COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 03 SUMMARY

SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR COMPLEX MASTER PLAN
Attended by over 450 members of the public, Community Workshop 03 focused on presenting three Master Plan Alternatives based on and building upon prior input for community review and feedback. The design alternates were titled: Island Overlooks, Active Edges, and Blended Spaces.

OVERVIEW:
A formal presentation led by Hargreaves Jones introduced each Alternative and described its unique spaces, design strategies, and the activities and uses it fostered. The presentation was followed by break-out sessions and report backs. Participants included students from King Middle School who were engaging in an environmental education curriculum related to the reservoir complex master plan. They brought drawings showing their own visions for the reservoir complex which were displayed in the room.

Attendees were randomly assigned to tables for the presentation and for the breakout discussions, which were facilitated by a member of the project team. Attendees were encouraged to sit at their assigned tables to have the opportunity to hear from fellow community members who they may not know. Fewer people sat at their assigned tables for this meeting, mostly due to the large attendance and tight room configuration which made it difficult to navigate to specific tables. Additionally, due the turnout, some attendees had to stand.

At the breakout table discussions, attendees were asked to identify what they perceived as the pros and cons of each concept design alternative. Each table had enlarged site plans of the three design alternatives, red and green post-it notes, and red and green sticky dots. “Green” was used to indicate a “pro” and “red” was used to indicate a “con.” Attendees were encouraged to write down “pros” and “cons” on the post-it notes and place them on their table maps. Attendees were also given five red and five green dots each and encouraged to use these on the maps to indicate a pro or con. Each table was asked to identify a table leader who would report back a brief, two-minute summary of their table’s discussion.

NOTE: The table maps are primarily used as tools to facilitate discussion during the breakout sessions and do not yield empirical information. For instance, it was noted by table facilitators that some participants took more than five green or red dots, and that they sat at more than one table.
Thank you for participating in Community Workshop #3, we look forward to seeing you throughout this process!

Island Overlooks

**Alternative 1:**
- Offers parking areas and opportunities to learn about their environment.
- Integrates some habitat areas within seating terraces and walkways.
- Preserves existing embankment alignment.
- Offers reconfigurable elements at the base of Knoll.
- Preserve existing embankment alignment.
- Offers spaces to sit, relax, and find peace.
- Provides a single point to access the water (at Eucalyptus Grove).
- Provides the least amount of active uses and spaces.
- Does not offer human-powered boating.
- Does not offer swimming.

**PROS:**
- Preserves existing embankment alignment.
- Maximizes protected wetland habitat (habitat islands).
- Habitat islands break the open water view of reservoirs, providing a visual interest.
- Provides a single point to access the water.
- Provides the least amount of active uses and spaces.

**CONS:**
- Does not offer human-powered boating.
- Does not offer swimming.

**Other:**

**THE SOUTHPARK VALLEY**

**Alternative 2:**
- Offers spaces to sit by the water, walk and enjoy nature.
- Offers guided kayak or canoe tours of wetland habitat led by an ecologist.
- Offers pool facilities and floating swimming pool.
- A single place to access the water.
- Provides a generous seating and activity options.
- Complements existing park facilities.
- Offers picnic groves and picnic groves within the terraces.
- Provides the most open lawn.
- Offers open lawn gently slopes to water.
- Offers swimming pool facilities and floating dock for human-powered boating recreation.

**PROS:**
- Offers spaces to sit by the water, walk and enjoy nature.
- Offers guided kayak or canoe tours of wetland habitat led by an ecologist.
- Offers swimming pool facilities and floating swimming pool.
- Provides single place to access the water.

**CONS:**
- Does not offer human-powered boating.
- Does not offer swimming.

**Other:**

**THE MEADOW**

**Alternative 3:**
- Offers spaces to sit and relax, and find peace.
- Provides most active uses and space.
- Creates a “Living Laboratory” at Ivanhoe.
- Facilities are located within the stepped terraces, minimizing impact on views.
- Offers facilities and floating dock for human-powered boating recreation.
- Offers pool facilities and swimming pool embedded within the terraces.

**PROS:**
- Offers spaces to sit and relax, and find peace.
- Provides most active uses and space.
- Creates a “Living Laboratory” at Ivanhoe.
- Facilities are located within the stepped terraces, minimizing impact on views.

**CONS:**
- Does not offer human-powered boating.
- Does not offer swimming.

**Other:**

**THE SOUTH VALLEY**

Help us prioritize improvements in the existing Reservoir and Parks area at the South. Please rank, in order of preference (from 1 - 4) the improvements you would like to see.

