

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Please do not close the Silver Lake Meadow at night. The meadow is one of the few public open spaces for people in this neighborhood. It is beautiful day and night, and has beautified the community and increased the quality of life for everyone. Every time there is an open space, there will be people who break the rules of the space. Please, do not fence off or close the space at night, but continue to post rules, encourage people to follow them. The issue of dogs is unavoidable: it is a beautiful open grassy space, and people will break the rule of bringing their dogs on to the space occasionally. The response to the problem is to keep reminding and encouraging people to follow the rules. It is a give and take with rules in public spaces, but it is wrong to think that shutting things down, or fencing them off, or closing them, is the answer. There is no "one and done" action (or there can be, and it is most likely a violent one.) Therefore, we make encouraging adherence to the rules an always-in-process event. This is living in community. Same goes with music: just as we ask our neighbors to turn down their music if it is too loud, or maybe we even call the police if we don't think we can ask, it is an on-going process. We don't make music illegal in a community if people occasionally play loud music. We accept the inconvenience of living in a perfectly imperfect community and keep asking for what we want. Again, it's a process. We don't ask once and expect life to change forever. Again, this is part of the beauty and inevitable inconvenience of living in community. And I am grateful for it.