

November 28, 2023



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

GoFundMe Account Created to Replace Stolen Tom LaBonge Memorial Plaque



The plaque honoring former CD 4 councilmember Tom LaBonge was stolen recently. The monument commemorating LaBonge's nearly four decades of service was located at the Silver Lake Meadows.

A GoFundMe page has been set up to raise the \$600 needed to replace the purloined plaque. Your tax-deductible donation may be made at the following link. Any amount is appreciated.

[DONATE TO TOM LABONGE PLAQUE REPLACEMENT](#)



The unsafe and unhealthy encampment on the Hoover underpass has been cleaned up thanks to SLT's advocacy and community initiatives.

New Dumping Ground?

By Scott D. Plante, AIA, Member of Silver Lake Urban Design and Preservation Committee, Co-founder, Silver Lake Together

In SLT's last issue we reported that the Hoover underpass was becoming a dumping ground for trash associated with a homeless encampment. Thanks to SLT advocacy and community support, the area was cleaned up on October 12. Multiple city employees and vehicles were observed moving the unhoused and removing debris and safety hazards, which included unauthorized and dangerous electrical lines running across Hoover Street. SLT drives through the area regularly, and as of November 27 the Hoover underpass has remained clean and safe.

But there is more to do. SLT is working to clean up other unsafe encampments located in Council District 13. The first is on Silver Lake Boulevard, at the 101 Freeway, where similar safety issues are present. Moreover, SLT supports the efforts of residents to remove an encampment under the Silver Lake Boulevard/Sunset Boulevard overpass. This area had been cleared, but over the last year the encampment and resultant safety issues have returned.

[READ THE ORIGINAL HOOVER STREET SLT ARTICLE](#)



Photo by Chris Montgomery, Unsplash

Restoring Rights to Unfranchised Community Members

California State Senate Bill 411, which would allow neighborhood council meetings to be held with a virtual option (such as Zoom) passed earlier this year. However, there is a catch: neighborhood councils have to individually approve whether to use the teleconferencing option with a two-thirds majority vote. Councils may choose either an in-person or teleconferencing option. They may also opt for "hybrid" meetings offering attendees in-person or online access. As yet, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council has not voted to allow or disallow access with a virtual option.

For several months, SLT advocates have reached out to L.A.'s Department of Disability urging them to take a stand in favor of providing access to people who have a disability, such as an immunocompromised condition, which prevents them from participating in city meetings that only provide in-person attendance. Regrettably, the department has not issued a ruling in favor of those who are unfranchised by in-person-only meetings. We urge readers to contact their local neighborhood council and ask them to vote to allow all residents and stakeholders the right to take part in their government meetings.

- Share your thoughts here: Board@SilverLakeNC.org

City Searches for

New GM to Lead Challenged Neighborhood Councils

Photo by Ruslan Burlaka, Pexels



According to an email from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), the City of Los Angeles is looking for a new general manager to lead the city's troubled Neighborhood Council's enforcement department. The salary range is \$173,345 to \$307,395 and the deadline for applications is Friday December 8, 2023.

The general manager will head a staff of 33 in the department, which was designed to support LA's Neighborhood Council system, which consists of 99 Neighborhood Councils that form a grassroots arm of the City of Los Angeles government. The position is currently held by Interim General Manager Vanessa Serrano.

The previous general manager, Raquel Beltran, resigned at the request of Mayor Karen Bass in March after a well-publicized spending controversy. There was a record-low turnout for Neighborhood Council elections in 2023.

[READ THE GM JOB DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENTS AND HOW TO APPLY](#)

[LEARN MORE ABOUT EMPOWERLA STAFF](#)

Safer Holidays and Current Crime Stats

Senior Lead Officer

Jose Ramirez

#39570

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Front Desk: [323-561-3211](tel:323-561-3211)

Direct Line: [213-793-0763](tel:213-793-0763)



Silver Lake's Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez shared these important tips to make the holidays safer and happier.

1. Secure your home. Lock all doors and windows, including those on upper floors. Consider installing deadbolt locks and a security system. If you're traveling, use timers for lights or ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your property.
2. Be cautious with social media. Avoid posting about holiday plans or travel on social media platforms, as it could make your home a target for burglars.
3. Park in well-lit areas. When shopping or attending holiday events, park your vehicle in a well-lit area. Be aware of your surroundings and avoid leaving valuables visible inside your car.
4. Stay vigilant while shopping. Keep an eye on your belongings while shopping, especially in crowded areas. Don't leave purses or bags unattended and be cautious of strangers approaching you.
5. Avoid leaving gifts visible in your car. If you're doing holiday shopping and need to leave gifts in your car, store them in the trunk or out of sight to deter potential theft.
6. Use secure ATMs. When withdrawing money, use ATMs located in well-lit, secure areas. Conceal your PIN while entering it and be aware of anyone suspicious nearby.
7. Be mindful of package deliveries. If you're receiving packages, try to be home for the delivery or arrange for a trusted neighbor to pick them up. Packages left outside can be tempting targets for thieves.
8. Travel safely. If you're traveling during the holidays, secure your home, have a trusted friend or neighbor collect your mail and use timers for lights to create the illusion of occupancy.
9. Trust your instincts. If something or someone seems suspicious, trust your gut feeling and remove yourself from the situation. Stay aware of your surroundings and report any unusual activity to the authorities.

