on West Silver Lake Drive. I am a regular walker along there – it is one of the highlights of living in Silver Lake.
- (6) Community input should be a continual part of the process as this project proceeds through its various phases.
- (13) Thank CSSLR folks for all their hard work
- (18) Thank you!
- (21) Great ideas today.
- (44) Well done!

Public Safety (5 Responses)

- (1) Strangers (child safety) Who patrols the area to avoid prowlers preying on children/women?
- (7) Lake Hollywood removed the toilet facilities in their play area to discourage over nighters. If possible could the fence be colored a dull green – as compared with the Rowena Res. which is so bright it makes plants look dull.
- (8) Opening up these areas will be a tendency to bring in troublemakers
- (14) The open meadow should be closed @ night. Joggers not in the dark.
- (43) Start with low security but be prepared to make adjustments to improve security, if needed in the future. Thanks to CSSLR for providing opportunities for input.

Parking & Traffic (4 Responses)

- (17) Take a traffic count on West SL Blvd. on different times during the week. These counts can be used as benchmarks in the future in determining to what extent, if any, the opening up of the reservoir has significantly increased traffic.
- (24) I'm worried about an increased parking problem for the surrounding area. I would be willing to pay an assessment fee if need be to maintain the areas. Thanks for involving us!



- (28) Provide adequate parking so that our already jammed streets don't become even more packed.
- (49) Great job so far! Also – will the bike lane on the northbound side of Silver Lake Blvd. still be necessary, or can it be incorporated as a traffic lane in order to keep traffic flowing better?

Design & Landscape (3 Responses)

- (23) The newly planted trees along W. Silverlake's "new" path are unnecessary and cut into walking space and visibility
- (29) I love the design as it is coming along.
- (34) A. Mandatory that a wildlife biologist stay on this project for the long term B. The DWP "access road" at north edge of meadow is a mistake because (i) The connection to SL Blvd. occurs at an extremely dangerous spot (ii) The placement of that road so closely parallel to the proposed paths at north end of meadow threatens both the visual integrity of the project & makes islands out of the plantings between path & access road (iii) The rare use of the meadow for access by DWP in the past strongly suggests their need for an actual truck-worthy road there is slim. (Are they unable to make any other access route...?) (iv) Future users (Audubon?) of the DWP areas would have neither any need for such a road, nor would they likely prohibit DWP access off the "usual" routes on Armstrong. So building a road there now seems like a genuine waste over the long haul – and even the medium haul. What specific short-term needs would be met by that road?

Wildlife (2 Responses)

- (31) The herons not feel threat to their nesting. Keep the area natural – clean. No business operating – bikes, etc.
- (32) With interest I read each and every comment from the September survey. From what I could glean, I was very surprised at today's Phase 3 proposal drawings that were intrusive to wildlife. We are in charge of building walking paths. Why not build the "path of least resistance?" Specifically, build the path to preserve the animal habitats in the existing bushes, like so [2 sketches "NOT THIS as proposed" and "But instead"] This way [the second sketch] keeps animals & animal nesting & pedestrians safe. Keeps water access safe. Protects existing dens/nests. Still gives us all a nice, meandering path off the street. PLUS D.O.T. – need signal/crosswalk at Earl & SL Blvd. ALSO Why so much disruption to west side? There's already a very nice path there. Perhaps open a way to walk across reservoir (existing between Ivanhoe & SL). Leave west side alone!

Maintenance (2 Responses)

- (27) Island plantings could be difficult to maintain and could become an eyesore.
- (33) Safety and cleanliness of the new areas for the enjoyment of all and in a safe environment both for children, pets and wildlife.

Lighting (1 Response)

- (15) Wondering – why is it so difficult to get lighting on Armstrong?

Fencing (1 Response)



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(45) I know that water + children = the necessity for a fence, but can we lower it, make it more attractive, more welcoming? What do they do in NY's Central Park? Can't wait for the other side of the reservoir to be walker/runner friendly. Thank you for your time.

General comments:

(29) Go Team!

(33) Resident for 39 years