

# Board Position Application

Seat: School Representative 1 (Term expires 2025)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Jon Liberman

Date Submitted: Monday, August 9, 2021 3:58PM

Background: Member for past few years of:

- (1) Shenandoah Street Elementary School Project Advisory Group
- (2) Hamilton High School Project Advisory Group

Statement: My record of over 15 years of service to this community through membership on this neighborhood council.

Recognition by the Los Angeles Unified School District for service to public education as:

- 1. District # 1 (LAUSD) Trailblazer award.
- 2. Senior Citizen in Schools award.

# Board Position Application

Seat: School Representative 2 (Term expires 2022)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Ethan Frankel

Date Submitted: Monday, Aug 2, 12:34 AM

**Background:** I am a student who resides in zone 9 within SORO. I go to YULA Boys high school located at 9760 W. Pico Blvd.

**Statement:** Hi Everyone! My name is Ethan Frankel, and I am running for the Student seat on the Soro NC Board. I am seventeen and going into my senior year at YULA Boys highschool.

Since the beginning of highschool my passion has been to help fellow community members. In 9th grade, I began volunteering for an organization called Yachad, in which I attended many events for children with special needs. Today, I am the president of Yachad Los Angeles, and I plan events for special needs children and adults. A big part of my time as Yachad President has been planning Covid curriculum. In the heart of Covid through summer 2020 I planned and ran events five times a week for our members. These events gave both me and the participants something to look forward to each day and gave their parents some time to relax throughout the week.

I am a team player, hard worker, and leader. I enjoy working with others, even if we do not have the same views. I will hold our communities well being above my disagreements with others.

I am particularly interested in working in both the homeless and Business advocacy committees.

Homelessness has become a big problem for many areas within SORO. I want to work on this board to come up with possible compromises between homeowners and homeless to keep peace within our community. No one should feel unsafe walking on Robertson. However, homeless people are entitled to certain rights. I am committed to working to find common ground between everyone.

Business Advocacy. I love solving problems and thinking outside the box. Over this summer I interned for a real estate developer and helped manage projects. Every day I encountered problems that needed to be fixed in a very short time. Additionally, last year I started running the peer tutoring program at my school. In this role I mediate conversation between teachers and students. I incentivized peer tutors by having the teachers agree to a bit of extra credit if tutors participated in 20 hours of tutoring. This created an influx of tutors and a very successful program this year. Peer tutoring required me to manage many different things at once.

As a member of the SORO NC I will be committed to doing outreach to the SORO stakeholders and encourage them to be more invested in our community.

# Board Position Application

Seat: School Representative 2 (Term expires 2022)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Abraham Morovati

Date Submitted: Wednesday, Aug 4, 10:19 AM

Background: I live in the South Robertson neighborhood.

Statement: I love the South Robertson neighborhood and want to work with my community to strengthen the community.

# Board Position Application

Seat: Residential Zone 5 Representative (Term expires 2025)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Laurie Levine

Date Submitted: Wednesday, Aug 4, 11:13 AM

**Background:** I have lived in Reynier Village for over 50 years. I went to Shenandoah elementary school and I Alexander Hamilton high school.

**Statement:** I've been involved in the South Robertson neighborhood Council meetings for the last 5+ years. I've held several seats on various committees. I think I'd be a strong advocate for my community. I am able to listen to what others in the community want, and get things accomplished.

# Board Position Application

**Seat:** At-Large Representative (Term expires 2023)

**Selection Date:** August 19, 2021

**Name:** Matthew Ban

**Date Submitted:** Monday, Jun 14, 2021 at 9:17 PM

**Background:** Hi I am General contractor and i am very active in the area with rental units.

**Statement:** Hi I am General contractor and i am very active in the area with rental units.

# Board Position Application

Seat: At-Large Representative (Term expires 2023)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: David Notowitz

Date Submitted: Sunday, Aug 1, 7:14 PM

**Background:** I have lived in Pico Robertson area since 1997, bought a home with my wife here in 2007, and continue to live, attend community events, shop and enjoy the businesses in the neighborhood. I now would like to contribute to the improvement of the neighborhood -- safety, cooperation among neighbors, partnership with stakeholders, and connection to elected officials.

**Statement:** I have lived in Pico Robertson since 1997, the year in which I married. In 2001 my wife and I had our first child, and had our second in 2003. We are active in the community, enjoy the restaurants and markets, and patronize many businesses.

I am thankful for this wonderful neighborhood, and I'd like to become more involved in the local community in order to improve connections between neighborhoods, contribute to safety, cleanliness of the streets, cooperation among neighbors, partnerships with schools, increase equity, and connect our local neighborhoods to elected officials and government representatives.

One of my hopes is to elevate the voice of small businesses who feel abandoned and students who feel ignored.

I see many, singles, couples, and families being forced to leave our neighborhoods due to the expense of rent and the cost of living, and I would like to help slow this exit through local solutions and partnerships.

There are a few committees for which I would like to assist:

1. Public Safety
2. Homelessness
3. Quality of Life Committee
4. Community Awards

It is not my intention to be active in all these committees, but these are the groups I would consider if added to the board.