Remember, crime prevention is a collective effort. By staying vigilant and taking necessary precautions, we can help ensure a safer holiday season for everyone.

Northeast Crime States from October 15 to November 11, 2023

Homicide – 0

Rape – 0

Robbery – 1

Aggravated Assaults – 3

Gang Related Crimes – 1

Shots Fired – 1

Victim Shot – 1

Burglary – 10

Theft – 18

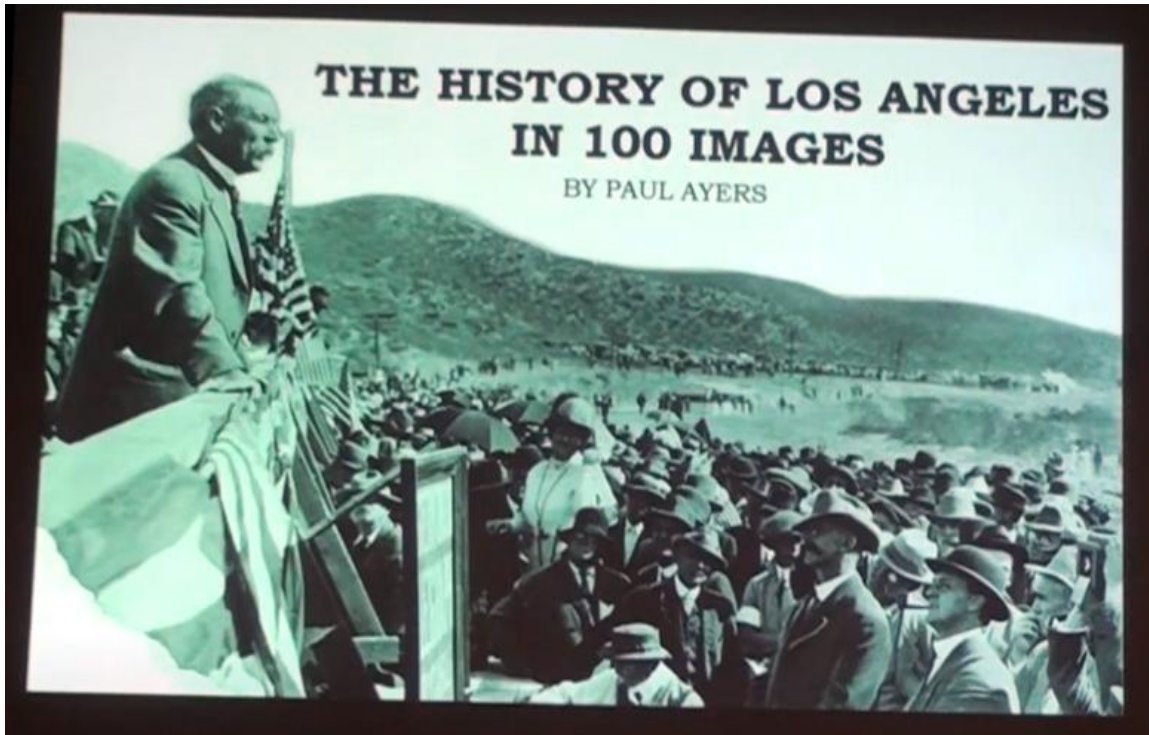
GTA – 22

BFMV – 16

Recovered Vehicle – 2

Violent Crimes – 0

Property Crimes – 18



A History of L.A. in 100 Images

The Silver Lake History Collective proved a picture is worth at least 1,000 words with Paul Ayers' presentation of *A History of L.A.* at the Silver Lake Library. The History Collective is dedicated to preserving the oral histories of long-term residents, business owners, artists and others to create an archive of the unique history of Silver Lake for future generations.

[Listen to the presentation and see the fascinating photos here](#)

Gas Blowers Ban Update

Photo by Chris Bair, Unsplash



Theoretically, according to CNET, by 2024 “Loud, Gas-Belching Leaf Blowers Will Soon Be Illegal.” And new gas-burning lawn mowers and leaf blowers won't be sold in California. We say “theoretically” because the law is complicated and SLT believes it will be up to residents and stakeholders to see that the ban is carried out— and we can all enjoy more peaceful, pollution-free neighborhoods.

There is still time to show your support for the ban by displaying a FREE lawn sign from SLT.

[GET YOUR FREE LEAF BLOWER LAWN SIGN](#)

[READ THE CNET STORY](#)

LAPD Announces Annual Holiday Toy Drive

LAPD makes giving toys to kids who need them easy with its annual Holiday Toy Drive, which will take place Saturday, December 9, at the Northeast Station on 3353 North San Fernando Road.

Northeast Toy Drive 2023

HOLIDAY Toy Drive

DECEMBER 9TH 9AM-12PM
3353 N SAN FERNANDO RD.

Help us spread joy, donate a toy!

BOXED TOYS
AGES 0-13 YRS
 can be
 donated at
 Northeast
 station

**Must
 register @
 Northeast
 Station by
 Dec. 8th**

For more information about the event contact Officer Avila
 at 43625@lapd.online or Officer Trejo at 41045@lapd.online

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Let Us Know!

www.silverlaketogether.com

Need help with an issue in Silver Lake? Do you have ideas that will help our neighborhood or want to share community news?

Email Us

editor@SilverLakeTogether.com

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