







Hi Paul,

Thanks for the reminder. I wanted to let you know that I and my neighbor, Karen drove to Micheltorena to vote. We were not able to find a place to park after she drove around literally for 1 hour. She finally gave up. After we got home, I drove there myself only to be faced with the same problem- no place to park whatsoever. People were double parking all over the place, creating a traffic problem. I finally gave up too. Not being able to find parking is a huge deal breaker for me.

Regards,

Gisela Jensen

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**From:** "Itanji@yahoo.com" <itanji@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 17, 2014 10:53 AM

**Subject:** Parking

Not only was parking very scarce, traffic was equally heavy due to people going to school festival and people going to vote. As I wrote earlier, for whatever reasons, street parking on Golden Gate meant a traffic ticket. The only way we found parking is by waiting in the small lot for someone to leave. It is unconscionable that residents were subjected to this traffic and parking mess.....feels like "they" planned this snafu on purpose!

Irene

Sent from my iPad

Dear Paul.

I wanted to voice my concern about the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council election. The problem was with parking. Because of the fair that was going on at the school there was no parking on the school grounds and even less parking than there would have been

on the street on a Saturday. This put older voters the handicapped and people who had to drive to the polling place at a disadvantage to those voters who could walk. We had difficulty finding a parking place and almost gave up and went home without voting.

A concerned voter.

Larry Burchard

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In the 4/12/14 SLNC election, would-be voters of one geographic half of Silver Lake, and those candidates strongly associated, were egregiously harmed. Voters were effectively (further) disenfranchised, because of a calamitous flaw amounting, deliberately or otherwise, to the targeted suppression of voters, in the election at Micheltorena School.

Stakeholders from northern/eastern hill-laden portions of Silver Lake, a 20+ minute drive away, found Micheltorena's large parking lot used by a flea market, completely closed off. Between that and the nearby, concurrent farmers' market, there was literally no parking to be found: many eventually gave up and went home without voting. (For example, two women, seniors, reported driving around for a full hour, in vain.)

This completely devastated the participation and voice of a huge geographic group of otherwise potential voters. Meanwhile the slate of candidates based in the Micheltorena area- enjoying the walking distance and/or busing of voters, helped by a special interest group eager for takeover-- was far less harmed: indeed, benefited, enormously. So was this intentional?

NO signage was posted explaining the situation or help would-be voters. NO election help stood outside, pointing people to the supposed alternatives, which were a smaller back lot (the sign there said parking was free FOR FLEA MARKET ATTENDEES) and a church upper parking lot, half way up the block, past the lower parking lot and neither visible nor pointed to with signage, so completely unused. The SLNC website on election day still said the big lot was open.

Such confusion cannot be blamed on the SLNC: EmpowerLA assumed responsibility for such matters - at least when it came to considering Citibank as a polling place! ("The Elections Division is surveying the location for parking and traffic flow. I should have a report later today to share." - Terrence Gomes, 3/7.) That same day, he instructed candidate members of the board - a quorum - to "let the election committee communicate and conduct all election business for the SLNC." Thus EmpowerLA made it impossible for the board to ask questions and exercise oversight, instead giving itself and a committee (mostly of non-boardmembers) full authority. The parking lot fiasco and the disaster is EmpowerLA's.

If the board had been told the truth about the big lot's unavailability, it would have overwhelmingly preferred using Citibank, not Micheltorena, AND THAT WOULD HAVE MADE CITIBANK THE CLEAR AND INDISPUTABLE CHOICE. Even without such knowledge, the Board preferred Citibank 10 to 8 (with only 7 deemed by EmpowerLA "eligible" to "participate"), 2 abstaining: EmpowerLA shockingly claiming Micheltorena to be the choice. Micheltorena's big lot availability was promised by a committee chair allowed by EmpowerLA to continue serving even when boardmembers made clear her biased agenda and asked EmpowerLA to remove her from her post. The inability to use the big parking lot, whether born of EmpowerLA/Election committee incompetence or worse, deliberate malfeasance and/or collusion, took a horrible toll on the other half of Silver Lake and its voting capacities, and must not be tolerated if one cares about community.