Thank you,

David Notowitz

# Board Position Application

Seat: At-Large Representative (Term expires 2023)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Debbie Cohen

Date Submitted: Wednesday, Aug 4, 3:12 PM

Background: Zone 2

**Statement:** I have lived in the neighborhood for about 30 years and am invested in it and care about it. I am a paralegal, but have not worked much due to the Covid situation. However, I think my skills could be used as a Zone Representative; i.e., I know how to research and write summary statements. My kids are grown, and it's time to give back to the community. Thank you.

# Board Position Application

Seat: At-Large Representative (Term expires 2023)

Selection Date: August 19, 2021

Name: Jeremy Halpern

Date Submitted: Sunday, Aug 8, 7:06 PM

Background: I live in Zone 10.

**Statement:** My name is Jeremy Halpern and I am running for an At-Large Representative seat. I'm a transportation planner and engineer who wants to use my training and experience to benefit my community. I hope that five years from now, young adults that grew up here can afford to move back to this neighborhood. Some of the changes we've seen during covid like outdoor dining and slow streets will hopefully still be around in a more permanent way. SORO could be much safer for both children and adults to walk and bike. The ways I would work to make this happen in order would be: advocating at the city and regional level for all 3 Ps: Protecting tenants, Preservation of existing affordable housing and Production of new housing. I would work to pass statements of support from our NC board in both making slow streets permanent and build support for implementing bike lanes and pedestrian improvements. My strongest skills are being able to listen and forge compromise. This is paired with technical knowledge of transportation, land use planning and their intersection. Understanding how our NC works with the city and how the city of LA works with others in the county and region would be an asset framing our board's activities in context.

# SORO NC Committee Memberships as of 8/19/21

Green Team	Barry Levine
Land Use	Olga Lexell, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Steve Chocron, Richard Bloom, Gloria Dioum, Armeen Neshat, (Chad Monk, Emilia Barrosse- need to rejoin as Board Members)
Business Advocacy and Economic Development Committee	Ken Blaker, Richard Bloom
LGBTQ	Barry Levine, Paula Peng
Outreach Committee	Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Ken Blaker, Paula Peng, Sophia French
Parks and Recreation Committee	Barry Levine, Jared Weston
Public Safety Committee	Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes, Richard Bloom, Robby Naoufal, Jonathan Tessler, Sophia French
Quality of Life Committee	Jared Weston, Barry Levine, Shevy Dorfman Lieder, Olga Lexell (needs to rejoin as Board Member), Dina Leeds, Armeen Neshat, Sophia French
Robertson Revitalization	Barry Levine, Michael Lynn
Transportation Committee	Barry Levine, Olga Lexell, Jonathan Tessler, Armeen Neshat, Sophia French
Bylaws Committee	Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Terrence Gomes
Board Development	Gloria Dioum,
Finance Committee	Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Gloria Dioum, Robby Naoufal
Elections Committee	Terrence Gomes, Gloria Dioum, Olga Lexell
Homelessness Committee	Sophia French, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Richard Bloom, Gloria Dioum, Olga Lexell, Dina Leeds, Armeen Neshat



# Motion to adjust SORONC FY 2021-2022 Budget

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-21  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** Executive Committee  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** Yes

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## Background

The treasurer received an email from the City Clerk that the amount of the rollover was calculated incorrectly and the actual rollover was \$9,620.03 and not \$10,000. The treasurer has made the adjustments to the budget per the City Clerk and needs the Board to approve so that the SORONC funds may be released,

## Proposed Motion

For the SORONC to approve the adjusted FY 2021-2022 budget per the request of the City Clerk to reflect the changes needed to submit the budget to the City Clerk.

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## Considerations

**Committee review:** NA  
*(highly recommended)*

**Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:** NA  
*(applies to funding motions only)*

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**Arguments for:**

**Arguments against:**

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**Michael Lynn**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

**Vacant**  
Corresponding Secretary

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Neighborhoods Council**

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Office of the City Clerk  
Administrative Services Division  
Neighborhood Council Funding Program

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Date: August 1, 2021  
To: South Robertson Neighborhood Council  
Subject: Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 Final Expenditure Analysis

Dear South Robertson NC:

This Office has conducted a reconciliation of your funding account for Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021:

Annual Budget	\$	32,000.00	
Add: Adjustments including rollover	\$	13,240.00	\$ 45,240.00
<hr/>			
Less: Total Expenditures for FY 20 - 21	\$	30,619.97	
Outstanding Checks	\$	-	
Accruals	\$	5,000.00	\$ (35,619.97)
Net Cash			\$ 9,620.03
<hr/> <hr/>			

<b>BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR ROLLOVER</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,620.03</b>
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Should you have any questions or need more information, please contact us at 213-978-1058.



# Motion to Request City Council Members to Communicate Stakeholder Outrage and Concern to LA District Attorney George Gascón Over Policies

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-25  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** Public Safety Committee  
**Include motion  
in Consent  
Agenda?** NO

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## Background

Upon taking office in December 2020, George Gascón has instituted several reform policies within the LA County District Attorney Office. Although these reform policies may be beneficial to defendants in criminal cases, they have resulted in negative consequences to the residents and businesses of Los Angeles.