**Enjoying Nature**
- The park should be a place to sit by the water, walk through a woodland or wetland, and observe wildlife.

**Wellness**
- The park should create spaces for children to play and learn about their environment.

**Family Friendly**
- The park should create spaces for children to play and learn about their environment.

**Enjoying Nature**
- The park should be a place where the neighborhood comes together for shared experiences.

**Community**
- The park should create spaces for children to play and learn about their environment.

**Education**
- The park should have an education center offering a range of classes and outdoor-based programs.

**Water Access**
- The park should offer opportunities to be at and on the water.

**To what extent do you agree each of the conceptual alternatives reflect these ideas or themes?**

**Alternative 1: Island Overlooks**

**Alternative 2: Active Edges**

**Alternative 3: Blended Spaces**

**Community Workshop 03 Questionnaire**

Thank you for participating in Community Workshop #3, we look forward to seeing you throughout this process!
DESIGN ALTERNATIVES
Three Master Plan Alternatives were developed in order to illustrate and discuss various approaches to program distribution and design character. The purpose of the alternatives was to test ideas and elements the community showed support for in the previous meetings and questionnaires. For instance, the team consistently saw a strong preference for education based on the feedback from Community Workshop 02, so the three alternatives included educational facilities of differing sizes at various locations around the site. Similarly, the alternatives explored design options for playgrounds, picnic areas, a café, swimming and human-powered boating which were all elements and activities supported in Activities & Uses questionnaires and comments.

ALTERNATE 1: ISLAND OVERLOOKS
- MAINTAINS existing EMBANKMENT
- LESS ACTIVE spaces
- MAXIMIZES protected WETLAND habitat
- LEAST OPEN WATER

ALTERNATE 2: ACTIVE EDGES
- ENGAGES EDGES
- MOST ACTIVE spaces
- LEAST new HABITAT
- MOST OPEN WATER

ALTERNATE 3: BLENDED SPACES
- BALANCES spaces
- MOST ecologically IMMERSIVE
- MOST new HABITAT
- MEDIUM OPEN WATER
**ALTERNATIVE 1: Island Overlooks**

Islands and Overlooks is the most passive alternative with the least amount of active spaces throughout. The design focuses on upland and wetland habitat and provides minimal interaction between people and nature. The existing embankment is preserved in its entirety as a hard edge and several floating islands are introduced to create wetland habitat. With the insertion of floating islands within the reservoirs, open water views become altered and varied.

The floating islands are strategically placed throughout the reservoirs to maximize protected wetland habitat and create opportunities for people to observe wildlife. Small overlooks are located along the Promenade within the East and West Narrows. At the Meadow, a large overlook swings out over the water and above the floating islands. The only place where visitors can engage with the wetlands is located at the 3,500sf Education Center within the rehabilitated Eucalyptus Grove. Here, a bridge leads to an observational platform within one of the floating habitat islands – creating a highly immersive experience.

Park programming is concentrated in the Meadow and includes a large open lawn, picnic grove and gardens, a small nature playground, and a 2500sf café at the water’s edge. Small trails leading up to the top of the Knoll extend from the edge of the meadow through a restored upland habitat. At the top, the trail swings out as an overlook to amplify views out and over the water.

To provide additional outdoor learning experiences, two small shade pavilions are located at the Ivanhoe Overlook and at the Knoll.

*Rendering from the Promenade on the east side of the Complex looking north. Floating islands create wetland habitat for waterfowl. An overlook amplifies water views and wildlife observation. The Knoll is seen in the background with seating terraces at its base. Alternative 1: Islands & Overlooks*
IVANHOE OVERLOOK
overlook platform with shade pavilion

EUCALYPTUS GROVE
observation platform / outdoor classroom

restored upland habitat

environmental education center

islands - wetland wading to transition habitat

THE KNOLL
overlook shade pavilion

nature trails

THE MEADOW
nature trails

seating terraces

great lawn

overlook

picnic grove & gardens

cafe

play

THE WEST NARROWS
running & walking

small overlooks

THE EAST NARROWS
running & walking

small overlooks

THE SOUTH VALLEY
picnic grove

play field

multi-purpose room / community center

LADWP LANDS

0 500 500

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 03 SUMMARY
Total Space: 28.5 ac
Total Recreation: 6 ac
Increase (from current meadow) 3.0 ac; 75%

