

Candidate statement

Candidate Name

Bianca Cockrell

Seat qualifications

Based on my stakeholder status within the SORO NC boundaries, I am applying for the following Board seat:

Zone Representative (Resident homeowner or tenant)

For resident seats: please select your NC Zone.

Zone 10

Candidate statement

In one or two lines, tell us a little about yourself.

I'm a documentary producer with a background in politics: I've worked in Congress and for various congressional campaigns. I was born and raised in LA County, and know there's nowhere else I'd want to live than in Los Angeles.

What is your stake in SORO?

My roommates and I rent an apartment on Bedford Street in Zone 10, and we enjoy exploring the diverse variety of stores on Pico that sell everything from chandeliers to cars to croissants from an equally diverse variety of cultures. I work in nearby Fox Hills, but I often work remotely—usually in La Parisienne.

What is your favorite thing about this community?

The people! I feel fortunate that everyone I've come to know—and those who I don't yet—in this neighborhood is warm and always willing to help each other. I love that all I need is within a healthy walking distance: the bus stop I take to work, grocery stores, and most importantly, Robertson Library.

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

SORO is a welcoming and kind neighborhood, but we can make it even friendlier to residents. Our streets can be made safer for bikers and other car-alternatives, and we can improve bus service and frequency, to both alleviate traffic and lower our carbon footprint. Our sidewalks, cracked and pushed out of place by tree roots, can be leveled to be friendlier to the disabled and elderly communities—and all pedestrians. And in the face of rapid new development and gentrification, we need to fight to make sure our neighbors aren't pushed out of their homes. I will be a vocal, active loudspeaker in the board for these issues.

What are your strongest skills and leadership qualities, and how will they be an asset as a Boardmember?

I'm enthusiastic, determined, and have an eye for big goals with the detailed plans and journalistic initiative to make them happen. I'm gregarious and extroverted—I like greeting people as they pass by and seek to actively listen to and understand their concerns. I've served in liaison and government roles before, and am adept at negotiating and balancing both sides' concerns to translate them into a product that best serves all of us. And, as a 23-year-old, I bring fresh perspective to the board.