Stakeholders in the SORO NC boundaries have expressed grave concern regarding the increase in crimes in the area, experiencing a growing number of burglaries, robberies, and violent assaults. Many of the policies of District Attorney Gascón are severely exacerbating the situation, especially those policies that end cash bail and the practice to ban sentencing enhancements, among others.

Our police officers spend countless hours to arrest suspects of criminal activity, only to have them right back on the street to commit more crime. Year-to-date crime statistics show city wide homicides up 21.6%, shooting victims up 58.7%, aggravated assaults up 8.8%, and motor vehicle thefts up 12.8%.

In South Robertson specifically, we recently had an event where one of our residents was the victim of a violent assault. This was caught on video, which led to the arrest of the suspect with an extensive criminal record and gang ties. This dangerous suspect was released into the public (without any bail) and had subsequently not shown up to scheduled court hearings until June 7th- and may very well skip his trial with extraordinarily little repercussions under Gascón. This would never have happened under any previous DA.

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As of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, seventeen other cities have taken vote of no confidence against the District Attorney, including Beverly Hills, Santa Clarita, Arcadia, Manhattan Beach and Lancaster. DA Gascón’s directives are placing the safety of the general public at risk. DA Gascón’s policies are restricting victims’ rights and imperiling the safety of South Robertson and residents and businesses of Los Angeles.

**Proposed Motion**

For the SORO NC to write a letter to all of the Los Angeles City Councilmembers, Mayor Garcetti, and LA City Attorney Mike Feuer to strongly request that they:

- I. communicate our Stakeholders’ concern and outrage directly to LA County District Attorney George Gascón regarding his policies.
- II. send DA Gascón’s response immediately to the SORO NC.

**Considerations**

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 7	Against: 0
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$ N/A
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Arguments for:

Arguments against:

City Council might be able to persuade DA Gascón to change his policies.	Some residents like DA Gascón’s policies and do not want them changed.
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Dear Councilmembers Paul Koretz, Mark Ridley-Thomas, Gil Cedillo, Paul Krekorian, Bob Blumenfield, Nithya Raman, Nury Martinez, Monica Rodriguez, Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Curren Price, Mike Bonin, John Lee, Mitch O'Farrell, Kevin De Leon, Buscaino, Mayor Eric Garcetti, and City Attorney Mike Feuer;

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) would like to bring to your attention, and strongly request that LA City Council take immediate action regarding criminal policies of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón.

Stakeholders in the SORO NC boundaries have expressed grave concern regarding the increase in crimes in the area, as well as around Los Angeles. We have experienced a growing number of burglaries, robberies, and violent assaults, among others. We acknowledge that there are several reasons for this increase, however many of the policies of District Attorney Gascón are severely exacerbating the situation. Specifically, those policies that end cash bail and that ban sentencing enhancements, among others.

Our police officers spend countless hours to arrest suspects of criminal activity, only to have them right back on the street to commit more crime. Year-to-date crime statistics show city wide homicides up 21.6%, shooting victims up 58.7%, aggravated assaults up 8.8%, and motor vehicle thefts up 12.8%.

In South Robertson, we had an event several months ago where one of our residents was the victim of a violent assault. This was caught on video, which led to the arrest of a suspect with an extensive criminal record and gang ties. This dangerous suspect was released into the public (without any bail) and had subsequently not shown up to several scheduled court hearings (until June 7<sup>th</sup>) - and may very well skip his trial with extraordinarily little repercussions under DA Gascón. This has never happened under any previous DA.

As of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, seventeen other cities have taken votes of no confidence against District Attorney Gascón- including Beverly Hills, Santa Clarita, Arcadia, Manhattan Beach and Lancaster to name a few. DA Gascon's directives are placing the safety of the general public at risk. DA Gascón's policies are restricting victims' rights, as well as imperiling the safety of South Robertson and the residents and businesses of Los Angeles.

Again, the SORO NC strongly requests that you communicate our Stakeholders' concern and outrage directly to Mr. Gascón, regarding his policies and directives. We also look forward to your immediately relaying his response within 60 days to the SORO NC, as well.

Sincerely,



# Motion to Support WRAC Motion on UCLA Station for Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-26  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** WRAC  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** YES

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## Background

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) strongly echoes the sentiments expressed by numerous elected officials, neighborhood organizations, community groups, business associations, and many local citizens who urge that Metro must include a Station located directly on the UCLA campus as part of this pivotal transportation corridor project — specifically a one-seat ride from the San Fernando Valley directly to UCLA, hewing to Metro’s original proposal which suggested a 16-minute travel time for that segment, the fastest connection between the Valley and Westside and one that directly links people to where they want to go. This would be one of the most heavily trafficked Metro stops in the State and would be the busiest non-transfer station in Metro’s system.

The Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project is part of the Measure M expenditure plan, with approximately \$5.7 billion for new transit service to connect the San Fernando Valley and the Westside, scheduled to open by 2033-35. Approximately \$3.8 billion is allocated to extend that service from the Westside to LAX with a 2057-59 opening date.

