August 22, 2023



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

SLRC EIR—Up, Up and Away!



Although many are denying the accusation, there is certainly the appearance of "fasttracking" with regard to the approval of the Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex Master Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (SLRC FEIR). First, the council's Energy and Environment Committee placed the SLRC FEIR on a "Special Agenda" less than two weeks after it was issued, securing a unanimous vote of 4-0. It then moved quickly up the chain and is on the city council's August 23 agenda for approval. (Yes, that's tomorrow.)

The rush to approval

We believe the rush to approve the SLRC EIR is because Hargreaves Jones Landscaping Architects, Inc, the consulting company hired to facilitate the Master Plan EIR process, has a contract that expires on September 12. To extend the contract beyond this date would likely cost the city more money. Hargreaves was initially paid \$1,450,000, which was then increased to \$2,123,948, and then further increased to \$2,914,545—then increased once more to **\$2,920,000** in order to complete the final phase of the EIR, which includes being available during the city council's vote. It's not a well-kept secret that LADWP has no intention of spending another darn dime (our emphasis) on this out-of-scale project.

Who represents our community?

CD 4's Nithya Raman chose to recuse herself from the entire project due to the fact she owns property within 500 feet of the reservoirs. That leaves only CD 13's Soto-Martinez representing our neighborhood and, according to his staff, he's leaning toward a "YES" vote on the motion. Even though the EIR writing is on the wall, we strongly recommend that you continue to share your concerns with the entire city council. You can participate by attending the city council meeting, calling each council member and/or sending an email. Please refer to the contact information in the next story.

Click here to use the searchable EIR PDF and find the topics city council is voting on tomorrow — and the items you are most interested in.



No Time to Panic

Is it time to panic? No. But SLT believes community members must remain engaged and prepared for a long hard fight to protect the quality of life of those who live in Silver Lake and for the millions of animals and birds who rely on the Silver Lake Reservoirs' ecosystem for survival. Please express your beliefs by emailing or calling members of the entire city council before the council meeting tomorrow morning. Our neighborhood depends on you.

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Rendering of proposed subdivision on Angus Street

Five-unit Subdivision Recommended for Angus

A five-unit, small lot subdivision proposal for 3033 Angus Street, located near the intersection of Angus and Panorama Terrace, was recently recommended for approval at the August meeting of Silver Lake's Urban Design and Preservation Committee. The average home will be sized just above 2,000 square feet and sell for approximately \$2 million.

Learn more in this article by Scott D. Plante, AIA Architect, member of the Silver Lake Urban Design and Preservation Committee, and co-founder, Silver Lake Together

What About Me?



Many think the Silver Lake Reservoirs are a home to just birds—ducks, geese, herons and the mysterious flocks of the who-knows-what birds that often appear. It's true that the SLRC is a respite for millions of migrating and nesting birds, but it is also home to a wide variety of wild animals which raise families in the tangled underbrush and the hundreds of trees that now surround the waters. Wildlife experts estimate that the SLRC is a haven for 160+ species of urban wildlife including racoons, bobcats, opossums, coyotes and more. It is filled with natural vegetation that supports our animal neighbors but they are dependent on us to protect their lives and preserve their homes. SLT believes those who are rushing to destroy this vital habitat do not understand the complexities of the reservoirs' ecosystem. We will be providing more information and resources in the months ahead. Stay tuned.



P-22 Mountain Lion Mural in West Hollywood - WEHO TIMES

Silver Lake's P-22 Has Citywide Fame

Those of us who live in Silver Lake and Los Feliz often think of the famous mountain lion P-22 as our own. However, he has become a citywide symbol of the importance of protecting urban wildlife, as this article on a mural titled "Keep LA Wild" by artist Corie Mattie points out. According to the *WEHO Times*, the mural, located on The Doheny Wall at 450 North Doheny Drive, "… reveals hidden endangered animals within P-22's body: bats, rabbits, snakes, birds and more jump out … to symbolize to P-22's legacy of spearheading animal conservation in Southern California.

Read the inspiring article

Cleaner Air and Peace and Quiet



A state law banning the sale of gas-powered leaf blowers goes into effect at the start of 2024. The ban is to help California achieve zero emissions from small off-road engines by 2035. Now is the perfect time to request a FREE no gas leaf blower sign by **emailing** <u>editor@silverlaketogether.com</u>. You will show your support for clean air— and a more peaceful neighborhood.

SLT also has free Slow Down Silver Lake and free Save The Wildlife signs (pictured).

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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