

November 2, 2022



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Can You Hear Us?



“Can you hear us” is the question many residents are asking after their strong objections to recommendations in the recently-released draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Silver Lake Reservoirs Master Plan appear to be ignored.

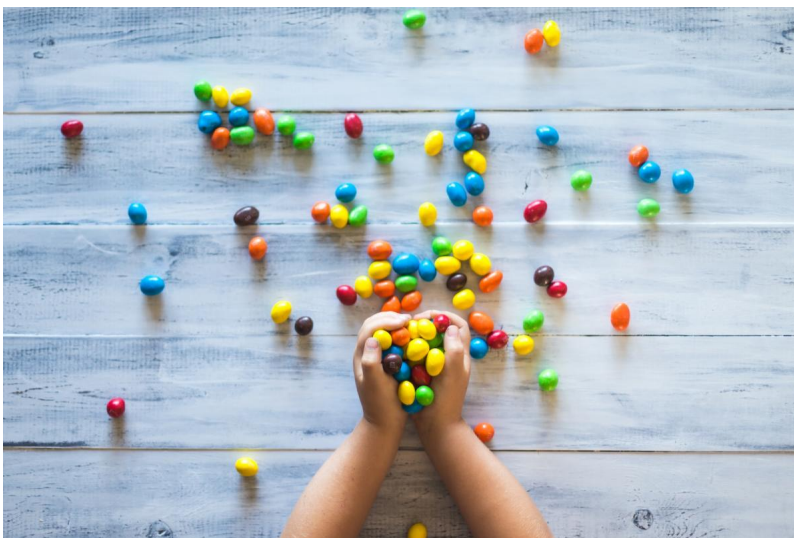
The first of two recent virtual meetings was held by the Reservoirs Committee and took place Sunday afternoon, October 13. The goal of the meeting was to draft a letter of support for the EIR, which recommends massive changes to the reservoirs complex. More than 45 people attended the two-hour meeting and based on the numerous opinions, the co-chairs elected to take a “straw poll” vote to check the temperature in the room. The results were clear: the majority (27) voted AGAINST the Master Plan Draft EIR. Thirteen (13) supported EIR Alternative #3, which offers the most limited alterations to the reservoir complex. Only nine attendees voted in FAVOR of the Master Plan EIR. Policy and procedure would have allowed a motion to be made to draft a letter on NON-SUPPORT of the DEIR, but one co-chair opted to inform the attendees that he and his co-chair would

discuss how to proceed at a later date.

On the following Wednesday evening, the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) held what may be the last Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) community meeting before the proposal is submitted to the city council in spring 2023. Although the presentation of the EIR was technically glitch free, the meeting was riddled with technical difficulties and the portion reserved for public comments was anything but smooth sailing. On multiple occasions, staff members stated they couldn't hear what was being said. A member of the public did not miss the opportunity to point out the irony of how staff could not hear a sizable number of comments. He called it a parable considering that after three years of community meetings, the BOE, elected representatives, and special interest groups continue to ignore vocal opposition to the Master Plan.

Can you hear us? We don't think so.

LISTEN TO AND READ THE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE RESERVOIRS COMMITTEE MEETING



What We Want or What We Need?

Approximately 34 people made public comments during the October 26 Board of Engineering EIR meeting. Nineteen speakers chose Alternative #1 (DO NOTHING). Ten speakers approved the proposed plans in the EIR. Four speakers chose Alternatives 2 and/or 3. One person made a comment, but didn't state their position. In summary: of the 33 attendees who expressed an opinion, the majority were AGAINST the SLRC Master Plan EIR. And if you were to include those who chose the less detrimental alternatives, it is safe to say the overwhelming majority of attendees are AGAINST most if not all features of the EIR as it is proposed, consistent with the public's opinion since 2019. Yet the unwanted project appears to be moving forward for a city council vote in 2023; residents be damned.

Several attendees pointed out that there are countless communities in Los Angeles that are truly "park poor," with little or no access to parks or green spaces. Silver Lake, on the other hand, is known for its easy access to numerous parks, including the existing Rec Center, Bellevue Park, the L.A. River and Griffith Park. Speakers suggested that the massive funds that would be devoted to the Reservoirs Complex would be more equitably

spent elsewhere. As one attendee pointed out, the community needs to think about “what we want or would like versus what Silver Lake truly needs.”