Metro is making strides to improve travel between the San Fernando Valley, the Westside and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The natural barrier created by the Santa Monica Mountains means that most people traveling between these areas are funneled primarily onto the I-405 Freeway, already ranked as one of the most heavily congested urban highways in the nation. More than 400,000 people travel through this area every day to commute to work, school, and other destinations along the freeway and beyond.

Having a Metro Station located directly on the UCLA campus would also help transport the tens of thousands of individuals who travel to UCLA on a daily - basis, including: UCLA students, staff, faculty, medical personnel, patients, and campus visitors.

Not having a Metro Station on the UCLA Campus would be a sorely missed opportunity, and have significant negative impacts on the West L.A. region and regional traffic congestion for decades to come. An on-campus UCLA Station also presents the opportunity to connect the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project to the Metro Purple Line Subway Station Extension, which will have a Westwood/UCLA Station located at Wilshire & Westwood Boulevards. Additionally, without a one-

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seat ride to the Valley, ridership would be significantly hindered, thereby negatively impacting Metro’s farebox recovery needs.

To provide this essential connectivity between transit lines in the San Fernando Valley and the City, to provide the critical “first mile, last mile” link between the Wilshire Purple Line Subway and the UCLA campus, and to build a robust transportation system that will serve transit riders for many decades to come, we also urge the Metro Board to ensure that the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project also connect directly from the on-campus UCLA Station to the Westwood/UCLA Purple Line Subway Station at Wilshire Boulevard, to connect these two major north-south and east-west transit corridors.

By 2042, Metro is projecting 122,000 to 137,000 people will take the Valley-to-Westside line daily on weekdays (again, that estimate fluctuates based on the option the agency’s directors end up choosing). The highest ridership is projected for the third subway option, which would run on an elevated track through the Valley before going underground through the Sepulveda Pass. That option is also projected to attract the most new transit trips and low-income riders of the four alternatives.

A planned station on UCLA's campus is expected to serve up to 18,000 riders per day, Carter told reporters Tuesday, which would make it "the busiest non-transfer station in the entire Metro system." <https://laist.com/news/la-metro-sepulveda-corridor-project-updates>

**Proposed Motion**

- I. For the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to write a Letter of Support for a Transit Station to be Located Directly on the UCLA Campus as Part of Metro’s Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project

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**Considerations**

<b>Committee review:</b> <i>(highly recommended)</i>	<b>Votes For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>
<b>Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:</b> <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>		\$ n/a
<b>Arguments for:</b>	<b>Arguments against:</b>	

# L.A. Metro Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project

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## UCLA/Westwood Fact Sheet

August 2021

- Metro's Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project will link the San Fernando Valley to the Westside (and eventually to LAX) via a rail connection. The relentless traffic congestion on the 405 Freeway through the Sepulveda Pass demonstrates the significant demand for that travel connection, and the commuting public is long overdue for this much needed transportation network improvement.
- Metro's internal project team came up with four possible solutions, three of which are heavy rail (subway, tunnel) and one monorail solution (above ground, generally on the 405 right-of-way), all of which include a station in the center of the UCLA campus.
- Metro is also entertaining private company proposals (public private partnerships, P3s) as options for the project, which spread risk and opportunity to the private sector while theoretically enabling faster construction and completion of this critical transportation project.
- In spring 2021, the Metro Board advanced two P3 concepts (one from Bechtel Partners and one from BYD's LA SkyRail Express) into the environmental review phase, along with three of Metro's own options.
  - Where things stand today: The environmental review process has begun, and includes five options that are being studied and analyzed: two private, three Metro-generated. Four of the five options have a station on the UCLA campus and link directly to Metro's Purple Line station at Wilshire/Westwood. One P3 proposal does not include a station at UCLA nor does it connect directly to the Purple Line.
- The BYD proposal is a monorail down the 405, with a station a half-mile from Westwood Village (and well over a mile to the UCLA campus) within the 405/Wilshire interchange. This would be a far less optimal solution for travelers to UCLA and Westwood, as it does not connect to where people are, or are going, especially given that Metro's own designs place a station at UCLA Gateway Plaza in the center of the campus, proximate to the many reasons people come to UCLA every day: the medical center including the #1 hospital in California (#3 in the country) and UCLA Health outpatient clinics, the academics, UCLA Extension, cultural and recreational attractions including Royce Hall, the Fowler Museum, and Pauley Pavilion, and the more than 42,000 jobs at UCLA (third largest employer in L.A. County).
- UCLA has ~7,500 employees and ~2,350 students who live in the San Fernando Valley and (post-COVID will again) travel to UCLA and Westwood almost daily. There are another several thousand employees who also come through the Sepulveda Pass almost daily, living in Santa Clarita and points further north including Palmdale and Lancaster.
- UCLA jobs: Beyond academics, UCLA provides many thousands of high-quality employment opportunities, and employs not only doctors, other health care professionals, and professors, but also groundskeepers, electricians, custodians, administrative staff, bus drivers, the whole gamut. UCLA is not only a major center of activity for teaching and research but is a leading economic engine for the entire Southern California region.
- The estimated Metro travel times between the San Fernando Valley and UCLA/Westwood for the various proposals are notable in that the direct subway connection from Van Nuys/Ventura to the center of the UCLA campus would be approximately a 16-minute ride. Under the monorail version, the trip from the Valley just to the 405/Wilshire interchange area, where the monorail would stop, would take up to 27 minutes. The

additional connector ride (via a yet undetermined mode) from the monorail stop at the 405 into the Village or up to the UCLA campus would likely add another 15 minutes to the trip, not to mention any waiting time for the connecting ride. People often optimize for travel times. Selecting a slower, less connected project will result in significantly decreased ridership on the Sepulveda Line, which would negatively impact the financial viability of the project. That is why a “one-seat” (direct, no transfer) ride to a station on the UCLA campus is so important to the entire Westside region.

