

January 25, 2022



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.



Are You High?

“Are you high?” was the show-stopping question a Duane Street resident asked the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) during a recent community meeting. The virtual meeting was held on January 19 to discuss the process for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) BOE will conduct this year. Approximately 70 people attended the almost 90-minute meeting, and an estimated 25 comments were shared. The overwhelming majority of those attending expressed strong concerns about the proposed Silver Lake Reservoir Complex Master Plan (SLRCMP). Very few spoke in favor of changes to the complex.

Several attendees noted that the city is doing what the city does best: confuse and frustrate residents. BOE is beginning the process of conducting an EIR regarding the “re-imagining” of the SLRC. All are invited to submit comments and suggestions to the BOE. In theory, comments and suggestions will be considered during the drafting of the EIR. However, after reviewing the draft SLRCMP, many attendees said the BOE did not take into consideration concerns residents shared during the multiple community workshops which took place prior to the pandemic.

The issues that will be addressed in the EIR are extremely important, as they will determine the future of Silver Lake. **The deadline for comments is 5:00 p.m. on February 7, 2022.**

SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THE SLRC MASTER PLAN

Although the city is in the early stages of the EIR, now is the time to make your voice heard. Among the issues raised are the following:

- Cost and duration of the project;
- Impact on traffic in an already congested and parking deprived neighborhood;
- Increase in crime, homeless encampments, etc., as seen in Echo Park and MacArthur Park;
- Negative impact on reservoir wild life and migratory animals;
- Noise and light pollution.

You may want to consider these and other concerns when making comments.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SLRC MASTER PLAN EIR



Navigating the Rent Control Maze

Rent control means essentially what it says: a limit on what rental rates can be charged. Municipal regulations establish a ceiling on the maximum rent charged per rental unit, as

well as the amount the rent can increase every year. While often controversial, rent control intends to maintain a base of affordable housing for lower income households. Architect and SLT Co-founder Scott Plante explains the ins and outs of navigating the rent control labyrinth – and the legislation that impacts renters and landlords in Silver Lake.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



Social Justice Champion Morrie Markoff Celebrates His 108th Birthday and Shares the Secret to a Long Life

Morrie Markoff celebrated his birthday wearing this one-of-a-kind hat.

Morrie Markoff recently celebrated making it to 108 and surviving two pandemics, the first in 1918. He and his late wife, Betty, were longtime residents of Echo Park and Silver Lake and left-wing activists who were lifelong champions of fair wages, equality, diversity and social justice. In this fascinating interview done in 2011 by the Silver Lake History Collective, the Markoffs share their very American stories as the children of immigrants who built a joyful life together in California in the face of economic challenges and antisemitism. Grab a cup of coffee, settle back and prepare to be charmed by the Markoffs.

[WATCH THE INTERVIEW WITH THE MARKOFFS](#)

[READ STEVE LOPEZ'S COLUMN ON MORRIE AND DISCOVER THE SECRET TO A LONG LIFE](#)



Strange Odor Detected on West Side of Silver Lake Reservoir

For the last few months, residents and visitors have noticed an offensive odor near the south dam entrance on the west side of the reservoir. Some residents were so concerned that they asked the Southern California Gas Company (SCG) to inspect their homes. Fortunately no irregularities were found, but SCG confirmed a smell. Although inspectors determined it did not smell like gas to them, residents are asking: could it be methane or some other dangerous substance? Representatives from the LADWP and Council District 13 have been notified and an investigation has been initiated. SLT will keep our readers posted.

Sign Up Now for Silver Lake Together Virtual Community Meeting Coming in February

Silver Lake Together will hold its first virtual community meeting for 2022 in late February. Representatives of LAPD and other city officials will attend. If you'd like to participate, please send an email to editor@SilverLakeTogether.com

In Case You Missed It...

Los Angeles City Councilman Kevin de León challenges homeless activists in this provocative [Los Angeles Times article](#).

Visit SilverLakeTogether.com to review all the news in 2021. We wish you a healthy, happy and productive 2022. Please share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues and invite them to be connected with Silver Lake at

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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?

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