

GB061622-01

Open Board Position Candidates

soro

south robertson neighborhoods council

Candidate Name: Gabriela Penhasi

Board Seat: Resident Zone

NC Zone: Zone 7

Optional, but encouraged: Interested in zone 7 seat. I own a home in the zone and have lived in the area for 7 year now. I would like to give back to the community and participate in a community organization.

Legal Affirmation: yes

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south robertson neighborhoods council

GB061622-02

Candidate Name: Mitch Cohen

Board Seat: At-Large

NC Zone: Zone 9

Optional, but encouraged: I have been a SORO stakeholder for over 20 years, and presently reside in NC Zone 9. I served on the Beverlywood HOA Board of Directors for 10 years. For the majority of that time I was an officer/director, and served as chairperson of the construction committee, legal committee and traffic committee. During that time I had meetings with Councilman Koretz and many members of his staff, and worked with CD5 on a variety of issues effecting Beverlywood and surrounding communities. I have also had dealings with LADOT, LADPW, and LADBS. I possess a great deal of knowledge and experience that I gained from being on the BWHOA Board and would like to use that knowledge and experience to help in the larger SORO community as a member-at-large. I am a lawyer with experience in business, real estate and construction matters, and my skills include writing (general communications and legal writing), organization, management, and public speaking.

Legal Affirmation: yes

SORO NC Committee Memberships as of 6/16/22

Land Use	Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Richard Bloom, Armeen Neshat , Jon Liberman, Ellen Lanet , Joseph Mollaie
Business Advocacy & Development Committee	Ken Blaker, Richard Bloom, Jon Liberman , Ethan Frankel, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, David Notowitz , Joel Weinberger, Shevy Dorfman Lieder, Shirley Traum, Joseph Mollaie, Kyle Burman
Outreach Committee	Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Sophia French, David Notowitz , Baila Romm, Bill Gross, Fabiola Prieto
Parks and Recreation Committee	Barry Levine, Jon Liberman , Laurie Levine , Fabiola Prieto
Public Safety Committee	Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes , Richard Bloom, Sophia French, Ken Blaker, Jon Liberman, Laurie Levine, Baila Romm , Bill Gross, Melinda Chuarn
Transportation Committee	Barry Levine, Armeen Neshat , Sophia French, Joel Weinberger, Shevy Dorfman Lieder, Ellen Lanet, Joseph Mollaie
Homelessness Committee	Sophia French, Terrence Gomes , Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Richard Bloom, Ken Blaker, Jon Liberman, Laurie Levine, David Notowitz, Jacob Shofet, Melinda Chuarn
Education Committee	Shirley Traum, Barry Levine, Jon Liberman
Bylaws Committee	Ken Blaker , Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman, Barry Levine
Budget & Finance Committee	Terrence Gomes , Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman
Board Development	Baila Romm ,
Elections Committee (Ad Hoc)	



Motion that the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council support The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition Motion, submit a CIS opposing Council File 11-1020-S3 (to protect Neighborhood Council autonomy), and send letter to Councilmember John Lee, with CC: to Councilmembers Koretz and Wesson

Agenda Item: GB061622-08
Date: June 16, 2022
Proposed By: Executive Board
Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Baila Romm
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council opposes Council File 11-1020-S3. Neighborhood Councils form alliances when they want to join together to work on something of common interest. We want to be able to contribute specifically to alliances we support. The name of the overall fund is not important. What is important is that every recognized alliance has the ability to raise its own funds and those funds are reserved for its use and its use alone. Our Neighborhood Council wants the ability to direct our funds to a specific alliance and not to a fund that is allocated without our input.

Proposed Motion

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council moves to oppose CF 11-1020-S3 and to send a CIS.

CIS: The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council opposes Council File 11-1020-S3. Neighborhood Councils form alliances when they want to join together to work on something of common interest. We want to be able to contribute specifically to alliances we support. The name of the overall fund is not important. What is important is that

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Neighborhoods Council**

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every recognized alliance has the ability to raise its own funds and those funds are reserved for its use and its use alone. Our Neighborhood Council wants the ability to direct our funds to a specific alliance and not to a fund that is allocated without our input.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 5	Against: 0
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$
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Arguments for:	Arguments against:
	None



Motion that the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council support The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition Motion addressing aspects of DONE and City Clerk policies on denials of Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) applications based on failures of Board Members who have Recused themselves to contact the City Attorney

Agenda Item: GB061622-09
Date: June 16, 2022
Proposed By: Executive Board
Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Baila Romm
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

Background

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council is very concerned about a policy that the DONE and City Clerk are enforcing that there is no written, current policy change. As the Neighborhood Councils end their Fiscal Year, many Neighborhood Councils award Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) at this time. Many Neighborhood Councils are facing rejections of NPGs because a Boardmember has recused themselves because of an actual conflict of interest or a perceived conflict of interest and have not conferred with the City Attorney's Office. The current, written policy from the NPG Information Packet for NC Boardmembers: [Link to Document](#)

- i. At a minimum, board members must recuse themselves (not participate in discussion and leave the meeting room) from a vote to approve a grant should there be a conflict due to an affiliation with an applicant organization. There should be full disclosure and transparency. Please refer to the document entitled, "State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils" of the Application for Neighborhood

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Purposes Grant and/or your Neighborhood Council’s Field Project Coordinator for more information and seek consult with the Office of the City Attorney **if necessary**.