- In fact, the short travel time via the rail connection vs. driving results in (using Metro’s own travel demand model) the *on-campus UCLA station being the busiest non-transfer station in Metro’s entire rail system!* Further, the on-campus UCLA station and the direct connection of the Sepulveda Line to the Purple Line station at Wilshire/Westwood provides significant benefit to people traveling from the east or west on the Purple Line, as they can make the easy transfer from one subway to another underground rail line and connect directly to the UCLA campus.
- As Los Angeles’ premier public research university (and the #1 public university in the country for years running), with a world class medical center and hospital, UCLA should be easily accessible to all the people of Los Angeles. A Metro station on the UCLA campus is the best way to accomplish that for our city. High quality rail connections to both east/west (via Purple Line transfer) AND north/south (on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Line) are necessary to fully actualize the university’s benefit for the region, and to provide the transit connectivity that is essential to a fully functional and successful transportation network.
- Reducing vehicular traffic congestion on the Westside and on the 405 Freeway while increasing accessibility for those who travel to and from the Westside, is something we should strive for and can achieve together. Regardless of the transit mode that is selected, whether heavy rail or monorail, the Sepulveda Line must have a station on the UCLA campus and also must connect directly to the Purple Line, as it continues on to the Expo Line and eventually to LAX. The critical decisions about the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project should not be made with a short-term lens, but rather must take into consideration what will best serve the people of Los Angeles and Southern California over the long-term, well into the next century.
- Conclusion: The Westside, UCLA, and the hundreds of thousands of people the university serves annually warrant a rail station located directly on the UCLA campus. There is no question that travel demand will be extremely robust for such a rail line. The only option that should be selected for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project is one that connects directly to an on-campus UCLA station and also connects directly with the Westwood/UCLA Purple Line station on Wilshire Boulevard.

Figure 1: Travel Times Comparison from the San Fernando Valley to UCLA/Westwood

Start	End	Mode	AM Travel Time*
Van Nuys Blvd/MetroLink	UCLA Gateway Plaza	Driving	28-50 minutes (and that’s during COVID!)
Van Nuys Blvd/MetroLink	UCLA Gateway Plaza	Rail	16-48 minutes, depending on option selected

- \* Calculated using Google Maps and its time slider tool (“depart at 7am”)

Figure 2: The UCLA Campus Station and Direct Connection to the Purple Line at Wilshire/Westwood

