

**Silver Lake Reservoirs Open Space Survey: Preliminary Findings**  
**Loyola Marymount University**  
**January 28, 2019**

On January 28, Dr. Eric Strauss, executive director of the Loyola Marymount University Center for Urban Resilience Research and Dr. Michele Romolini, managing director, presented preliminary findings from the Center's recent pilot survey on the future of the Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex. Drs. Strauss and Romolini made the presentation to community members, who filled the auditorium at Ivanhoe Elementary School. Representatives from Council District 4, the Board of Engineering and LADWP also attended. Over 1,300 people participated in the study, which was conducted in partnership with the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council. The final report, which Dr. Romolini expects to be completed by February 28, will include additional analysis and data, based on feedback and questions posed during the community meeting. The findings will be an important resource as work on the new Reservoirs' Master Plan begins.

*This partial summary is based on notes taken at the January 28 presentation.*

**Research Approach**

- LMU researchers conducted in-person surveys in Silver Lake on 19 days between October 28 and December 15, 2018.
- Visits occurred across varying times of day and days of the week.
- Surveys took place in multiple locations, mostly concentrated around the reservoirs but also in a few additional public places.
- Participants could opt to provide their email address and be sent the online survey link.
- The SLNC also made the survey link available through several outlets.
- Since the approaches differed, the two data sets are presented separately.

**Key Findings (Does not include answers to all questions)**

*Findings for all questions will be included in the final survey report. This data is not final and may change.*

- 59.04% of in-person respondents reported they live in Silver Lake, compared to 85.7% of online respondents
- 29.72% of those answering in-person said they visited the reservoirs 2 to 3 times a week (28.5% online). 20.08% of in-person answered daily, compared to 24.85% online.
- When asked what parts of the reservoir and the space around it do you currently use and/or enjoy, nearly 70% of in-person users cited the dog park, while more than 90% of online users said walking and running paths. 35%-plus and 70% said the view (in-person and online).

- Both in-person and online respondents ranked fitness opportunities, habitat for wildlife and relaxation and connection to nature among the most important benefits. However, in-person considered a place to walk dogs the most important (nearly 30%).
- When asked how they would support paying for improvements, tax increases and bond measure ranked highest.
- For those who had concerns about changing the reservoir area, both groups named disturbing wildlife, increased traffic and decreased parking in the top three.
- On average, in-person respondents said they had lived in Silver Lake 13.88 years, online 17.75 years.

Demographic data and complete answers will be included in the final report.