From the Information for Applicants: [Link to Document](#)

- i. At a minimum, board members must recuse themselves from a vote to approve a grant should there be a conflict due to an affiliation with an applicant organization. There should be full disclosure and transparency. Please refer to the document entitled, “State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils” of the application for Neighborhood Purposes Grant and/or the Neighborhood Council’s Field Project Coordinator for more information.

There is no mention in either document that Neighborhood Council Boardmembers **must/shall** seek the advice of the City Attorney if the Boardmember perceived a conflict of interest and recused themselves before discussion and vote of the item. It may also be noted that the document referred to in both documents, **State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils**, seems to not be located on the www.empowermentla.org website or the <https://clerk.lacity.org/clerk-services/nc-funding/documents-forms> website. A Google search does not find the document also.

Proposed Motion

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council moves that the DONE and City Clerk review the Neighborhood Councils’ NPGs that were rejected based on recusal without City Attorney consultation be reevaluated. If the City Clerk and the DONE would like to implement a policy that all Boardmembers must seek City Attorney consultation before recusal, we require a written policy with a determination letter from the City Attorney.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 5	Against: 0
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$
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Arguments for:	Arguments against:
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Makes it an equitable process	None
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Raquel Beltran
DONE
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street, Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012

June 16, 2022

Re: Neighborhood Council Recusals

Dear Ms. Beltran:

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council is very concerned about a policy that the DONE and City Clerk are enforcing that there is no written, current policy change. As the Neighborhood Councils end their Fiscal Year, many Neighborhood Councils award Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) at this time. Many Neighborhood Councils are facing rejections of NPGs because a Boardmember has recused themselves because of an actual conflict of interest or a perceived conflict of interest and have not conferred with the City Attorney's Office. The current, written policy from the NPG Information Packet for NC Boardmembers: [Link to Document](#)

- i. At a minimum, board members must recuse themselves (not participate in discussion and leave the meeting room) from a vote to approve a grant should there be a conflict due to an affiliation with an applicant organization. There should be full disclosure and transparency. Please refer to the document entitled, "State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils" of the Application for Neighborhood Purposes Grant and/or your Neighborhood Council's Field Project Coordinator for more information and seek consult with the Office of the City Attorney **if necessary**.

From the Information for Applicants: [Link to Document](#)

- i. At a minimum, board members must recuse themselves from a vote to approve a grant should there be a conflict due to an affiliation with an applicant organization. There should be full disclosure and transparency. Please refer to the document entitled, "State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils" of the application for Neighborhood Purposes Grant and/or the Neighborhood Council's Field Project Coordinator for more information.



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There is no mention in either document that Neighborhood Council Boardmembers **must/shall** seek the advice of the City Attorney if the Boardmember perceived a conflict of interest and recused themselves before discussion and vote of the item. It may also be noted that the document referred to in both documents, **State and City Conflicts of Interest Laws for Neighborhood Councils**, seems to not be located on the www.empowermentla.org website or the <https://clerk.lacity.org/clerk-services/nc-funding/documents-forms> website. A Google search does not find the document also.

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that the DONE and City Clerk review the Neighborhood Councils' NPGs that were rejected based on recusal without City Attorney consultation be reevaluated. If the City Clerk and the DONE would like to implement a policy that all Boardmembers must seek City Attorney consultation before recusal, we require a written policy with a determination letter from the City Attorney.

Sincerely,

President
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

President@soronc.org

Cc: Mike Feuer, John Lee, Holly Walcott, Paul Koretz, Herb Wesson



Motion that the South Robertson Neighborhood support The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition Motion to request that the City Council create a Council File to require all new and used car dealers who sell vehicles that are sold and registered in the City of Los Angeles to etch the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the catalytic converter

Agenda Item: GB061622-10

Date: June 16, 2022

Proposed By: Executive Board

Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Baila Romm
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

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Background

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council is very concerned that the State of California or the Federal government has not taken an action to prevent catalytic converter theft. It is time the City of Los Angeles take action to protect the residents of Los Angeles. We propose that the City Council create a Council File to require all new and used car dealers that sell vehicles that are sold and registered in the City of Los Angeles to etch the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the catalytic converter. We request the CAO, City Attorney, and the LAPD to create the requirements on the size and depth of the etching and regulations of the program. Since the City has lost many catalytic converters to theft, we request that the City Council mandate that all city vehicles and proprietary department vehicles also have the catalytic converters etched. This will help in the recovery and identification of stolen catalytic converters.

Proposed Motion

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council moves that we request the City Council to create a Council File to create a program to etch catalytic converters.





Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 5	Against: 0
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$
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Arguments for:	Arguments against:
	None



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Paul Koretz
CD 5
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street, Suite 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Herb Wesson
CD 10
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street, Suite 420
Los Angeles, CA 90012

June 16, 2022

Re: Catalytic Converter Etching Program

Dear Councilmembers:

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council is very concerned that the State of California or the Federal government has not taken an action to prevent catalytic converter theft. It is time the City of Los Angeles take action to protect the residents of Los Angeles. We propose that the City Council to create a Council File to require all new and used car dealers that sell vehicles that are sold and registered in the City of Los Angeles to etch the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the catalytic converter. We request that the CAO, City Attorney, and the LAPD create the requirements on the size and depth of the etching and regulations of the program. Since the City has lost many catalytic convertors to theft, we request that the City Council mandate that all city vehicles and proprietary department vehicles also have the catalytic converters etched. This will help in the recovery and identification of stolen catalytic converters.

Sincerely,

President
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

President@soronc.org

Cc: Michael Moore, Mike Feuer, Matthew W. Szabo