2012 Board Candidate Statements

Zone 1 Representative  1 seat open • 4 year term

Burrad Marsh
As a resident and stakeholder in the South Robertson District for seven years, I am running for Zone 1 Representative as I believe strong community engagement is the cornerstone of a functioning society. I am excited to take an active role in the improvement of our neighborhood and planning for the challenges of LA's limited funding sources. We need to team with our city partners to address crumbling sidewalks and roads, parking fees, emergency preparation and improved public safety.

I am a Television Executive with years of experience with budgeting, financial analysis, business contracts, and collaborating to get results. I would appreciate your vote for me, Burrad Marsh, to serve on the SORO Neighborhood Council. It's pronounced “Brad” but you call me whatever you want—as long as you vote for me!

Together let’s keep SORO green and clean.

Kevin Gres
Fancy rhetoric is never enough—changes come through thoughtful action. I have lived in Zone 1 my entire life. I am 24 years old and currently work as a Federal Judicial Law Clerk for the Central District of California. I enjoy basketball, reading, fishing, hiking and spending time with family and friends.

As Zone 1 Representative, I will build stronger relationships between SORONC and its residents and make what is already a great community into an even better one.

Like you, this community is my home and I want Zone 1 to have a voice.

Vote Kevin Gres for SORONC Zone 1 Representative. Thank you for your consideration.

Zone 3 Representative  1 seat open • 4 year term

Beth Ryan
My name is Beth Ryan and I ask for your vote for Zone 3—Crestview! I moved to LA nine years ago and within four months joined the Crestview board and have served as President ever since.

Together, we created a Crestview Chat for neighbors to stay connected and organized a neighborhood block party every other year. I serve on the SORO Outreach Committee and would like to help other unorganized areas connect with their residents.

In 2006, I collaborated with SORO, local elected officials, LAPD and community leaders to create the Robertson Activities League in response to three La Cienega Heights youth being shot and killed by gang activity.

I have continued this work—creating Stepping Forward—and want to create a Youth Committee on SORO so that we can continue to reach out to and protect the students who live within La Cienega Heights.
Zone 5 Representative 1 seat open • 4 year term
Bette Billet

Zone 7 Representative 1 seat open • 4 year term
Troy Richardson
Troy Richardson is a current SORO NC Business Representative, holding the position for a little over a year, and also a member of the Outreach Committee. Being both a business owner and resident in the SORO community, Mr. Richardson has a commitment to the well being of the community on more than one level. A graduate of the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, he works as a performing musician, music journalist, and writer in marketing and advertising as well as owning his own musical instrument company. Mr. Richardson’s experience with people in all walks of life make him an excellent representative for the diverse community found in the South Robertson area.

Martin Jon Liberman
I am a lifetime resident of Soro. I was educated in the community (Shenandoah, Pasteur Jr. High and Hamilton High School). I attend a local synagogue. After college I went into the Financial Services Industry. I have been a Manager of Insurance Underwriting, a Director of Marketing and Administration, a Director of Compliance, a Credit Union Treasurer and a President of a Credit Union. I have many years’ experience sitting on the Boards of two Credit Unions.

From 2004 – 2010 I served as a member of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council. I served 5 years as Vice President or Acting President. For that period I was Chairman of the following committees: Executive, Public Safety & By-Laws. I was also a member of the Land Use Committee and the Outreach Committee. I was actively involved with the RAL Program, the Soro Festival, WLAPD Transportation Committee, WLAPD CPAP, LA County Mental Health Advisory Committees, Hamilton HS Public Safety Advisory Committee, LA Parks & Rec Advisory Committee for the Robertson Activities Center and various civic groups concerned about the harmful effects of one way traffic on Pico Blvd and Olympic Blvd as it applied to local businesses.

My focus for the next four years is quality of life in our community. Specifically Public Safety, programs for both young people and for retirees, and the economic revitalization of the Soro Business Community. I have worked hard for our community in the past and I want the privilege of serving you for the next four years. Please Vote on October 28th for Martin Jon Liberman as Zone 7 Representative.

Ryan Iyengar
My name is Ryan Iyengar, and while I currently rent in the South Robertson area, I would love to eventually own property in this great neighborhood. I’d like to get more involved in making the area even better, and would love to get to know the community and contribute towards our shared goals of communal well being.
Zone 8 Representative  

Ellen Lanet
My name is Ellen Lanet and I grew up very close to SORO. My grandparent’s lived in SORO’s Zone 6. Our family spent time at the Robertson Park, local temples and many of the unique businesses on Pico & Robertson Blvds that are still thriving today. During my adult life I have lived in 2 different SORO zones over 26 years. As a newlywed, I lived 2 years in the western edge of Zone 1 in a garden apartment. Afterwards we built our first home outside of SORO. We returned to SORO a couple years later to buy a lovely 2 bedroom Spanish home in the eastern portion of Zone 1, where we started a family and enjoyed 10 years of living within walking distance to shops & grocers on Pico and the neighborhood park & library on Robertson. My older daughter attended Guru Ram Das daycare. My younger daughter attended Gan Yaffa, Children’s World Nursery School and Hamilton HS Humanities magnet. Eventually we moved 12 blocks to Zone 8 and have been here for 14 years continuing to enjoy our neighbors; the local businesses; the schools, parks & library; and recently the new Metro Expo line.

