

## **SORO NC Board Applicant Biographies**

16 December 2010

### **Gary Garcia**

*Candidate for School 2 Seat*

Gary Garcia is a former South Robertson Neighborhoods Council boardmember and current principal of Hamilton High School, the largest school within SORO with a current enrollment of approximately 3000 students. Under the school's charter, Gary oversees six acclaimed Small Learning Communities (SLC's): the Humanities Magnet, Academy of Music Magnet, the Communication Arts Academy, School of Global Studies, Math/ Science/ Medical Center, and Business and Interactive Technology. He also manages a professional staff of 149.

As a SORO NC boardmember, Gary was instrumental in numerous joint SORO NC/Hamilton programs, including emergency cell phones for School security and, most recently, the establishment of the Hamilton Learning Garden.

### **Erick Morales**

*Candidate for School 2 Seat*

Hi, my name is Erick Morales and I am currently a sophomore at Alexander Hamilton High School and I would like to occupy a seat on the SoRo Board as a School Representative. I would like to represent my school because I see very limited involvement between the school and community and I would like to augment the volume of interaction between the two. The number one goal I have in mind is to create a stronger bond between Hamilton High School and the South Robertson community. The goal of this bond is so that one day we may have past students become future residents because they love the community where they attended high school and want their children to grow up in the same nurturing environment they grew up in. I care about the community so much because I used to live in SoRo until I was in about fifth grade. I have always loved this community and always will continue to be surprised by the warmth and the generosity this community has always offered to its current and former residents.



# Letter of Support for 3146 Halm

**Agenda Item:** GB121610-4  
**Date:** December 16, 2010  
**Proposed By:** Terrence Gomes

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**Applicant requests letter of support sent to ZA for variance at 3146 Halm**

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## Full Proposal

Applicant came before the LUED Committee to ask for a letter of support from SORONC for a variance to bring the property at 3146 Halm into compliance. The applicant had bought the property as a six unit building, but due to a mix-up on the paperwork, it was classified as a four unit building. After review of the plans and paperwork provided by the applicant, the committee recommended that the applicant acquire the signatures and support of the surrounding neighbors and to install landscaping. The applicant completed both requests in less than 30 days and supplied proof to the committee at the last LUED Committee meeting.

## Proposed Motion

The LUED Committee requests that the SORONC Board approve the two requests:

- I. Support the variance as presented.
- II. Send the attached letter of support for the project to the ZA of the City of Los Angeles.

## Considerations

**Pro**

**Con**

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Applicant complied with the committee's requests.

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Brian Kite**  
Vice-President

**Gerald Chavarria**  
Secretary

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**South Robertson  
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920  
F: (310) 295-9906  
E: info@soronc.org

**soronc.org**





Zoning Administrator  
Office of the Zoning Administrator, 763  
200 S. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

December 16, 2010

Dear Zoning Administrator Associate:

On November 2, 2010 the South Robertson Neighborhood Council (SORO), Land Use and Economic Development Committee (LUED), discussed the planning file Case No. ZA 2009-4136-ZV-ZAA, which is requesting to expand Mr. Scoz's 4 legal units to 6 legal units at 3146 S. Halm Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034.

As a Board we listened to the presentation for the entitlements this file would require. We worked with the owner to add landscape in the area where it did not interfere with the ingress and egress of the property. The SORO, LUED Board voted **to support the owner's request.**

On December 16, 2010, The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council voted to send a letter of support for Case No. ZA 2009-4136-ZV-ZAA to the Zoning Administrator.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Terrence Gomes  
Co-Chair, Land Use and Economic Development of SORONC  
Treasurer, SORONC  
[www.soronc.org](http://www.soronc.org)

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# Motion to oppose billboard installation at 9080 W. Pico Blvd.

**Agenda Item:** GB121610-5  
**Date:** 16 December 2010  
**Proposed By:** Rachel Lester

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The motion asks the Board to formally oppose the construction of a new billboard above the Chase Bank branch and send a letter to the Councilmembers and City Planning Department.

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## Full Proposal

Recently, a significant number of constituents have been alarmed about a proposed billboard to be installed at 9080 W. Pico Blvd. above the Chase Bank branch. Because of its size and proximity to numerous synagogues and Jewish schools, the neighbors and Rabbis are justly concerned.

On the morning of December 16, the City will hold a hearing to consider the application. The sign announcing the hearing on the bank is quite small and probably has not been seen by most local residents and storeowners. Because of that, many people who might otherwise oppose the billboard won't have an opportunity to be heard, so it is critical that the NC weigh in on their behalf.

## Proposed Motion

- I. To formally oppose the permit approval for a billboard at 9080 W. Pico Blvd.
- II. To write a letter to the City Council and Planning Department expressing the Board's opposition.

## Considerations

### Pro

The billboard would be a blight on the neighborhood and out of sync with the character of the neighborhood.

Neighbors who might oppose the billboard could easily miss the hearing notice and so be unheard.

### Con

While billboard placement may be regulated by municipalities, they do have a First Amendment right to exist.

The notice appears to be properly posted.

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**Proposed Amendments:**