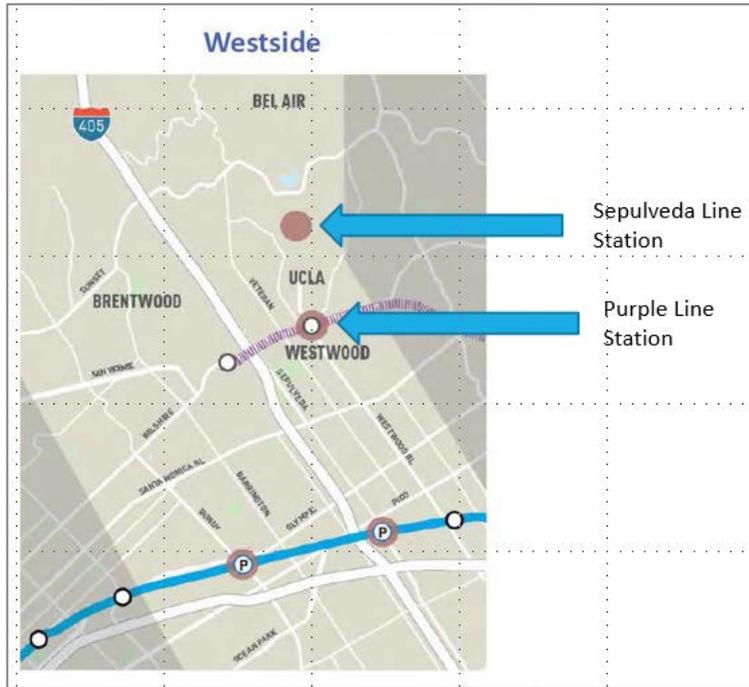
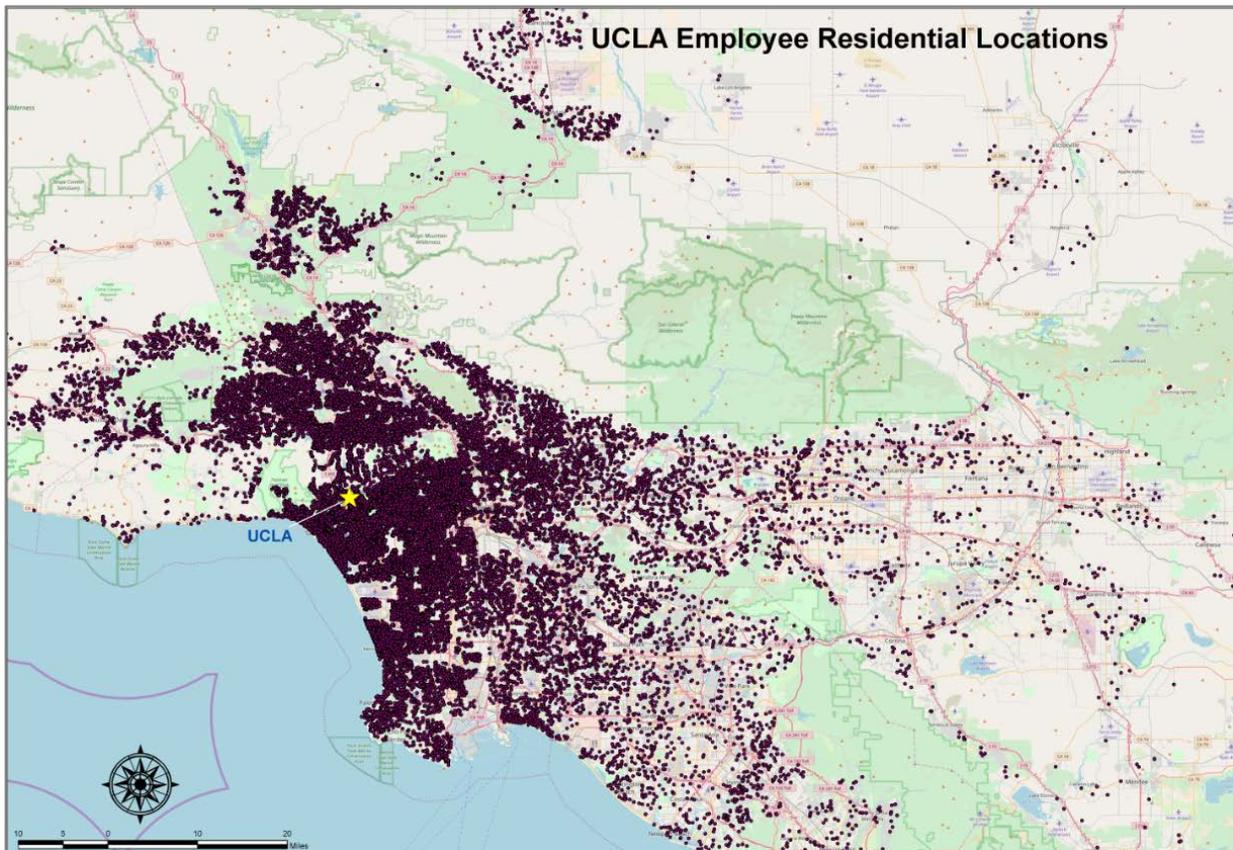


Figure 3: UCLA Employee Residential Locations





# Motion to oppose BONC/DONE Code of Conduct changes

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-28  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** Executive Committee  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

BONC/DONE is making changes to the current Code of Conduct. Many of the changes will remove due process and Boardmembers rights. This motion was created by LANCC's working group that was tasked with creating solutions to improve the policies and operations of DONE.

## Proposed Motion

Whereas, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has before its consideration of amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy, that are extreme, anti-democratic, and un-American, and

Whereas, these amendments include the following:

“If a Board Member or Committee Member is *alleged* to have violated either the City’s Workplace Equity Policy or the Commission’s Code of Conduct, the Department, with written approval from the General Manager, may immediately suspend the Board Member or Committee Member for a period of up to 90 days.”

and

Whereas, punitive action should never be based on an allegation and occur only following due process involving investigation and a hearing and provide the accused the right to a presumption of innocence and opportunity to mount a defense, and

Whereas, the following clause grants authority to arbitrarily impose suspensions at the sole discretion of an individual who is not accountable to anyone.

“The Department shall be the *sole decision-maker* with respect to a suspension. The Board Member or Committee Member *may not appeal* the suspension decision.”

and

Whereas, this clause fails to provide adequate protections for the rights of individuals accused of misconduct and states that any board or committee member may be suspended *solely* on an allegation, and

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Whereas, this is a direct disenfranchisement of the voters who elected the board member and removing a board member without due process gives DONE the unilateral ability to overturn an election;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council expresses grave concern regarding proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy submitted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Be it further resolved that:

1. BONC is strongly advised to immediately withdraw consideration of the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct;
2. In connection with future revisions of Neighborhood Council paperwork, DONE shall request the Neighborhood Councils appoint a group of representatives to consult with BONC, DONE and the City Attorney on an ad hoc basis;
3. An aggregate majority of those meeting shall at all times be Neighborhood Council board members;
4. The initial focus of this group shall be to develop and incorporate rules under the City's recently adopted Workplace Violence Policy into the existing Code of Conduct, including appropriate enforcement actions;
5. Discussion about incorporating the proposed Workplace Equity Policy shall be deferred until such a policy is formally adopted by the City, if at all; and
6. Any amendments to the Code of Conduct must take into account varying degrees of conduct when considering suspension and appropriate penalties, if warranted.
7. At all times, policy should require that the minimum correction necessary to address any issue be used;
8. No person shall be suspended or otherwise penalized for that which is protected political speech.
9. No board member or Neighborhood Council affiliate shall be required to waive rights granted under the Constitution of the United States and the State of California, including but not limited to freedom of speech and assembly, probable cause and due process.



