

# Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park



Established 1965

Spring 2016  
Volume 144

“To preserve Elysian Park and to protect the park from encroachment”

## Elysian Park Cleanups

Trash Free Earth ([trashfreeearth.org](http://trashfreeearth.org)) is working closely with the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park and the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. TFE's goal is to educate communities about the impact trash has on our environment. The cleanups create an opportunity for individuals to make a difference, learn the proper disposal of various types of trash, and connect with others. The Elysian Park Cleanup Project's goal is to host monthly cleanups throughout Elysian Park.



Each cleanup takes place in a different location within the Park. TFE is not only focusing on cleaning this park, but also educating visitors to help maintain this park clean.

[Instagram.com/TrashFreeEarth](https://www.instagram.com/TrashFreeEarth)  
[Facebook.com/TrashFreeEarth](https://www.facebook.com/TrashFreeEarth)  
<https://twitter.com/Trashfreeearth>  
[TrashFreeEarth.org](http://TrashFreeEarth.org)

## Arboretum Tours

Guided tours of the Chavez Ravine Arboretum took place on February 16, February 20, March 5 and March 19.



Spearheaded by Ida Tallala for the Echo Park Gathering of Elders, but open to all, and guided by Michael O'Brien, CCSEP Steering Committee member, these 1-1/2 hour walks have focused on various portions of the Arboretum. The object is to introduce the public to the botanical wonders in the Arboretum, and also to build a constituency for the preservation and enhancement of the Arboretum.

The Arboretum includes many unusual trees that can be found nowhere else in the community, and in some cases nowhere else in Southern California. Identifying edible plants in the Arboretum is always a highlight of the tours.

## "Like" the CCSEP Facebook Page!



## Entrance To The Park

As you may remember, a motion was introduced into the City Council to rename Elysian Park Avenue, which leads from Sunset into Dodger Stadium to Vin Scully Avenue.



CCSEP wrote a letter opposing the change: "Access to Elysian Park has only one entrance reflecting the name of the park, Elysian Park Avenue. To change the name of this street diminishes the stature of the park, and does little to honor the person proposed to rename it after.

Mr. Vin Scully is a luminary in the world of baseball, and our mission is not to debate the merits of honoring his contributions to baseball. Our mission is to protect Elysian Park and its standing in the City of Los Angeles. We object to the renaming of Elysian Park Avenue to Vin Scully Avenue, and suggest a more fitting honor would be to dedicate a square, intersection or interior stadium road in his honor.

The residents of Elysian Park Avenue should be the final decision makers on whether their home address should be changed at the whim of a private corporation. Please reconsider implementation of changing the last remaining entrance named after Elysian Park, and find a more appropriate method to honor Mr. Scully."

In addition, Sallie Neubauer, a member of the Steering Committee, wrote an excellent letter that was published in the Los Angeles Times commenting on the inappropriateness of the renaming.

Councilman Gil Cedillo made the motion to rename Elysian Park Avenue for Scully. On April 8, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously with one abstention to rename Elysian Park Avenue leading to Dodger Stadium to "Vin Scully Avenue," in honor of the iconic Dodgers' broadcaster who is beginning his 67th and final season at the mike.

On a positive note, CCSEP is investigating the design and construction of 5 Gateways into Elysian Park that will create a cohesive identity for this historical green space. Stay tuned.

## New Membership Levels



Annual memberships will be renewable in June (at the time of the CCSEP Foundation Banquet) by July 1. In response to member requests, we are researching an app that will notify members when to renew their memberships.

- \$15 1-year Student and Senior Membership
- \$20 1-year Individual Membership
- \$30 1-year Family Membership
- \$100 1-year Business membership
- \$500 Life Membership

Please consider including us in your estate planning. CCSEP Foundation is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. *Donations and memberships are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

Renew your membership at the Banquet on June 5th or send your checks to CCSEP c/o Mike Kogan, Treasurer, at 1401 W. Calumet Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

# Steering Committee Update

## Officers

Christine Peters, Pres. CCSEP Foundation (501 C3)  
 Daniel Reza, Vice Pres. CCSEP Foundation (501 C3)  
 Daniel Reza, President CCSEP (501 C4)  
 Christine Peters, Vice President CCSEP (501 C4)  
 Michael O'Brien, Secretary  
 Michael Kogan, Treasurer

