



## At-Large Representative Candidate

## Ellen Lanet

### **What is your name, the seat you are running for, and one or two lines about you personally?**

Ellen Lanet, At Large Representative (1 of 3 available seats): I'm a local Architect & Urban Designer. Most proud of being mom to 2 lovely & creative 20-something daughters and 1 adorable, wacky Dalmatian. My daughters were born and raised in SORO and have returned to live here after college similar to myself. We enjoy the personal relations we have made here, the community amenities, the neighborhood diversity, our personal connection to the Jewish community and our Kundalini yogi teachers & friends.

### **What is your stake in SORO?**

I'm a 28 year homeowner. Previously renter. My architectural practice is also based in SORO.

### **What is your favorite thing about this community?**

I appreciate the garden residential quality and proximity to unique neighborhood businesses, parks, schools, library and diverse life long friends. I love running into neighbors & friends, especially enjoying memorable social and community events together. We are lucky to be in the heart of LA's Cultural Center and close to our best natural features: the Beach and the Santa Monica mountains.

### **Five years from now, how might SORO look different, and how would you make that happen?**

- a) South Robertson will return to being a neighborhood magnet for unique neighborhood oriented businesses. Encouraging the neighborhood to be internally more pedestrian and to frequent local establishments to engage with neighbors. The sidewalks will be widened to allow people to easily congregate and enjoy meeting, eating and chatting with neighbors while slowing the traffic for drive through cars & trucks. Community gardens, Parklets and other Green Spaces will be incorporated to improve our community's sustainability and residents' well being.
- b) Our 1 & 2 story commercial buildings along Pico & Robertson Blvds. will add additional stories to provide much needed affordable housing for young adults, families and senior citizens wanting to live, work and go to school in our diverse and neighborly community.
- c) Negotiate an end to Mansionization of single family residences and the demolition of our lovely historical Spanish duplexes and mid-Century garden apartments.
- d) Our local public schools will once again be the BEST in Los Angeles. Our residents will want their children to enroll in our local public schools, encouraging greater community participation, neighborhood pride and strong property and business values.
- e) Coordinate with Council Members, Metro, EXPO, Cal Trans and shuttle services to provide a variety of public modes of transportation to and from major commercial zones (ie: Century City, Culver City, Beverly Hills & W. Hollywood) eliminating cut through traffic and improving SORO's quality of life.

### **What are your strongest skills and leadership qualities, and how will they be an asset to your work as a board member?**

- a) Creative planner, thinker and doer.
- b) Ability to listen to opposing ideas at the same time and still retain the ability to function, analyzing information and coordinating collaborative win-win solutions.
- c) Friendly, accessible and supportive neighbor interested in building community consensus. Supporting unique neighborhood characteristics over generic City mandates.
- d) Ability to read development and building plans, to interpret local planning & building codes and to evaluate a project's benefits or detriments to our community's desired quality of life.

**What is one thing most people don't know about you?**

I speak Spanish and am an advocate for Latino students to stay engaged in education and to reach their full potential in American society. I founded an architectural & urban design mentoring program for at risk Middle School students at Para Los Ninos. I'm a volunteer tutor for several Latino students.

**Register to vote online (until May 31) at [soronc.org/vote](https://soronc.org/vote)**

**Vote in person at the SoRo Festival, Sunday June 5, 11:30-3pm.**