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## Considerations

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**Committee review:** NA  
*(highly recommended)*

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**Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:** NA  
*(applies to funding motions only)*

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**Arguments for:**

**Arguments against:**

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Whereas, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has before it consideration of amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy, that are extreme, anti-democratic, and un-American, and

Whereas, these amendments include the following:

“If a Board Member or Committee Member is *alleged* to have violated either the City’s Workplace Equity Policy or the Commission’s Code of Conduct, the Department, with written approval from the General Manager, may immediately suspend the Board Member or Committee Member for a period of up to 90 days.”

and

Whereas, punitive action should never be based on an allegation and occur only following due process involving investigation and a hearing and provide the accused the right to a presumption of innocence and opportunity to mount a defense, and

Whereas, the following clause grants authority to arbitrarily impose suspensions at the sole discretion of an individual who is not accountable to anyone.

“The Department shall be the *sole decision-maker* with respect to a suspension. The Board Member or Committee Member *may not appeal* the suspension decision.”

and

Whereas, this clause fails to provide adequate protections for the rights of individuals accused of misconduct and states that any board or committee member may be suspended *solely* on an allegation, and

Whereas, this is a direct disenfranchisement of the voters who elected the board member and removing a board member without due process gives DONE the unilateral ability to overturn an election;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The \_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood Council expresses grave concern regarding proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy submitted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Be it further resolved that:

1. BONC is strongly advised to immediately withdraw consideration of the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct;
2. In connection with future revisions of Neighborhood Council paperwork, DONE shall request the Neighborhood Councils appoint a group of representatives to consult with BONC, DONE and the City Attorney on an ad hoc basis;

3. An aggregate majority of those meeting shall at all times be Neighborhood Council board members;
4. The initial focus of this group shall be to develop and incorporate rules under the City's recently adopted Workplace Violence Policy into the existing Code of Conduct, including appropriate enforcement actions;
5. Discussion about incorporating the proposed Workplace Equity Policy shall be deferred until such a policy is formally adopted by the City, if at all; and
6. Any amendments to the Code of Conduct must take into account varying degrees of conduct when considering suspension and appropriate penalties, if warranted.
7. At all times, policy should require that the minimum correction necessary to address any issue be used;
8. No person shall be suspended or otherwise penalized for that which is protected political speech.
9. No board member or Neighborhood Council affiliate shall be required to waive rights granted under the Constitution of the United States and the State of California, including but not limited to freedom of speech and assembly, probable cause and due process.



# Motion to Purchase JotForm Software License for up to \$500

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-29  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** Exec Committee  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

The SORO NC website has several sections that have forms integrated in order to perform functions (such as Join the Board applications.) The NC currently has a license with JotForm, which is currently up for renewal.

A two year license is advertised

## Proposed Motion

- I. For the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to purchase a 2 year Software License from JotForm for up to \$500.

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## Considerations

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<b>Committee review:</b> <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 2	Against: 0
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<b>Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:</b> <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$ -
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**Arguments for:** JotForms is already integrated in the website.

**Arguments against:** There are other Forms Software providers that may be cheaper and better.

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**Michael Lynn**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

**Vacant**  
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# Motion to send recommendations regarding the Cornerstone On Demand trainings system to DONE

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-30  
**Date:** August 18, 2021  
**Proposed By:** By Laws Committee  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

Shortly after DONE implemented the Cornerstone On Demand training system for Neighborhood Council members, he SORO NC Vice President used the system. Afterward he wrote to Jasmine Elbarbary of DONE with several recommendations for improvements to the DONE implementation of the Cornerstone On Demand system.

The recommendation were for:

- Email notifications to members whose trainings were near expiration, along with a single sign on (SSO) link for accessing the system.
- Automatically updating Neighborhood Council profiles with current training status information.
- Allow users to use the skip forward button while reviewing training, but only as far as the furthest location already viewed.

Ms. Elbarbary forwarded the recommendations to the system administrator, who responded (on January 22, 2020) as follows:

*"1. We do have something in place to remind the board members about their trainings that are about to expire. I am not sure if it is a continuous notification, but we will take a look.*

*"2. We are working on creating that connection between CornerStone and our CMS which is connected to our website. Might need to connect with your friend to see if there is a simple solution, since we are having some issues.*

*"3. Not sure how we can do this, but we will take a look for future trainings."*

Since that time, at the most recent General Board meeting, several current members of the board were denied voting privileges due to expired trainings. This situation may well have been avoided if the recommendations had been followed, or if the system administrator's response to the first recommendation had been correct.

This motion will serve the purpose of encouraging DONE to take a close look at how the Cornerstone On Demand system is implemented, and to make it an improved tool for the benefit of all Neighborhood Councils and members.