## Steering Committee Members

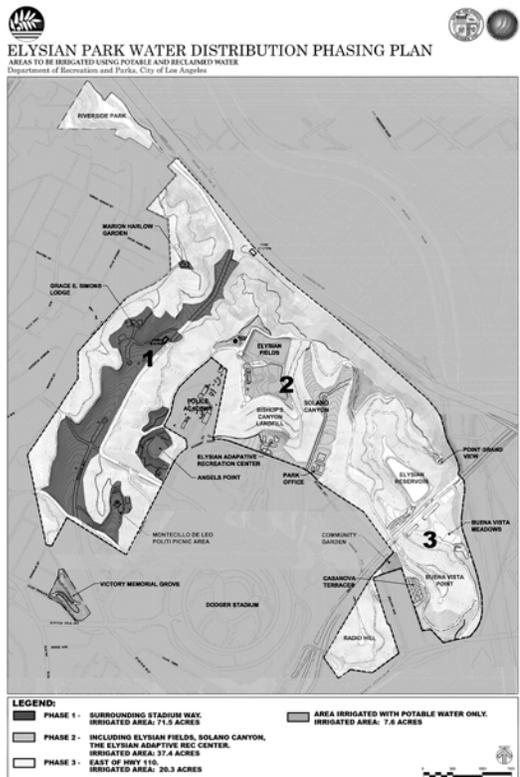
Ari Bessendorf, Pamela Burgess, Andrew Garsten,  
 Terry Hair, Daveed Kapoor, Patricia Bauer Kogan,  
 Peter Lassen, Daniel T. Munoz, Sallie Neubauer,  
 Marion Siu

## Emeritus/Emerita Members

Scott Fajack, Mary-Austin Klein, Isa-Kae Meksin

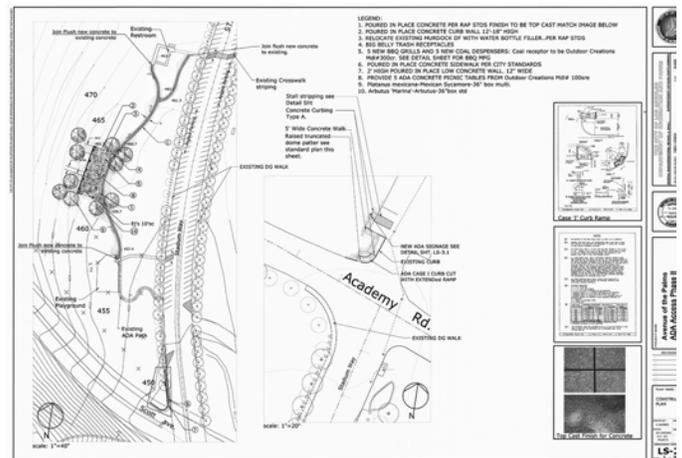
# New Park Irrigation

Finally, the ancient broken irrigation system in the Park is being replaced with a new system that will use recycled water from the DWP reclaimed water line that will be constructed throughout the Park. Look for the installation of new purple pipe in the Park. The system will be connected to the reclaimed water facility after the construction is completed in about a year.



# New Arboretum Improvements

Recreation and Parks is proposing new improvements to the Chavez Ravine Arboretum between Scott and Morton, in order to increase disabled access to Park facilities. A new access ramp will be installed at the northwest corner of Stadium Way and Morton/Academy Road, and a new handicap parking space will be striped in the parking lot north of the intersection. Further south, the existing decomposed granite pathway along the west side of Stadium Way will be extended south to Scott Avenue. A new curving concrete pathway will be installed between the existing play structure and the existing restroom and Stadium Way. The pathway will be "Top Cast," which is a surface treatment that will make the path look more natural. Midway between the play structure and the restroom, a slight depression will be constructed to intercept runoff and return it to the soil. A decorative wall will hold up the slope. New plantings of Mexican Sycamore and Arbutus 'Marina' will enhance the depression.

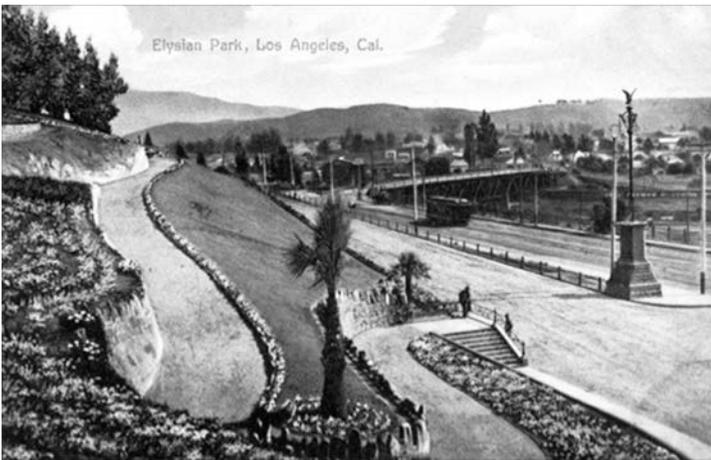


# Annual Banquet

The social highlight of the season is the 53rd CCSEP Annual Banquet, which this year will be held on Sunday, June 5. Good food, good people, no host bar and awesome raffle prizes. CCSEP will also be introducing a new line of Save Elysian Park t-shirts. Look for a roundup on the June 5th Banquet in the next newsletter. Thanks for your support!



227 - FLOWERBEDS AT ELYSIAN PARK, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



Elysian Park, Los Angeles, Cal.

*early postcards of Elysian Park*



*2016 Elysian Park trail overlooking Elysian Valley and the LA River*