In Los Angeles, SORO is a rare family oriented neighborhood with a variety of diverse religions and ethnicities working well together: to be neighborly; maintain local mom & pop businesses; create a safe walking community; and support its local public schools, parks and library. I am a local architect specializing in custom residential and small institutional projects throughout Los Angeles. I have experience working well with Planning & Building Departments to facilitate clients to build thoughtful and contextual designs. I’ve enjoyed volunteering at the public schools my daughters attended and at Shenandoah ES as a literacy coach through Koreh-LA. I want to contribute viable solutions to our local neighborhood concerns and support our unique qualities to build a stronger community.

I ask you for your vote to represent Zone 8 on SORO Neighborhood Council.

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Zone 9 Representative

Paula Waxman
Background: I have lived in Beverlywood since 1980. I served as Vice President of Sothebys Auction Firm 1971-1987; Curator, Norton Simon Museum 1987-1990; Director, Cramer Art Foundation 1990-98 and taught art and world history at University High School, retiring in June, 2008. I have two children. My husband is a television producer/writer.

Currently: I represent Zone 9 and co-chair Soro’s Green Team. I became involved in social activism as a teacher. In matters regarding Beverlywood, I contribute articles to their HOA newsletter. In matters relating to the environment, our team has written grants, organized tree plantings, e-waste drives, urban fruit harvests, supported environmental legislation, built and managed a community garden, and co-sponsored environment activities with local schools and local religious organizations.
Zone 10 Representative 1 seat open • 2 year term

**Michoel Bloom**
I am an Orthodox Jew with a long history of community involvement.

I spent 10 years volunteering and leading the all Volunteer Hatzolah Emergency Medical Service. During that time I have built working relationships with our local political figures, Law Enforcement and Fire Department.

I have experience with organizing large scale community events and Safety Fair’s.

I am also extremely active in my Synagogue, Bais Bezalel, and am very in tune with the issues facing our community.

I look forward to helping make our community a role model for the rest of the city.

**Armando Roman**
As a resident of South Robertson and previous appointee to the council, I have a vested interest in the area and its residents. If re-elected, I would do my very best to represent the residents in my neighborhood to the best of my abilities. During my time on the council, I have been active in the debate and decision-making that creates a vibrant local government that reflects the concerns and desires of its community. I will continue to participate in local activities that foster collaboration with neighbors, businesses, and places of worship, including the annual South Robertson Festival and Peace Picnic. I hope to further unite the diverse groups within South Robertson, and create specific and attainable goals for the coming year, including maintaining South Robertson’s business-friendly and family-oriented environment.

Business Representatives 2 seats open • 4 year terms

**Susan Burden**

**Terrence Gomes**
Terrence Gomes is a current Boardmember and the Treasurer. Terrence has assisted local officials to implement policies and to direct additional resources to our community that address quality of life issues and public safety. He is a member of the Land Use, Public Safety, Budget, and the Executive Board. He is also a member of CPAB and CERT.

Terrence believes our youth are our future and is active in supporting and promoting programs at our local schools. He also volunteers his time to find ways to help our at-risk youth stay out of gangs throughout the community.

Terrence is a strong supporter to revitalize the Robertson Corridor and bring back business to the area through his efforts on the Land Use Committee.

Support Terrence Gomes’ efforts to continue making our neighborhood safe, providing programs to our youth, and cultivating economic growth in our neighborhood.
Re-elect Terrence Gomes, Business Seat.
Organization Representatives 2 seats open • 4 year terms

Aron Klein (WITHDRAWN)

Hector Garza
No one looks after your interests like you do yourself. That philosophy compels me to get more involved with my neighborhood. I've been a homeowner in zone 5 of Reynier Village for the past 11 years. For the past six years I have served as treasurer of the Reynier Village Neighborhood Association. As an Organizational Representative I hope to be able to contribute to endeavors that will enhance the residential and commercial appeal of the South Robertson area.

At-Large Representatives 2 seats open • 4 year terms

Bethie Kohanbash
My name is Bethie Kohanbash and I have been living in South Robertson NC for past 22 years. As a mother and an active member of the community, I am passionate about community and community services. Currently, I have founded a non-profit mental health clinic in order to help community and families who are in need of services but due to financial difficulties are unable to receive assistance. I will love to serve our community in which we can all feel equal and safe.

Vote for me for At-Large Representatives.

Thank You for your consideration.

Garr Montalbano

David Mattis
My name is David and my goal is simply to be involved.

One of my passions is inter-faith dialogue, which is vital and rewarding in a multi-cultural neighborhood such as ours.

Furthermore, if as a community we focus on education and poverty-elimination, we will be ahead of the game.

Maya Rezev (WITHDRAWN)

School Representative 1 seat open • 4 year term

No candidates