- FACILITIES = 9,000 sf
- OVERLOOKS = 35,000 sf
- SEATING TERRACES = 16,000 sf
- GREAT/FLEX LAWN = 3 ac
- PICNIC GROVE = 13,000 sf
- PLAYGROUND = 14,500 sf
- ORNAMENTAL GARDENS = 1 ac
- PROMENADE/FARMER’S MARKET = 21,000 sf
- HABITAT = 22.5 ac
- SWIMMING POOL = 0 sf
- FLOATING DOCK = 0 sf
- SCULPTURE GARDEN = 0 sf
- DOG PLAY = 0 sf

(above) Rendering from the top of the Knoll in Alternative 1: Islands & Overlooks
TOTAL: 22.5 acres
NEW: 12 acres; 115% increase

- UPLAND (woodland): 10.5 ac
- TRANSITION (coastal scrub): 3.5 ac
- WETLAND (wet meadow, emergent, submergent, floating): 8.5 ac

The Promenade is 2.3 miles.
Paths & Trails are 2.1 miles.

Pedestrian connections and bicycle network are also highlighted.

The Eucalyptus Grove is shown, along with the spillway and floating outdoor classroom.

Alternative 1: Islands & Overlooks includes habitat islands and environmental education center.

View from the Promenade looking out past the environmental education center to the floating islands and outdoor classroom in the distance.

Pedestrian Circulation diagram and Habitat Breakdown diagram for Alternative 1: Islands & Overlooks are also provided.
**ALTERNATIVE 2: Active Edges**

Active Edges is the most actively programmed Alternative and focuses on engaging the edges of the Complex with spaces for people and habitat. The west edge expands and enhances habitat areas, while the east edge maximizes places for people. This alternative creates the least amount of new habitat and does not include any floating wetland islands, maximizing open water views.

On the west side of the Silver Lake and Ivanhoe Reservoirs, habitat terraces extend out beyond the existing reservoir edge and provide a gradient of upland, transition and wetland habitat. At the Eucalyptus Grove, a large overlook extends out over the terraces, offering one point of human/nature interaction. At the Ivanhoe Reservoir, a Living Laboratory is proposed which could be used for research and to test establishing new wetland habitat at the reservoir complex. The Living Laboratory could include educations programs as well.

On the east side of the complex next to the existing Meadow, the embankment edge becomes a tapestry of viewing platforms, terraced seating, green edges and sloped walkways. These ornamental garden and seating terraces step down to the water to an outdoor pool. A 5,000sf boathouse, pool house and café are integrated into the terraces below the top of the embankment to preserve views from Silver Lake Boulevard into the site. A floating dock provides direct access to the water for human-powered boating, such as kayaking, for recreational purposes. The Meadow includes several actively programmed spaces including a large open lawn, a 40,000sf nature playground, dog play, picnic grove, and a dedicated outdoor sculpture garden.

Conditioned educational classrooms are located throughout the Reservoir Complex. These include a large 7,500sf education and recreation center annex located at the base of the Knoll, a 1,500sf indoor/outdoor classroom located at the top of the Knoll and a 1,500sf indoor/outdoor classroom located at the Ivanhoe Reservoir for testing and monitor purposes related to the Living Laboratory.
Total Space: 28.0 ac
Total Recreation: 10 ac
Increase (from current meadow) 6 ac; 185%

- FACILITIES = 15,500 sf
- OVERLOOKS = 1 ac
- SEATING TERRACES = 1.3 ac
- GREAT/FLEX LAWN = 3.6 ac
- PICNIC GROVE = 15,000 sf
- PLAYGROUND = 41,000 sf
- ORNAMENTAL GARDENS = 1 ac
- PROMENADE/FARMER’S MARKET = 12,000 sf
- HABITAT = 18.5 ac
- SWIMMING POOL = 6,000 sf water / 16,000 sf total
- FLOATING DOCK = 8,000 sf
- SCULPTURE GARDEN = 8,500 sf
- DOG PLAY = 19,000 sf

(left) Diagram of the Spaces within Alternative 2: Active Edges

(below) View from the base of the Meadow within the people terraces looking out to the pool and pool facilities in Alternative 2: Active Edges
TOTAL: 18.5 acres
NEW: 8 acres; 76% increase

(above left) Pedestrian Circulation diagram for Alternative 2: Active Edges

(above right) Habitat Breakdown diagram for Alternative 2: Active Edges

(right) View from Ivanhoe Overlook which is used as a Living Laboratory with educational programming in Alternative 2: Active Edges
**ALTERNATIVE 3: Blended Spaces**

Blended spaces achieves the most immersive experience between nature and people. The design balances active and passive programming throughout the complex and is the most ecologically diverse providing both wetland trays at the embankment edges and floating islands along the shores. Overall, this Alternative provides the most amount of new habitat and maintains some of the open water views.

