



At-Large Representative Candidate

Krystal Navar

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

My name is Krystal Návar and I am running as an At-Large Representative. I am a mom to a 4-year-old daughter and 8-year-old dog and I work as a Senior Architecture Manager at Modative, an architecture firm in SORO.

What is your stake in SORO?

I have lived in SORO's Zone 6 for 9 years. My husband's business, Modative, where I work, has been in Zone 6 for the same 9 years.

What is your favorite thing about this community?

My office is in the Helms Bakery complex. I love that I can walk to work, walk to restaurants, art galleries, and parks. Most of all, I love that I've found my place in this city.

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

Zone 6, while technically part of SORO, is cut off from the rest of the neighborhoods, sandwiched between the 10 freeway and Culver City. The development, new and planned, surrounding the Expo Culver City station is drastically changing the surrounding neighborhoods. Zone 6 is primed to take advantage of this growth. The streets that connect the rest of SORO to Zone 6 are National and Cattaraugus. Cutting under the 10 freeway, these connections are currently dark and dismal, discouraging pedestrian activity. I will work with the Neighborhood Council and the Council District office to identify funding to improve these underpasses, with public art and adequate lighting, connecting the pedestrian to the rest of SORO.

This Neighborhood Council is currently discussing developing three Business Improvement Districts in SORO: Robertson, Pico, and La Cienega. Having lived and worked on Venice Blvd for 9 years, I am keenly aware of the challenges businesses on Venice Blvd face. I will encourage the Board to pursue developing a Business Improvement District on Venice Blvd. Street trees and street furniture, stemming east from the Culver City metro stop will help activate Venice and connect the metro to the other areas of SORO.

I lived directly on Venice Blvd for 8 years. In that time, I witnessed numerous life-threatening car accidents (one just last week) — and those are only the ones that occurred directly in front of my house. People speed in their cars or on their motorcycles as if Venice Blvd is a freeway. When elected, I will work with the Neighborhood Council, the Council District office, and the Department of Transportation to employ methods aimed at reducing the speed of vehicles on Venice Blvd and to improve the pedestrian crossings on Venice, particularly at Cattaraugus and National.

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

Currently, I sit on SORO's Land Use and Economic Development committee where I have the opportunity to donate both my time and my knowledge of LA's zoning and municipal codes, land use and planning regulations, entitlements, and conditional use permits. I am a designer and a problem-solver. I am also an excellent communicator, both verbal and graphic. More important than any of the above-listed qualities, I believe that a key tenet of leadership is listening. As a board member, I will listen to the community and other members of the board, I will exercise my knowledge of LA's codes, critically think of solutions, and I will inject this board with

fresh ideas and optimism. I believe that, with my skills and experience, I will be an asset to this board and our neighborhood.

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

I am always learning. Currently, I am learning Spanish and guitar. (Do not quiz me on either. They are a work-in-progress.)

Register to vote online (until May 31) at soronc.org/vote

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