

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: June 10, 2016

To: The Honorable City Council, City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Seleta J. Reynolds,  General Manager
Department of Transportation

Subject: **ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 553 ADJACENT TO THE SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 13**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) recommends the establishment of an Overnight Parking District (OPD) for Silver Lake Boulevard and West Silver Lake Boulevard in Council District 13.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FIND that the Police Department should have the primary responsibility for the enforcement of the authorized overnight parking restriction in OPD No. 553, with support from LADOT Parking Enforcement, since the reported problems involve criminal activity.
2. FIND that the establishment of this OPD is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a Class I Categorical Exemption under III.1.a.3 of the 2002 Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines.
3. ADOPT the attached Resolution establishing OPD No. 553, pursuant to Section 80.54 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), to include the west side of West Silver Lake Boulevard between the three-point intersection of Castle Street/Redesdale Avenue/West Silver Lake Drive and Balmer Drive, and the east curb of Silver Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Avenue and Duane Street.
4. AUTHORIZE permit sales to all residents of OPD No. 553 where posted signs allow parking by permit.
5. AUTHORIZE posting or removal of "No Parking, 2 AM to 6 AM; District No. 553 Permits Exempt" parking restriction on all residential street segments within OPD No. 553, except for Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue, where parking is not already prohibited in the interest of safety or traffic flow, upon receiving a written request from the Councilmember for the affected street segment in the OPD.
6. AUTHORIZE posting or removal of "No Parking, 2 AM to 6 AM " parking restriction on Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue, where parking is not already prohibited in

- the interest of safety or traffic flow, upon receiving a written request from the Councilmember for the affected street segment in the OPD.
7. INSTRUCT the LADOT to initiate the necessary procedures to prepare, issue and collect payments for Overnight Parking Permits from the residents of OPD No. 553 in accordance with Section 80.54 of the LAMC, and to issue permits subject to the following permit limits:
 - a. Maximum of 3 Resident Permits per dwelling unit at \$15 each per year
 - b. Maximum of 2 Visitor Permits per dwelling unit at \$10 each per four months
 - c. Maximum of 25 Guest Permits per dwelling unit per day at \$1 each per day
 - d. Sales of Guest Permits in excess of 25 per dwelling unit per day require written approval of the Council Office.
 8. DIRECT the LADOT to post or remove the authorized OPD No. 553 parking restrictions for any of the street segments within OPD No. 553 in accordance with the criteria set forth in the above recommendations, except for areas where parking is currently prohibited at all times in the interest of traffic flow or safety, upon written instructions from the Council Office representing the specific street segment requesting the posting or removal of such signs following Council action establishing the District.

DISCUSSION

In December 2014, Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's staff contacted LADOT on behalf of the residents of the 1900 block of West Silver Lake Boulevard regarding residents' concerns about recreational vehicles continually parking on their block. Residents and the Council Office were requesting that parking be prohibited on that section of the roadway. The number of recreational vehicles had increased and the residents of those vehicles were dumping garbage on the street and urinating into the gutter. Moreover, the same type of issues was now being experienced on the Silver Lake Boulevard as well.

Both Silver Lake and West Silver Lake Boulevard residents face a unique challenge of living adjacent to a popular public park and the roadways are divided by the Silver Lake Reservoir which is a magnet for recreational activity. Since there is no parking on the reservoir side of the street, parking is only allowed on the residential frontage to minimize impact on the public utilizing the walkways and parks in the reservoir area. Therefore, the Councilmember and his staff believe the establishment of an OPD was the best alternative for the residents and public.

There are two types of OPDs. In one, residents may obtain permits and park on the street during the 2 AM – 6 AM enforcement period. In the other, LADOT completely prohibits vehicles from parking on the street between 2 AM and 6 AM. In order for LADOT to allow for residents to obtain permits, LAPD cannot prohibit residents from having permits and it must survey the area to determine whether the residents lack adequate off-street parking and would need to park on the street.

Silver Lake and West Silver Lake Boulevards were studied on two occasions. As a result of the first study conducted in the early hours of March 17, 2016, only one van and one recreational vehicle were parked on West Silver Lake Boulevard between Castle Street/Redesdale Avenue and Balmer Drive. There was one visible driveway with a garage. Similarly, the portion of Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue had only one driveway, which was long enough to accommodate vehicles. There

were four vans and recreational vehicles and one passenger car in the block. Staff checked NavigateLA to determine if the properties forming a small island between Redesdale Avenue and West Silver Lake Boulevard could access those properties from the Redesdale Avenue. The same analysis was undertaken with the properties on Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue. Consequently, the initial recommendation was to prohibit parking on both these stretches of the roadway.

