



## **Business Representative Candidate**

## **Terrence Gomes**

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

Terrence Gomes, Business Representative. Terrence is a wealth advisor for Trilogy Financial in Torrance, California. He sees financial planning as a not one-size-fits-all solution and takes a custom approach to helping clients meet their financial goals. Mr. Gomes boasts a history of achievement and awards, and was bestowed the award of Rising Star in Management by Trilogy Financial in 2009 and is a Five Star Wealth Manager Award Winner as seen in the January 2016 Los Angeles Magazine. Mr. Gomes has earned a BS in Business Administration and awarded a MBA with Distinction the Keller Graduate School of Management.

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

Terrence has been an active member of the SORO community for over thirteen years and owns a local business. He is currently the Business Representative and an Executive Boardmember for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC), Treasurer, and the Chair of the Land Use and Economic Development Committee. Mr Gomes is also the Chair of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) which includes the membership of the ninety-six neighborhood councils for the last three years. Terrence also mentors councils on funding and leadership issues and is a founding member of Council4Councils (C4C) which was created to help the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) with training needs to the Neighborhood Council (NC) system during the budget crisis of 2009-2010. He is a founding member of the SORO NC's Green Team (GT). The GT has been used as a model for best practices by the DONE and many NCs have implemented the concept to increase environmental awareness for their community and policy development. In addition, he has been called upon as a guest speaker to speak on environmental awareness and best practices in an urban environment for the City of Los Angeles.

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

As real estate brokers would state, "Location, Location, Location." We are centrally located in the City which has its advantages. We also have a diverse culture and a booming restaurant corridor, that foodies and tourists are starting to discover.

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

In five years, all the vacancies on Robertson, La Cienega, and Pico need to be filled with vibrant businesses that the community would need. We talk about a walking community, but how can we offer that if you have to get into a car to meet your shopping needs. As to the look and character of the community, that is why people moved to this community. They bought the idea and feel of tree-lined streets with single family homes that their children could play out in front of and not six story apartments, small lot sub-divisions, or McMansions with sterile exteriors and no place to feel the outdoors..

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

Mr Gomes provides leadership on community issues that affect the quality of life in Los Angeles. Homelessness is an ongoing issue that he has been at the forefront of. In cooperation with the Neighborhood Councils, he direct the motion that created a state of emergency on homelessness in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles City Council and the corresponding \$138 M of funding for fiscal year 2016-2017. Terrence also worked with the Downtown

Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) and the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration (WLAVA) to identify seventy-one homeless veterans in Skid Row while directing twenty-five veterans into supportive housing and getting them off the streets. Since 1982, he has been a volunteer and the current transportation coordinator for the Westside Thanksgiving that targets 5000 meals each Thanksgiving. He collaborates with local, elected officials to implement policies to address quality of life issues and public safety.

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

Since most people see me after work and always in a suit, most people do not realize I own four pairs of 501s.

**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.**