This scheme offers the most open, flexible lawn and shade trees with two distinct lawn spaces. Along Silver Lake Boulevard, a large flat lawn extends to a picnic grove and gardens with a 2,500sf café located at the water’s edge. A second lawn at the base of the Knoll gently slopes to the water bringing visitors to a series of seating and wetland terraces and walkways. At this lower edge, visitors can meander through wetland plant communities and learn about this critical ecosystem. A 1,500sf Pool House is nestled into the seating terraces and a floating dock leads down to a floating pool.

At the Eucalyptus Grove, restored upland habitat transitions to wetland with the expansion of habitat trays extending from the embankment edge. At an entrance along West Silver Lake Drive, a 1,500sf recreation building and nature playground is completely immersed within the upland habitat of the Eucalyptus Grove. At the base of the building, small terraces lead people closer to the water through the wetland terraces to a small viewing platform. The Promenade connects to an overlook bridge that hovers over the habitat terraces and connects to the Ivanhoe Spillway.

Additional protected wetland habitat is created by floating islands dispersed throughout the reservoir. At the south end, a large overlook extends out into the water above a floating island to maximize water vistas and observe wildlife. Additional, small seating terraces and overlooks are located along the reservoir edge to provide people with access to the water as well as interaction with habitat areas.

A large, 5,000sf environmental education center is incorporated into the base of The Knoll, overlooking the reservoir and a shade pavilion, located at the top of the Knoll, provides space for an outdoor classroom. A universally accessible nature walk connects Armstrong Ave and the Meadow to the top of the Knoll. Where walkways are located within habitat areas, wildlife-friendly fencing is incorporated to protect wildlife and sensitive habitats.

*Rendering from the Promenade on the east side of the complex looking north. Habitat slopes and terraces transition to seating along the water’s edge. A floating dock takes visitors through a wetland with floating habitat islands in the background. An Education Center is situated at the base of the Knoll beyond. Alternative 3: Blended Spaces*
Total Space: 32.0 ac
Total Recreation: 8.0 ac
Increase (from current meadow) 5 ac; 145%

- FACILITIES = 10,000 sf
- OVERLOOKS = 1.2 ac
- SEATING TERRACES = 28,000 sf
- GREAT/FLEX LAWN = 4.5 ac
- PICNIC GROVE = 12,000 sf
- PLAYGROUND = 16,000 sf
- ORNAMENTAL GARDENS = 14,000 sf
- PROMENADE/FARMER’S MARKET = 16,000 sf
- HABITAT = 24 ac
- SWIMMING POOL = 7,000 sf water / 27,000 sf total
- FLOATING DOCK = 16,000 sf
- SCULPTURE GARDEN = 9,000 sf
- DOG PLAY = 0 sf

Diagram of the Spaces within Alternative 3: Blended Spaces
View from terraces as the bottom of the Meadow in Alternative 3: Blended Spaces
TOTAL: 24 acres
NEW: 13.5 acres; 130% increase

- PROMENADE 2.5 miles
- PATHS & TRAILS 2.3 miles
- BUS STOP
- PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS
- BICYCLE NETWORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UPLAND (woodland)</td>
<td>11.0 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSITION (coastal scrub)</td>
<td>4.0 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WETLAND (wet meadow, emergent, submergent, floating)</td>
<td>9.0 ac</td>
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(above left) Pedestrian Circulation diagram for Alternative 3: Blended Spaces

(above right) Habitat Breakdown diagram for Alternative 3: Blended Spaces

(right) View from the sloped lawn to the reservoirs in Alternative 3: Blended Spaces
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 03 FEEDBACK

Workshop Report Back
During the report back, many of the “pros” included support for design ideas that maximized wildlife, created flexible gathering spaces, education-related structures, allowed for water-based activities such as swimming and human-powered boating, as well as existing recreation center improvements. Many of the “cons” revolved around swimming and human-powered boating, a free-standing café, and several of the proposed education center structures or their location.

Questionnaire
The questionnaire that was distributed for this workshop – to fill out at the meeting or later online – was open for four weeks online and closed on December 1, 2019. The project team heard comments from the community that there was some confusion about some of the questions, so the project team worked with the SWG to modify the format and extended the deadline by one week. The project team received 2,986 questionnaire responses in total.