[READ THE OPTIONS PROPOSED IN THE EIR \(THERE ARE TWO PAGES IN THE PDF\)](#)

Send your comments to [SLRCMP Draft EIR Comments](#). The comment period has been extended to December 2.

As the BOE’s EIR states: the proposed project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts as itemized below:

- Noise during construction and during operation for special events;
- Vibration during construction;
- Closures to the Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex due to secondary impacts associated with noise during construction and during operation for special events;
- Cumulative noise during construction and during operation for special events.

[VIEW THE FULL REPORT \(BE SURE TO READ CHAPTER 5\)](#)



Recycling Gets Easier

CD 13 Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell reports that more Angelenos — including Silver Lakers — will have an easier time recycling food scraps as a result of a unanimous city council vote led by O’Farrell last week. Based on State of California [rules](#), **cities are required to recycle 90% of their organic waste by 2025**, including food scraps like apples, egg shells and chicken bones. When this waste ends up in landfills, it releases methane — a huge contributor to climate change. L.A.’s test program lets residents recycle organic waste, such as fruits and veggies, in green recycling bins, making disposal convenient and hassle-free. By the end of the calendar year, 750,000 households will be enrolled.

Councilmember O’Farrell’s action asks the city attorney to write [new rules](#) that will require **all single-family homes, apartments and businesses to recycle their organics**, and bring the city into alignment with the state rules outlined in SB 1383.

[LEARN MORE](#)

LAPD Northeast Division's New Name Honors Pioneering Female Officer



(Photo courtesy of Lance Ito)

On October 28, the Los Angeles Police Department changed the name of the Northeast Division to the Margaret "Peggy" York Division in honor of the first female who was appointed deputy chief. When Deputy Chief York joined the LAPD in 1968, the force had just desegregated its force by race and ethnicity, but female and male officers were still segregated until years later.

Deputy Chief York passed away at age 80 in 2021, but her glass ceiling legacy lives on. As the *Los Angeles Times* reported, "The story of Margaret "Peggy" York's groundbreaking career with the Los Angeles Police Department reads like the script for a TV show. In fact, it was the basis for the hit 1980s show "Cagney & Lacey," which depicted one of York's many firsts as half of a female homicide investigative team."

LAPD Chief Moore said, "Deputy Chief Margaret 'Peggy' York was a consummate professional. She joined policing at a time when women were faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles. As a pioneer, she demonstrated true grit and utilized her talents to ascend to the highest ranks within the Department. Along the way, she touched many lives and it was truly an honor to have worked alongside such a humble leader. Her tenacity and spirit continue to inspire future generations of women joining our ranks."

[READ THE LAPD ARTICLE ON DEPUTY CHIEF YORK](#)

[READ THE LOS ANGELES TIMES STORY](#)

**Attempted
Break-in on
West Silver
Lake Drive
Alarms**

Residents



*Area around the 2000
block of Silver Lake
Drive*

(Google Maps)

KCBS reports that a burglary suspect was arrested last Thursday and two of his alleged accomplices are on the loose after they attempted to rob a home in the 2000 block of West Silver Lake Drive near the Silver Lake Reservoir. Residents noticed three masked men attempting to break into the home on their surveillance system, LAPD Officer Melissa Podany told City News Service. One suspect was taken into custody shortly after officers arrived at the scene, according to Fox 11. Two of the suspects avoided capture and police remained in the area searching for them. Police arrived quickly and began searching for the suspects, who never made it inside the home.

According to Silver Lake Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez, LAPD's quick response to the 911 call allowed officers to witness one suspect prying open a window. All suspects were wearing body suits, masks, and gloves, and carrying tools. The suspect in custody is the registered owner of the BMW SUV left at the scene. Two other suspects are still at large, but left DNA samples which are being tested. The homeowner was not harmed.

[READ THE KCBS COVERAGE](#)

Let Us Know!

www.silverlaketgether.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

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