

SORO NC Board Applicant Statement

20 June 2013

Grant Cohen

Candidate for School seat 1

As a SoRo homeowner with a young, growing family, I'm extremely motivated to ensure a highly positive quality of life for all of our community's residents. I have a well-balanced background with volunteer organizations and local schools that has given me great insight into the challenges and opportunities with the current system. On a personal level, I'm a strong communicator with an energetic spirit, spending my work hours helping to build start-up tech companies, giving me a great deal of experience and expertise with digital marketing and consumer outreach.



June 10, 2013

Dear SoRo Neighborhood Council,

I'm writing this letter in support of the motion to appoint Grant Cohen to the vacant School Representative position on the SoRo NC Board in June of 2013. As the director of Green Beginning Community Preschool and as a member of the South Robertson Neighborhood Council Green Team, I feel that I am qualified to recommend Grant to this position.

As a parent of a child at our local school, Grant and his wife are highly active, upstanding members of the Green Beginning Community. They have volunteered to take on the leadership role of Room Parents to their son's "Panda" class, the youngest and earliest enrolled students at our pre-school. Since joining our community in September of 2012, Grant has been extremely engaged with his son's progress at the school, while also donating his time to work at our annual "Rummage Sale" and helping to plan and prepare the Panda's fundraising event at the Art Zone. Additionally, the Cohen's have supported the community by assisting in other fundraising efforts and making personal contributions above and beyond the enrollment tuition.

Given his involvement and commitment to our school and community, I am confident Grant would be an excellent addition to the SoRo NC Board. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica Cabello, M.A.
Executive Director & Founder
Green Beginning Community Preschool



Motion to support a height variance at 1500 S Beverly Drive

Agenda Item: GB052013-7

Date: 20 May 2013

Proposed By: Land Use

Full Proposal

See attached letter and supporting materials.

Proposed Motion

To send the attached letter supporting the proposed project at 1500 S. Beverly Dr. to the LA City Zoning Administrator.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
Secretary

**South Robertson
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May 20, 2013

City of Los Angeles Planning Department
Attn: Zoning Administrator
Office of Zoning Administration
City Hall, Room 763
Los Angeles, CA. 90012

Re: Support for # DIR-2013-616-DB
Imanoel Davodpour
1929 S Selby Ave #401 Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Zoning Administrator,

At our regularly held meeting on May 20th, the South Robertson Neighborhood Council voted yes___ no___ abstain___ in support of the applicant Imanoel Davodpour request a Bonus Density 8 unit condominium project, with 7 market and one very low income unit and its requested menu incentives, as well as a variance to allow a 10% (4'-6") height increase for the elevator shaft.

In addition, we request that the applicant post Qty. (2) 5'x4' signs on the property during the process and construction with a description of the application and the changes requested. It will also have a 24 hour contact phone number for stakeholders to call if they have questions or concerns. The sign will be on display for the term of the project

In deciding to support this project, the Board considered the history of the site, the impact on the surrounding neighborhood and its low income component. In the Board's view, the information presented by the applicant and his representative provides adequate justification for granting the requested approvals, subject to any additional conditions recommended by the Planning Department and City Council office. The South Robertson Neighborhood Council supports this project that will serve the South Robertson community's stakeholders.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
Secretary

