Zone 9 Representative Candidate

Paula Waxman

What is your name, the seat you are running for, and one or two lines about you personally?
Paula Waxman, Zone 9. I'm a former director of an art foundation, retired high school history teacher, mother of two sons, and wife of a television writer. My love of gardening has led to activism in environmental work.

What is your stake in SORO?
I reside in Beverlywood and manage a learning and community garden on the campus of Hamilton High School. I've been the Zone 9 Representative since February 2009 and am responsible for the rebirth of the SORO Green Team.

What is your favorite thing about this community?
I love its diversity and beauty.

Five years from now, how might SORO look different, and how would you make that happen?
Eight years ago, while teaching at University High School, my students alerted me to their anxiety over the challenges facing our environment. Five years from now, I'd like to see our community serve as an example of how we can come together to assure all young people that we are progressing toward a sustainable environment. I am confident that our community can find common ground on ways to use resources responsibly and improve the quality of life for all.

I can make this happen by continuing to educate our community on environmental issues and connect them to resources provided by the city to help them to live as responsible stewards of the earth. I will continue to support city legislators and other neighborhood councils in their efforts to make LA one of the greenest large cities in the world.

What are your strongest skills and leadership qualities, and how will they be an asset to your work as a board member?
I am organized, follow through on my commitments and I carefully research and listen to all sides of an issue to find compromise and common ground. In the seven years I've been on the board, I've worked hard to establish strong relationships with city officials and help fellow board members on their projects whenever possible.

What is one thing most people don’t know about you?
I was Director of the Department of Prints and Drawings for the West Coast division of Sotheby's, auctioneers of fine arts, for over 15 years.

Register to vote online (until May 31) at soronc.org/vote
Vote in person at the SoRo Festival, Sunday June 5, 11:30-3pm.