When the parking restriction was shared with the residents in mid-April, there was protest from the residents of the 1900 block of West Silver Lake Boulevard and a request to have the area re-studied. Residents indicated the homes sit back from the roadway and have no off-street parking. The presence of some homes can only be determined at street level by a staircase to the residence.

The area was re-evaluated in late April 2016. The staircases of some residents on West Silver Lake Boulevard were noted and the LADOT revised its recommendation to allow for parking by permit on the residential portion of the 1900 block of West Silver Lake Boulevard. No adjustment was determined to be necessary for Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue. However, residents of that segment of Silver Lake Boulevard should still be allowed to purchase permits to park in other blocks.

On September 9, 2015, Captain Arturo Sandoval, Area Commanding Officer of LAPD's Northeast Police Station, requested the district be established to deal with the dumping of waste and garbage from these vehicles and indicated that Traffic Enforcement personnel had been threatened when enforcing the 72 hour parking limit. Additionally, the LAPD indicated the implementation of the restriction could help curb the nighttime loitering and crime problem in the park and reservoir area. He did not indicate that residents should be precluded from purchasing permits.

Both the Councilmember and LAPD have requested that permits be made available for purchase by residents. Permit quantities authorized for other OPDs are currently limited to the three types of OPD permits as stated under recommendation No. 7. The cost of each permit is also stated in Recommendation No. 7. LADOT recommends that those permit types and costs be adopted for this OPD as well.

Requiring unarmed LADOT traffic officers to enforce a parking restriction between 2 AM and 6 AM in order to deter criminal activity would likely subject the traffic officers to additional confrontations and possible assault. Therefore, LADOT recommends that the Police Department have the primary responsibility for enforcement of the authorized overnight parking restriction in the proposed OPD, with support from LADOT Parking Enforcement, because the reported problem is primarily criminal activity and not simply illegal parking.

The City Council has the authority under LAMC Section 80.54(b) to "establish by resolution, Overnight Parking Districts with appropriate boundaries and authorize parking restrictions to be in effect on the streets thereof between 2 AM and 6 AM. The resolution ...shall state the maximum number and type of Overnight Parking Permits that may be issued to any one dwelling. The resolution shall also establish the fee charged for each type of Overnight Parking Permit." The City Council also has the authority by the LAMC Section 80.54.(c)., "to authorize, by resolution, the Department of Transportation to issue permits for an Overnight Parking District if such proposed district is a residential area lacking adequate off-street parking facilities."

Environmental Review

LADOT has conducted an analysis and investigation of the proposed parking district and has concluded that, under the State CEQA guidelines, the changes are subject to a Class I Categorical Exemption under § 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines because changes in parking restrictions for this district are operational and will not expand the existing use of the streets or change parking demand. Furthermore, displacement of other vehicles is expected to be minimal.

COORDINATION

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell sent a letter, dated March 19, 2015, to LADOT requesting the establishment of this OPD. LAPD has also requested the establishment. LADOT has prepared this report and the draft Resolution establishing OPD No. 553 for the residents of this area and will post signs upon the written request of the Councilmember.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

OPDs with permits for residents and their guests are a special service for which the City is entitled to fully recover all associated costs for the administration, posting, maintaining and enforcing through the permit fees charged. If vehicles park in violation of the posted signs, they may be cited with resultant fines to be deposited in the General Fund.

SJR:KH:tlm

Attachments

Resolution
OPD No. 553 Map
Councilmember's Letter
LAPD Letter

RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 553 ADJACENT TO THE SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 13

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles City Council, by Ordinance No. 176,861, effective September 14, 2005, provided for the establishment of Overnight Parking Districts (OPDs) by Resolution of the Council in each case, under Section 80.54 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to LAMC Section 80.54(c), the City Council may authorize the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to issue Overnight Parking Permits in residential areas with inadequate off-street parking, which exempt residents and their guests from the overnight parking restrictions, with the maximum numbers of permits and the fees therefore specified in the Resolution establishing the OPD; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of an OPD is an effective tool to address a variety of public safety and public welfare issues associated with vehicles that have no legitimate reason to be parked overnight in a given area; and

WHEREAS, LADOT has received a written request from Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell of the Thirteenth Council District, requesting that LADOT establish an OPD to deal with public nuisance problems for the residential portions of the west side of West Silver Lake Boulevard between the three-point intersection of Castle Street/Redesdale Avenue/West Silver Lake Boulevard and Balmer Drive, and the east curb of Silver Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Avenue and Duane Street; and

WHEREAS, LADOT received a letter from the Los Angeles Police Department, requesting establishment of the above OPD to address public safety and quality of life nuisance problems associated with the vehicles of non-residents on these street segments, and did not indicate LADOT could not issue permits; and