For Alternative 1: Islands and Overlooks, the community strongly supported maximizing protected habitat provided by the habitat islands and incorporating an education center at the Eucalyptus Grove with “Maximizing protected wetland habitat (habitat islands)”, “Habitat islands break the open water view of the reservoir, providing visual interest”, and “Locates an education center and observation platform on the west side of the site” viewed as pros by over 70% of respondents. Less favorably, 56% of respondents viewed “Having the least amount of active uses and spaces” as a con. Respondents were more neutral towards “Providing a single place to access the water” and “Preserving existing embankment alignment”.

For Alternative 2: Active Edges, the community strongly supported maximizing water views and creating a Living Laboratory at Ivanhoe with over 70% of respondents viewing “Facilities are located within the stepped terraces, minimizing the impact on views”, “Habitat and people terraces hug the edges to maximize open water views”, and “Creates a “Living Laboratory” at Ivanhoe” as pros. Least favorable activities in this Alternative included human-powered boating and swimming with 57% and 46% of respondents viewing these as cons.

Overall, Alternative 3: Blended Spaces was seemingly the most favorable with more pros than cons. The community strongly supported maximizing space for wildlife, increasing lawn and shade trees, and blending people and habitat spaces with over 70% of respondents viewing “Maximized total wildlife space by combining Habitat Islands and Habitat Terraces”, “Provides most open lawn and shade trees” and “Integrates some habitat areas within overlook terraces and walkways” as pros. Respondents felt neutral towards swimming choosing “Offers pool facilities and floating swimming pool” as a 45%/47% (pro/con) split. And while recreational human-powered boating was viewed as a con in Alternate 2, “Offers guided kayak or canoe tours of wetland habitat led by an ecologist” was viewed more favorably (49% pro).

SYNTHESIS
In general, the primary takeaways from the questionnaire results indicated that the Master Plan design should prioritize the following: habitat, water access, open flexible lawn, and some environmental education program as well as active spaces. Elements that were lower priorities or that many respondents viewed as cons were swimming and human-powered boating. There was, however, some preference for ecological kayak or canoe tours led by an ecologist. In general, respondents indicated that the three schemes were well aligned with the project “key themes” or goals.

These favored elements and approaches were then synthesized into a Preferred Alternative and presented to the public at Community Workshop 04. During the development of the Preferred Alternative, the design team met with the SWG two times to debrief on Community Workshop 03 and the questionnaire results as well as provide design updates and garner feedback.
ALTERNATIVE 1: Islands & Overlooks

- Maximizes protected wetland habitat (habitat islands): 89%, 2662
- Habitat Islands break the open water view off the reservoirs, providing visual interest: 77%, 2290
- Locates an education center and observation platform on west side of site: 70%, 2104
- Does not offer human-powered boating: 66%, 1971
- Does not offer swimming: 58%, 1744
- Preserves existing embankment alignment: 55%, 1637
- Provides a single place to access the water (at wetland observation platform): 53%, 1569
- Provides the least amount of active uses and spaces: 46%, 1374

ALTERNATIVE 2: Active Edges

- Facilities are located within the stepped terraces, minimizing impact on views: 73%, 2189
- Habitat and people terraces hug the edges to maximize open water views: 70%, 2089
- Creates a “Living Laboratory” at Ivanhoe: 68%, 2041
- Terraces step down to the water and provide generous seating and activity options: 68%, 2046
- Habitat and people spaces are predominantly separated (east vs west): 57%, 1715
- Provides most active uses and space: 56%, 1715
- Offers pool facilities and swimming pool embedded within the terraces: 48%, 1430
- Offers facilities and floating dock for human-powered boating recreation: 48%, 1430

ALTERNATIVE 3: Blended Spaces

- Maximizes total wildlife space by combining Habitat Islands and Habitat Terraces: 80%, 2402
- Provides most open lawn and shade trees: 75%, 2257
- Integrates some habitat areas within overlook terraces and walkways: 72%, 2145
- Open lawn gently slopes to water: 67%, 2013
- Locates Nature Play on west side of site (in Eucalyptus Grove): 65%, 1930
- Integrates an education center at the base of the Knoll: 64%, 1012
- Offers guided kayak or canoe tours of wetland habitat led by an ecologist: 49%, 1457
- Offers pool facilities and floating swimming pool: 47%, 1407