



ERIC GARCETTI
COUNCILMEMBER
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

June 2, 2006

Dear Resident,

I am writing to inform you of an exciting project coming to your neighborhood soon and to ask for your input. As you may know, the new pedestrian paths and accompanying landscaping along the Silver Lake Reservoir on West Silver Lake Drive and Armstrong were completed in the Fall of 2005. This project has made the neighborhood safer for residents and those who walk, run, and ride along the Reservoir. This was Phase I of the Silver Lake Reservoir Master Plan improvements.

We are now finalizing the design for Phase II of the project which includes a pedestrian path and landscape improvements along Silver Lake Blvd stretching from Armstrong Ave to Van Pelt. You may have attended the community meetings that were held last summer at the Silver Lake Recreation Center where participants helped to create the proposed design for Phase II. Silver Lake Blvd is a secondary highway and today is not a safe place to walk. Phase II will have a dramatic impact on pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile safety.

At many community meetings over the years the neighborhood has spoken clearly that the Reservoir should maintain its rustic, natural character. Landscape Architects at the Bureau of Engineering have prepared a study of the trees along Silver Lake Blvd where the path is planned. It shows how most existing trees are to be protected during construction. But, due to the current location of the wall along the property, the declining health of some trees, minimum width requirements for a safe path, and the need for pedestrians to be visible from the street (for law enforcement officers), 23 trees and some overgrown scrub brush must be removed. It is our commitment that no tree is removed unnecessarily. To mitigate this loss of trees, the project includes the planting of new trees in locations along the path and in the vicinity where they will thrive. I am asking impacted residents, like you, to review the tree report prepared by the City's Bureau of Engineering and let us know if you have questions or concerns.



For more information about the tree report:

- Walk along Silver Lake Blvd and look for yellow ribbons tied to the trees the City proposes to remove.
- Review the attached drawing showing which trees will be removed and which will be kept. The tree report can also be viewed on my website at www.cd13.com and at the website for the Committee to Save Silver Lake's Reservoirs at www.csslr.org
- Attend the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Board meeting on Wednesday, June 7th, at 7:00pm at Micheltorena Street Elementary School Auditorium (1511 Micheltorena St). The tree report will be printed on large poster boards and a representative from the Bureau of Engineering will be there to answer questions.

I hope you will take full advantage of the path along the Reservoir when it is complete. Phases I and II would not have been possible without the dedication of Councilmember Tom LaBonge, State Assemblymember Dario Frommer, Mayor James K. Hahn and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the Department of Water and Power, the City's Bureau of Engineering, and the tireless efforts of countless community members.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office to discuss this project. You can reach my District Director of Community Development, Shane Murphy Goldsmith, at (323) 957-4500 or email her at Shane.Goldsmith@lacity.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI
President, Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember, 13th District