WHEREAS, requiring unarmed LADOT Traffic Officers to enforce a parking restriction between 2 AM and 6 AM in order to deter criminal activities would likely subject the Traffic Officers to criminal assaults; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to LAMC, Section 80.54, hereby establishes OPD No. 553 for the west side of West Silver Lake Boulevard between the three-point intersection of Castle Street/Redesdale Avenue/West Silver Lake Boulevard and Balmer Drive, and the east curb of Silver Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Avenue and Duane Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the establishment of OPD No. 553, pursuant to LAMC, Section 80.54, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption, under III.1.a.3 of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of further instruction from the Councilmember representing the specific street segment, LADOT is hereby authorized to post or remove "No Parking, 2 AM to 6 AM; District No. 553 Permits Exempt" parking restriction on all residential street segments within OPD No. 553, except for Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue, where parking is not already prohibited in the interest of safety or traffic flow, upon receiving a written request from the Councilmember for the affected street segment in the OPD; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of further instruction from the Councilmember representing the specific street segment, LADOT is hereby authorized to post or remove "No Parking, 2 AM TO 6 AM" parking restriction on Silver Lake Boulevard between Rockford Road and Cove Avenue, where parking is not already prohibited in the interest of safety or traffic flow, upon receiving a written request from the Councilmember for the affected street segment in the OPD; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LADOT be directed to initiate the necessary procedures to prepare, issue, and collect payments for Overnight Parking Permits from residents of OPD No. 553 in accordance with Section 80.54 of the LAMC, where the following permit conditions will apply:

- a. Maximum of three Resident Permits per dwelling unit at \$15 per year;
- b. Maximum of two Visitor Permits per dwelling unit at \$10 per four month period;
- c. Maximum of 25 Guest Permits per dwelling unit per day at \$1 per each day;
- d. Sales of Guest Permits in excess of 25 per dwelling unit per day require written approval of Council District for the affected block; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LADOT shall collect payments derived from the sale of parking permits to residents of the OPD and remit these funds to the Treasury of the City of Los Angeles for deposit into the "Parking Permit Program Revenue Fund" in accordance with Division 5, Chapter 6, Article 3, Section 5.119.5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LAPD shall have primary responsibility for enforcement of the authorized overnight parking restrictions in OPD No. 553, with support from LADOT Parking Enforcement.

OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 553

COUNCIL DISTRICT 13

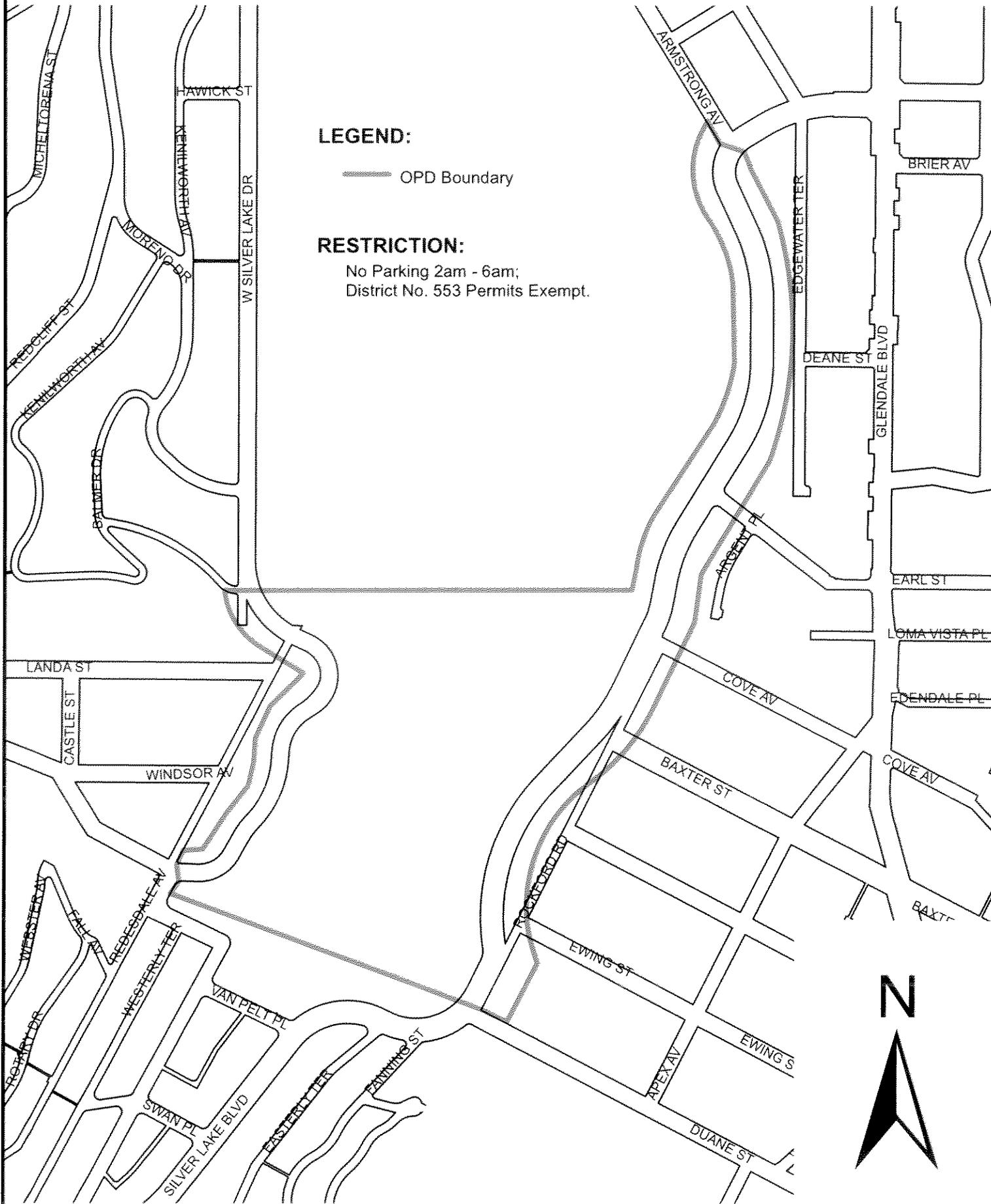
HOLLYWOOD ENFORCEMENT

LEGEND:

— OPD Boundary

RESTRICTION:

No Parking 2am - 6am;
District No. 553 Permits Exempt.





Arts, Parks, Health, Aging and
Los Angeles River
Chair

Personnel and Animal
Welfare
Vice Chair

MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember
Thirteenth Council District

Education and Neighborhoods
Member

Innovation, Technology and
General Services
Member

Public Safety
Member

March 19, 2015

Seleta Reynolds, General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department Of Transportation
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Request to create a 'No Overnight Permit Parking District' for the surrounding streets of the Silver Lake Reservoir Complex

Dear Ms. Reynolds,

I am writing today on behalf of my Silver Lake constituents who live in the neighborhoods that embrace the Reservoir Complex. Many residents have contacted my office and some have submitted a petition of signatures. They are concerned about the number of RVs, campers trailers, vans, and cars parked overnight for days with people living in them. The situation is escalating as numbers have significantly increased within the last six months.

Residents are frustrated as they witness people urinating in the gutter from their vehicles. Unlike their next door neighbors, they do not know these transients, nor whether they pose a danger to families. Our Senior Lead Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department tells me they are limited in their approach to this unhealthy and disconcerting behavior. In addition, Parking Enforcement has been threatened when asking people to move their vehicles after 72 hours.

Moreover, the new Meadow Park on Silver Lake Boulevard is becoming a nighttime hangout for loitering and illegal activity. I think that an Overnight Parking District for the Reservoir Complex could help deter this activity, if not eliminate it altogether.

Therefore, I am requesting that LADOT create a 'No Overnight Permit Parking District' for the Silver Lake Reservoir area including surrounding streets that might need the OPD at a later date in time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 213-473-7013. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District



LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

P. O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, Calif. 90030
Telephone: (323) 344-5708
Ref. #4.4

Eric Garcetti
Mayor

September 9, 2015

Seleta Reynolds, General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

I am writing to you due to the number of constituents who live in the Silver Lake Reservoir Complex concerned about the number of recreational vehicles (RV), campers trailers, vans and cars parked overnight for days with people living in them. The situation has escalated over the last several months with the numbers increasing noticeably.

The Senior Lead Officer for the area has been receiving numerous complaints from frustrated citizens observing urinating in the gutter from their vehicles and waste being discharged from RVs into the storm drains. We have also been advised that Parking Enforcement officers have been threatened when asking people to move their vehicles after 72 hours.

There have also been complaints regarding Meadow Park on Silver Lake and the illegal activity and nighttime loitering. I think that an Overnight Parking District (OPD) for the Reservoir Complex could help deter this activity.

I am requesting that Department of Transportation create a No Overnight Parking Permit District (OPD) for the Silver Lake Reservoir area including surrounding streets that might need the OPD at a later date.

Should you have any further questions regarding this matter, you may please contact Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis (213) 793-0763. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Very truly yours,

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police



ARTURO SANDOVAL, Captain
Commanding Officer
Northeast Community Police Station