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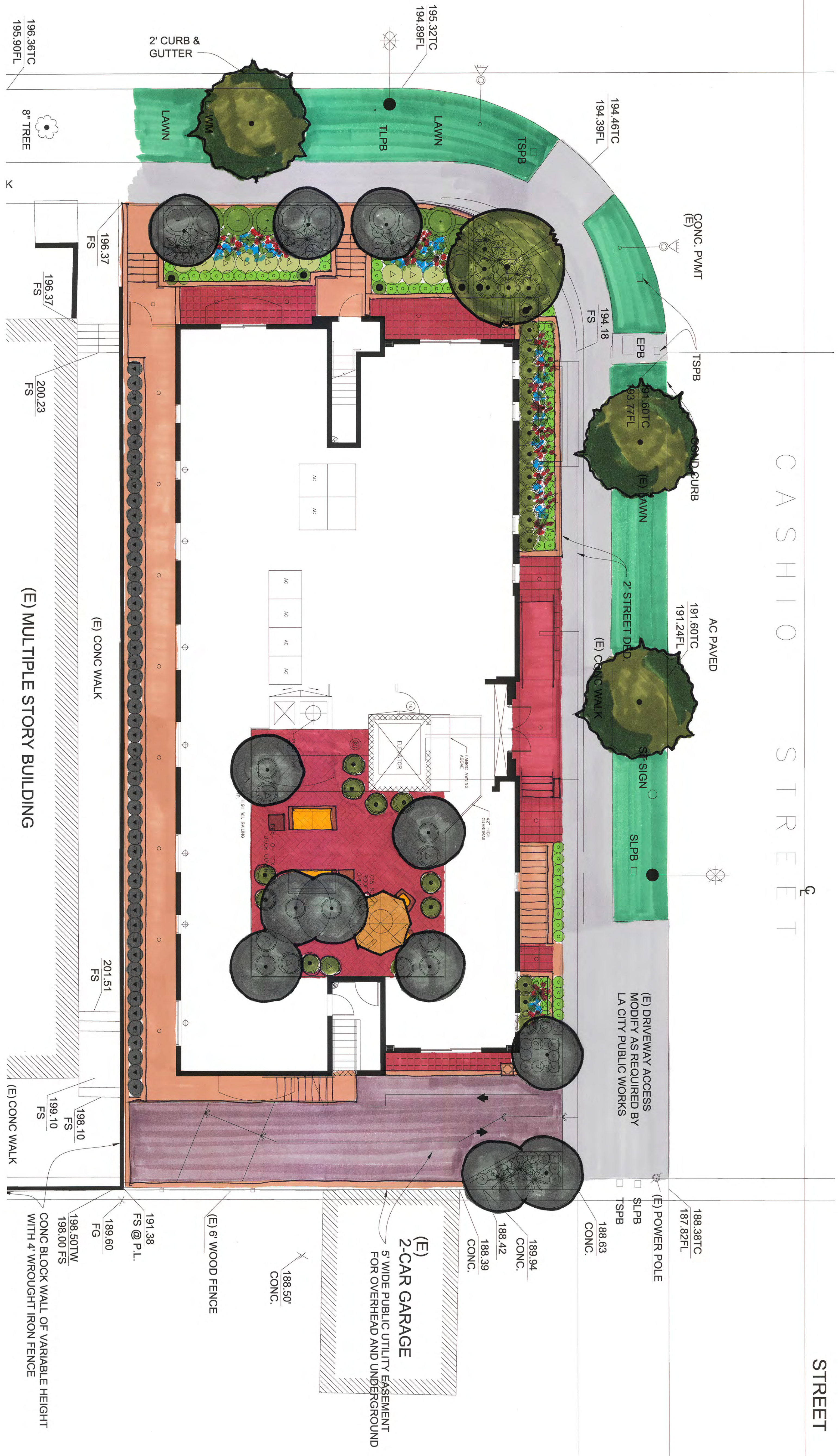
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DRIVE

BEVERLY DRIVE

ASPHALT



CASHIO STREET

STREET

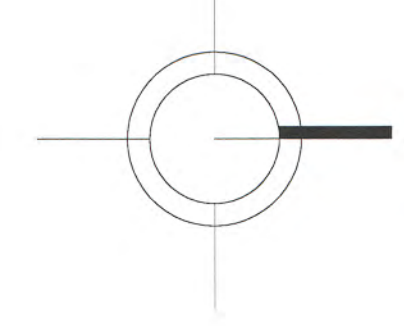
TREE & LEGEND

SYMBOL	BOTANIC NAME / COMMON NAME	QUANTITY AND SIZE
	LARGE N. SARATOGA SARCOCOLLA LABEL	4 - 24 INCH BOX
	OLEA E. SWAN HILL	1 - 36 INCH BOX
	STREET TREES	3 - 24 INCH BOX PER URBAN FORESTRY

SYMBOL	BOTANIC NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	QTY	MATERIALS
	AGAPANTHUS ELAINE	LILY-OF-THE-NILE	5/6	30	M
	BUXUS GREEN BEAUTY	BOXWOOD	5/6	104	L
	ILEX V. STOKES DYARE	STOKES DYARE HOLLY	5/6	32	L
	JUNIPERUS SKYROCKET	SKYROCKET JUNIPER	1/6	6	L
	LIGUSTRUM J. TEXANUM	TEXAS PRIVET	5/6	50	L
	OLEA LITTLE OLIVE	LITTLE OLIVE OLIVE	1/6	11	L
	PITOSPORIUM T. GOLF BALL	GOLF BALL PITOSPORIUM	5/6	10	L
	ROSA ICEBERG	ICEBERG ROSE	5/6	30	L

LANDSCAPE PRELIMINARY PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



THE OFFICE OF
SUSAN E. MCEOWEN
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT 2180
 A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION
 32297 BIG OAK LANE
 CASTAIC, CA 91384
 Office Telephone: (661) 294 3753
 Email Address: semceowen@shino.com

OWNER:
IMANOEL DAVOUDPOUR
 1929 SELBY AVE. #401
 LOS ANGELES, CA.
 90025

PROJECT:
8 UNIT CONDOMINIUM
 1500 S. BEVERLY DRIVE
 LOS ANGELES, CA.
 90025

SHEET TITLE:
LANDSCAPE PRELIMINARY PLAN

START DATE:	APRIL 29, 2024
DESIGNER:	SUSAN E. MCEOWEN
REVISION DATE 02:	XXXX
REVISION DATE 03:	XXXX
REVISION DATE 04:	XXXX
DATE PLOTTED:	2024-06-01
DATE PRINTED:	2024-06-01

1500 S. BEVERLY DR.

L-P



Motion to request changes to the proposed City Council mural ordinance

Agenda Item: GB062013-4

Date: June 20, 2013

Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Full Proposal

The City's proposed MURAL ORDINANCE is expected to go to the full City Council for its consideration in July. The original intent of the ordinance was to facilitate the placement of new murals as well as protect and preserve existing murals. However, a very problematic change to the ordinance was made at the City Council's Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) committee, which has to do with the minimum number of residential units to be allowed to display a mural.

