

Draft of possible Commission Letter to council

Dear Councilmembers:
House.

Re: CCM #640 VDL Research

Several issues are illustrated by recent developments in front of this City Cultural Monument in Silver Lake. This building was recently honored by being Listed on the National Register in Washington.

Without notice of the details, DOT has erected unsightly poles with lights and signals right in the view field of this monument ruining the view from inside looking towards the west and likewise making it impossible to photograph the building from across the street as was the case for the last 80 years.

1. We respectfully request that the worst offending pole be moved South as far as possible and still be identifiable as related to the crossing. Perhaps consider placing it in lieu of the other existing pole which has the pushbutton.
2. Consider some sort of ordinance requiring City Departments planning work in front of, or relating to the City Monument Program to submit plans for review just as do owners who make changes requiring permits at present.
3. The owners, Cal Poly University have stated a program of severely topping or eliminating trees on their property to permit more of a view onto and from the monument.
4. To go with this, please consider removal of three trees that have grown up in the park area opposite the monument which virtually screen it from view from the meadow and destroy its historic panoramic view out towards the lake.
5. Consider adding another crosswalk like the first, but aimed at the monument, to facilitate photo takers who invariably wish to cross the street for this purpose. Consider a 4' high pole there on which to mount a push button. Consider another opening in the wall, so that when the trees are removed, people can access this second striped zone directly from the meadow walkway.
6. Reprogram the pushbuttons, so that when depressed they immediately start the yellow light warning motorists to prepare to stop. Why isn't the red light solid instead of blinking? At

present there is a delay of up to a full minute before it is safe to cross.

7. Consider removal of no parking signs on the West side, so that visitors to the park can utilize the old walkway area within the roadway to park, just as happens further south on SLB. This will relieve some of the pressure on the crosswalk, and allow visitors to the monument to find parking on the East side.

It's unfortunate that the planners of these additions, completely missed the mark when they installed a crosswalk aiming at a blank board fence instead of this City amenity. Likewise none of the planning for the meadow appears to have considered it either. To put a pole up right in the center of the monument is almost a last straw!

By opening this up with tree removal or trimming on both sides of the roadway, the monument will gain in its ambiance and be more easily identified by visitors.

Please let this body know what the departments reception is of these ideas and how soon they can be implemented. They will serve as templates for similar situations elsewhere.

Cc Dion Neutra architect of the monument
Ron Nichols, DWP
[Head[] DOT
others?