**Michael Lynn**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

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## Proposed Motion

The NC shall send an email containing an attached letter to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment reiterating the recommendations that were made by the SORO NC Vice President, admonishing the department for not implementing the first recommendation, and encouraging the department to elicit further recommendations from all Neighborhood Councils. Copies of the letter shall also be sent to LANCC, the regional alliances, and the members of Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

## Considerations

<b>Committee review:</b> <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For:	4	Against:	0
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### Arguments for:

Implementing the recommendations will help avoid future instances of members missing their training deadlines.

Implementing the recommendations, and encouraging additional recommendations from other NCs will help assure that public funds being spent on the Cornerstone On Demand system are well spent.

### Arguments against:

Regardless of the recommendations, it is not the place of NC's to make recommendations to DONE.

Draft letter to Raquel Beltrán regarding CSOD training system.

Dear Ms. Beltrán,

Shortly after the implementation of the Cornerstone on Demand system for board trainings, our Vice President wrote to our Field Rep with three recommendations regarding the system. The recommendations were for:

- Email notifications to members whose trainings were near expiration, including a single sign on (SSO) link for accessing the system.
- Automatically updating Neighborhood Council profiles with current training status information.
- Allow users to use the skip forward button while reviewing training, but only as far as the furthest location already viewed.

The email was forwarded to the system manager, who responded as follows:

*"1. We do have something in place to remind the board members about their trainings that are about to expire. I am not sure if it is a continuous notification, but we will take a look.*

*"2. We are working on creating that connection between CornerStone and our CMS which is connected to our website. Might need to connect with your friend to see if there is a simple solution, since we are having some issues.*

*"3. Not sure how we can do this, but we will take a look for future trainings."*

Recently it has become clear that the recommended features are not active, including the first. The result for our NC has been board members failing to keep their trainings up-to-date. This needs to be rectified.

We urge the department to work with Cornerstone On Demand to implement the recommendations as soon as possible in order to better optimize the value of the system.

This letter is also being shared with other NCs in the hope they will also share user feedback for the benefit of the system and the NCs.

Yours,

CC list to include BONC, all NC Presidents, and Freddy Cupen-Ames.



# Motion to Submit a Letter to LADOT, CD 5, and CD 10 Advising Support for LA Metro's PLE Phase 1 First/Last Mile Plan, with Additional Improvements

**Agenda Item:** GB081921-31  
**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**Proposed By:** Transportation Committee  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?**

**Michael Lynn**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

**Vacant**  
Corresponding Secretary

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## Background

The LA Metro Purple Line Extension (PLE) Phase I is nearing construction completion, and a first/last mile plan to encourage safer commutes for cyclists and pedestrians to the station are being drafted and implemented. The future La Cienega Station has a walkshed within SORO boundaries, and is projected to be a major walk, biking, and rolling destination or origin for many SORO commuters and residents. The PLE Phase I First/Last Mile plan could potentially lead to an outsized impact on SORO residents, and on local street safety.

The full Purple Line plan can be found at:

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/aw1dj9ld7ypatkk/PLE\\_1\\_FLM\\_Plan\\_072621\\_DRAFT.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/aw1dj9ld7ypatkk/PLE_1_FLM_Plan_072621_DRAFT.pdf?dl=0)

The plan is for the whole first phase of the PLE (La Cienega, Fairfax, and La Brea stations), but only the La Cienega Station has any part of it within SORO boundaries.

## Proposed Motion

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) shall submit a letter to LADOT, Councilmember Paul Koretz, and Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas advising support for LA Metro's PLE Phase 1 First/Last Mile Plan, with additional improvement recommendations.

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## Considerations

<b>Committee review:</b> <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: 4	Against: 0
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<b>Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:</b> <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$ N/A
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Arguments for:

The Plan will make local streets safer for residents, cyclists, and pedestrians

The Plan as written does not result in lane takeaways within SORO  
Money for implementation is already allocated through Measure M and existing local funds

The City of Beverly Hills is implementing a similar plan within their jurisdiction for the same station

Arguments against:

Existing infrastructure may be sufficient enough for future riders

We the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO) support the First/Last Mile Plan for the LA Metro's Purple Line Extension Phase I, and encourage the City of Los Angeles to work toward its implementation. We believe that this plan will encourage greater mobility around the future stations and will directly benefit our residents, particularly near the future La Cienega Station with a walkshed partially within SORO boundaries. In order to make our public transportation a world class system enticing to cyclists and pedestrians everywhere, we advise consideration of the following additional improvements near the La Cienega Station:

- Upgrading planned sharrow lanes to marked bicycle boulevards;
- Additional bicycle amenities and upgraded intersections around Olympic Blvd and LaCienega Blvd to entice future TOC project residents;
- Utilizing residential neighborhoods as alternatives to major thoroughfares whenever possible;
- Additional north/south and east/west bicycle paths; and
- Decreased headways on route 614 along Robertson Blvd, which connects the Purple and Expo Line.

We believe these additional improvements will improve upon the First/Last Mile Plan, and will provide cyclists and pedestrians accessing the La Cienega station with a safer commute through SORO.

Sincerely,