As first proposed by the Planning Dept., murals were to have been EXCLUDED from residential properties of fewer than five units. Then at the City Planning Commission, that was reduced to a ban on residential properties of two or fewer units. Murals were to be allowed anywhere in the city EXCEPT for duplex and R1 properties.

At PLUM following discussion, instructions given to the City Attorney were to draft an ordinance with NO carve-out or exception for R1. The ordinance passed quietly out of PLUM on 1/15/13, **allowing for murals to be placed on single-family homes.**

If adopted as proposed this ordinance has the potential to tremendously impact residential neighborhood character. While the ordinance includes a provision that requires those planning to install an art mural on their property to do community outreach, **there is no requirement** to respond to, act upon or implement comments received from neighbors or the community.

Each neighborhood is different; that truth led to the creation of the NC system.

Another issue: the definition of "art." The fear is that it is so broad that it may spark lawsuits from sign companies and advertisers who might argue, say, that an artistic version of a Coke bottle qualifies. Indeed, digitally-printed images are considered "Original Art Installations" under the current version of the ordinance.

In essence, while the original intent is laudable, as currently drafted it creates a new (and poorly written) by-right planning provision. We should be extremely careful when creating new by-right categories, as we have seen time and time again within the City.

Proposed Motion

To communicate to the City that:

While the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council supports community beautification through original art murals, the current draft ordinance is overly broad and its newly-created by-right provisions would create unintended negative effects in our community. Therefore, we ask:

- I. That the final ordinance include an exemption for R1 (Residential) zones and all low-density residential properties (less than 5 units), per the Planning Department's own recommendation;

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- II. That it include provisions for individual areas/Neighborhood Councils to work with the City to establish overlay zones that would prohibit and/or require NC or Area Planning review of new mural installations;
- III. That the current draft ordinance not be considered for adoption by the City Council and instead be returned to PLUM for amendment, with the participation of Neighborhood Councils.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For: 0

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

The ordinance is not what the Planning Dept. recommended, and has raised alarm bells from the City Atty.

See arguments above.

Arguments against:

Murals are an important civic beautification tool and can build pride within a community.

It is important to pass the ordinance soon, before more murals irretrievably decay.



Motion to add a Neighborhood Council Member to the Executive Employee Relations Committee (EERC)

Agenda Item: GB062013-5
Date: June 20, 2013
Proposed By: Terrence Gomes

Request for Council to create a position for a Neighborhood Council Member to be part of the EERC

Full Proposal

The Executive Employee Relations Committee (the "EERC") consists of the Mayor; the President of the City Council; the President, Pro Tempore of the City Council; the Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee; and the Chair of the Personnel (and Animal Welfare) Committee.

The EERC oversees the City's labor relations; provides bargaining instructions to the City's negotiator regarding salaries, benefits, pensions, and other related matters; and makes recommendations to the City Council;

The EERC was involved in labor negotiations that resulted in salary increases that increased the Structural Deficit;

The leaders of the City's civilian unions have indicated that they are not willing to forego their 5.5% raise in January or contribute 10% of the cost of their health care plan which will result in a four year cumulative deficit of almost \$800 million;
All of the members of the EERC are elected officials and may have received campaign contributions from unions representing City workers and/or their leadership or representatives, creating a conflict of interest that is not in the best interest of the citizens of Los Angeles;

Proposed Motion

THEREFORE, the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that all meetings of the EERC be open to the public and transparent;

THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council also requests that seven (7) representatives, one from each of the Planning areas of the charter authorized Neighborhood Councils, be appointed to the EERC so that the Neighborhood Councils are better able to advise the Council pursuant to the Charter;

THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that all labor negotiations between the Department of Water and Power and its union be conducted by the Department's management and be open to the public and transparent; without undue interference from the EERC, the City Council, and the Mayor;

THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests access on a timely basis to any and all information regarding compensation and benefits and how they compare to other comparable entities;

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THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that the EERC inform Neighborhood Councils on a timely basis as to the status of any labor negotiations and the impact on the City's budget over the following five years;

THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that Neighborhood Councils be given 60 days to review and analyze any labor agreement and its work rules and the impact on the City's finances;

THEREFORE, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that a council file be opened on all negotiations with any and all unions, and that Neighborhood Councils are given enough information and time to be able to review data and weigh in through council statements to be entered into the council file.

Considerations

Pro

Con

Board Notes

Votes For:

Against:

Abstain:

Proposed Amendments: