

April 20, 2023



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Tree Arsonist Spreads Terror in Silver Lake

An alleged arsonist set fire to these cypress trees on Tesla Avenue in Silver Lake



During Silver Lake Together's community meeting on April 13, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Arson Investigator Robert McLoud reported on the status of the arsonist who has been terrorizing residents in the northeast area of Los Angeles, including

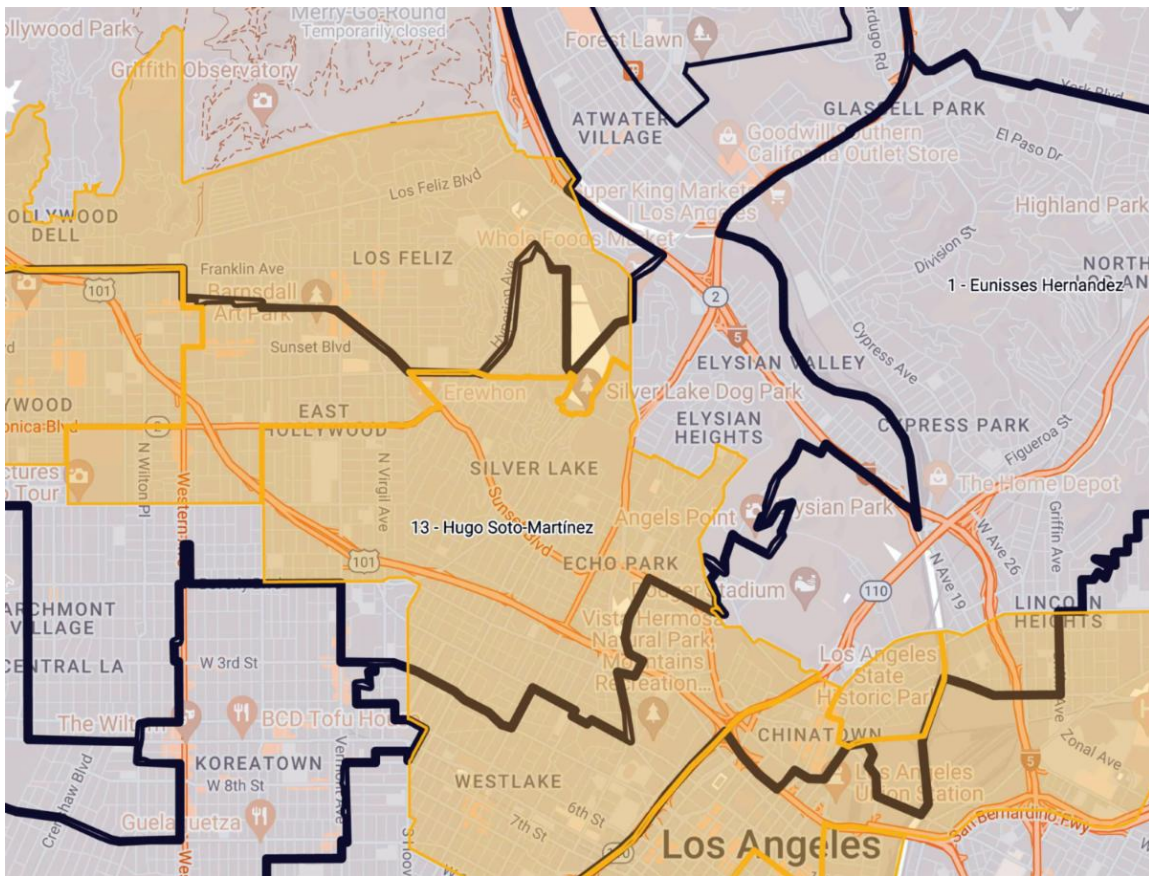
Silver Lake. According to Investigator McCloud, dozens of fires have been intentionally set in Silver Lake and surrounding communities, specifically targeting cypress trees. There have been myriad clues and reports of the alleged arsonist, and the LAFD believes they are very close to apprehending the suspect. If there are cypress trees on your property, Investigator McCloud recommends hydrating the first 10 feet of the tree starting from the base—including the tree’s interior—to help stave off a fire. Please remember that regardless of the healthy appearance of a cypress tree, the interior is dry and brittle, making them extremely flammable. Investigator McCloud thanked community members for working closely with the arson team to apprehend the arsonist. Contact Investigator McCloud at robert.mcloud@lacity.org.

[READ THE EASTSIDER ARTICLE](#)



Attendees at SLT Community Meeting Get Updates on Arsonist, CIRCLE Program and More

Silver Lake Together Advocacy Team (SLT) held a virtual community meeting on April 13 to discuss pressing community issues. The well-attended event featured reports from partners including LAPD Northeast Division Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez, Los Angeles Fire Department Arson Investigator Robert McCloud, CIRCLE Program Director Shannon Prior, and Acting Silver Lake Recreation Complex Park Director Constance Caldwell. Vital information specific to Silver Lake was provided and public comments and questions were shared. SLT virtual meetings are held on a regular basis. If you’d like more information, [please click here to receive the SLT newsletter](#).



Areas where CIRCLE program is in effect includes Silver Lake and adjacent areas.

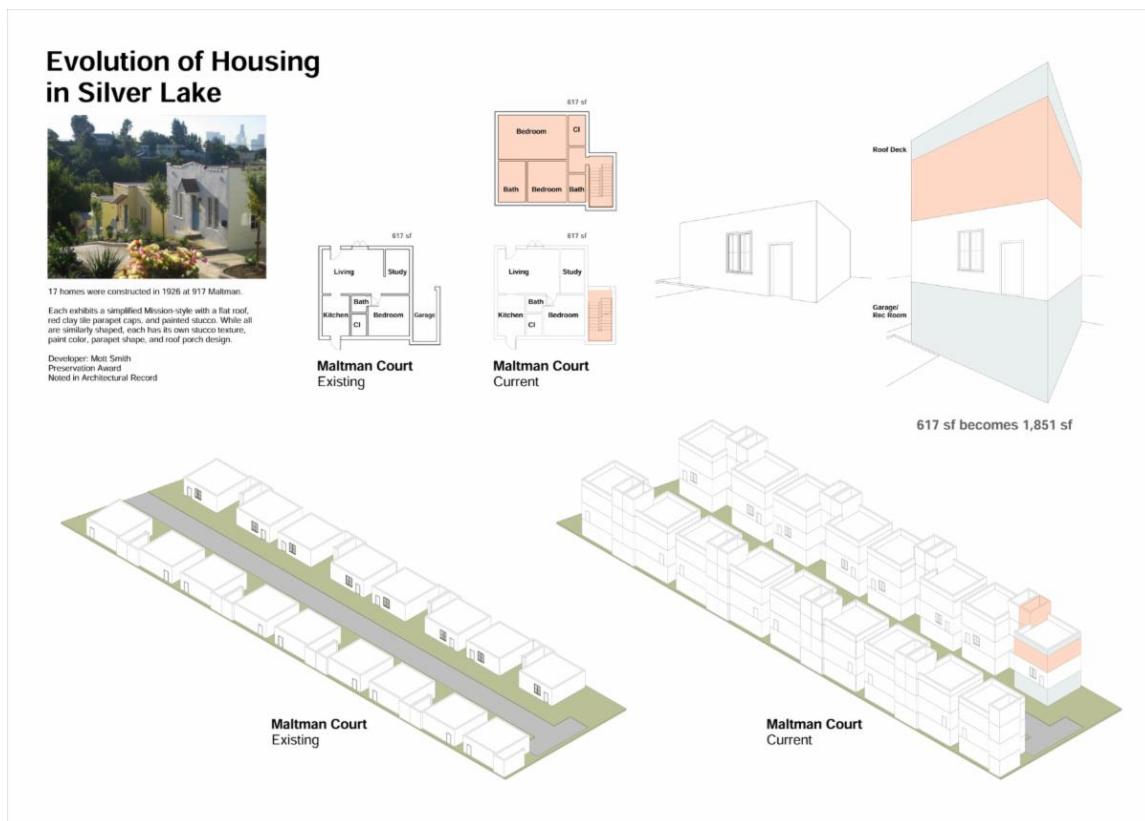
Report on Community-led Engagement Program as Alternative to Non-urgent 9-1-1 Calls

Shannon Prior's highly-anticipated report on L.A.'s new CIRCLE program was a highlight of SLT's recent community meeting. The Crisis and Incident Response through Community-led Engagement program was created as a 24/7 alternative to address non-urgent 9-1-1 and 877-ASK-LAPD calls related to unhoused individuals. CIRCLE began as a pilot program in 2022 in Hollywood and Venice and has expanded to communities including Silver Lake. It allows LAPD to focus on more traditional law enforcement efforts.

A recent article in the *Los Angeles Times* criticizing Los Angeles County's lagging response times in a similar program generated confusion about the success of CIRCLE. Prior, who is CIRCLE program manager in the office of Mayor Karen Bass, clarified that the average response to incidents reported through CIRCLE is minutes, not hours. Kenon Joseph, director of Care Coordination, Urban Alchemy, the organization that works with CIRCLE to execute the program, also reported on services and successes.

To contact CIRCLE, call the non-emergency LAPD line at 877-ASK-LAPD and select non-emergency dispatch. You may request CIRCLE.

For more information, including details about outreach teams, [read the CIRCLE FAQ's](#).



The Evolution of Small Lot Housing in Silver Lake

Scott Plante, architect and co-founder of Silver LakeTogether, explains that while many think small lot homes is a recent phenomenon, the history of this typology may be traced back over 100 years. This idea of a “bungalow court” spread throughout Los Angeles—including Silver Lake’s Maltman Court—and became a style of multifamily housing unique to Southern California. Learn about the similarities between Maltman Court and today’s small lot homes that cause some residents to express concerns similar to those first voiced in 1909.

[READ THE COMPLETE ARTICLE](#)

Crime Update and Speeding Motorists in Silver Lake

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez



Silver Lake's Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez reports that 41 tickets/citations have been given out to motorists on the corner of Silver Lake Boulevard and Duane. Unfortunately, more than 50% of those violating traffic laws are local residents of Silver Lake. LAPD continues to work on the traffic congestion at this intersection, which has become a huge problem for the residents. SLO Ramirez also reports that a good amount of resources and time is being spent on the myriad nuisances caused by Gus' Lunch truck and its patrons on Glendale Boulevard, along with nuisances from the Tenants Of The Trees Bar/Club located on Hyperion Avenue. There will be updates in future newsletters.

Crime stats, March 12 through April 8

- 0 homicides
- 0 rapes
- 1 robbery
- 4 aggravated assaults
- 0 gang-related crimes
- 0 shots fired
- 0 victims shot
- 7 burglaries
- 7 thefts
- 5 grand theft auto
- 32 burglaries motor vehicle
- 1 stolen vehicle recovered
- 1 violent crime
- 14 property crimes

SLO Ramirez serves the communities of Silver Lake and Franklin Hills. To contact him, email 39570@LAPD.Online, call the front desk at 323-561-3211 or his direct line, 213-793-0763.

LOOKING FOR MORE STATS? USE THE LAPD WEBSITE AND CRIME MAPPING FEATURES



Traces of the Past: Silent Movie Locations of Elysian Valley

A local history
program
celebrating the
silent film era

Presenter Paul Ayers is a fourth generation Southern Californian, the descendant of a Ventura County pioneer family. After earning a bachelor's degree in history from UC Berkeley, Paul worked in the entertainment industry as a prop maker, project manager and stage manager. In his 30s, he attended law school at night, worked in studios during the day, and was officially sworn in as an attorney on his 40th birthday. Throughout his life, Paul has had a deep and abiding interest in the history of Southern California. His primary research fields include silent movie locations, 19th century roads and trails, and the Pacific Electric Railway.

Co-sponsored by the Silver Lake History Collective.
Photo: Courtesy of Security Pacific National Bank [TESSA]

When

Thursday, May 18
6:30 p.m.

Where

SILVER LAKE BRANCH
Los Angeles Public Library
2411 Glendale Blvd.
(323) 913-7451

For **ADA accommodations**, please call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event.



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lapl.org



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In Case You Missed It...

Budget Advocates online survey about concerns regarding city services

[CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

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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