



## Motion to approve 2009-2010 budget

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-3

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Terrence Gomes

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**See attached budget**

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Jon Liberman**  
Vice-President

**Ann Hammond**  
Secretary

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**South Robertson  
Neighborhoods Council**

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# South Robertson (SORO) Neighborhoods Council

SORO Neighborhoods Council  
P.O. Box 35836  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90035  
TELEPHONE: 310-295-9920  
Fax: 310-295-9906  
www.soronc.org



A Certified Neighborhood Council

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President  
**Jon Liberman**  
Vice President  
**Ann Hammond**  
Secretary  
**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

## South Robertson Neighborhoods Council Proposed Budget Fiscal Year 2009-2010 May 13, 2008

<i>Funds</i>			
	Yearly Allocation		\$45,000
	Rollover 2009-2010		\$61,265
	<i>Total</i>		\$106,265
<b>Budget</b>			
<b>Account</b>	<b>Category</b>		
<b>100</b>	<b>Operations</b>		\$13,840
	Facilities	\$1,920	
	Meetings	\$1,300	
	Office Supplies	\$1,500	
	Utilities	\$500	
	Website/Hosting	\$4,500	
	General Operations	\$4,120	
<b>200</b>	<b>Outreach</b>		\$27,000
	Festival	\$9,000	
	General Outreach	18,000	
<b>300</b>	<b>Community Improvement</b>		\$65,425
	Education	\$10,000	
	ASAP	\$2,500	
	Land Use	\$12,000	
	Public Safety	\$20,000	
	RAL Program	\$7,725	
	LAFD #58	\$2,100	
	Safety Phones Hami	\$1,100	
	Green Team	\$10,000	
	<b>Fiscal Year 2009-2010</b>		\$106,265

**South Robertson Neighborhoods Council**  
**Proposed Budget**  
**Fiscal Year 2009-2010**  
**May 13, 2009**  
**(continued)**

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council Ad Hoc Budget Committee, which met on April 30, 2009, had compiled a proposed budget for the fiscal year 2009-2010, which was presented to the General Board on May 13, 2009. The approved budget covers the periods of 7/1/2009-6/30/2010 and was created in accordance with the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council's By-laws and within the guidelines set forth by the City of Los Angeles and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE).

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_\_

Terrence Gomes  
Treasurer  
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council





# Motion to oppose the proposed radical reduction of NC funding

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-4  
**Date:** May 13, 2009  
**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons

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## Summary

The City Council Budget Committee recently proposed that the overall Neighborhood Council allocation be cut to \$1 million, split across 89 NCs. The vote will occur later this month.

## Full Proposal

As head of the Budget Committee, Councilmember Parks recently introduced a measure to slash NC funding by close to 80%--far beyond that of any other City agency and far beyond the Mayor's proposed 10% cut. Councilmember Smith supported the plan.

This would leave us with \$11,200 per year, dramatically reshaping our ability to invest in the community and effectively gutting the NC system as a whole.

Many see the extraordinary cuts as frontal assault on the NC system. City ordinance currently requires that the NCs be funded with enough money to have offices, staff, communication systems such as regular newsletters in order to be effective. While this has arguably never been the case, \$11,200 is clearly not enough to satisfy the ordinance requirement. As a result, there are now efforts underway in Councilmember Parks and Smith's districts to recall both.

## Proposed Motion

- I. To draft a letter to the Mayor, the City Attorney, and all 15 Councilmembers urging them to oppose this proposal, and emphasizing the enormous benefit of the NC system, the efforts of SORO NC, and our collective ability to organize their respective constituencies in opposition.

## Considerations

### Pro

For those who believe in the NC system, it's fight to the death time.

### Con

The City is in a real budget crisis, and the money saved by reducing NC funding could be used to save jobs.

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to approve Paula Waxman as official DWP delegate

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-5  
**Date:** May 13, 2009  
**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons

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## Summary

Nomination of Paula Waxman as the official SORO NC delegate to the DWP.

## Full Proposal

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Neighborhood Councils and the Department of Water and Power calls for official delegates from each NC. The delegate attends meetings and is an advocate for our community's interests. It has been some time since SORO NC has filled that position.

Paula has volunteered to be our delegate.

## Proposed Motion

The actual language the Board will be voting on. May have multiple items:

- I. To approve Paula Waxman as the official SORO NC delegate under the DWP MOU
- II. To authorize Paula Waxman to speak on behalf of the SORO NC in DWP matters.

## Considerations

### Pro

We need a delegate. The neighborhoods haven't been represented for some time.

Paula will be an engaged, level-headed advocate for our community, particularly in areas of conservation.

### Con

None.

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to approve Ann Hammond as Public Safety co-chair

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-6

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Public Safety

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## Summary

Nomination of Ann Hammond as co-chair of Public Safety

## Full Proposal

Public Safety is one of our most important committees. It performs critical functions within our community, and has been a strong voice for the neighborhoods with the LAPD, Planning, Streets & Sanitation, the Mayor and Councilmembers, etc.

The committee felt that it was important to have a co-chair to spread the burden of the job—as we have done in the past with this and other committees.

## Proposed Motion

I. To approve Ann Hammond as co-chair of the Public Safety Committee

## Considerations

### Pro

The job is too big for a single volunteer.

### Con

Ann is already Secretary; it might be too time-consuming.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
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Treasurer

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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# Motion to provide up to \$500 for the La Cienega Heights June 2009 public safety march

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-7

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Harold Bock

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## Full Proposal

SORO NC has been requested to provide up to \$500 for the La Cienega Heights June 2009 public safety march. This is similar to the march we supported last year.

## Proposed Motion

- I. That SORO NC provide up to \$500 for the La Cienega Heights June 2009 public safety march.

## Considerations

### Pro

Help to generate community support for neighborhood watch programs.

Develop community spirit and cooperation.

### Con

None proposed

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Secretary

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Treasurer

## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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# Motion to oppose an ordinance change that would allow overnight parking for commercial vehicles on residential streets

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-8

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Harold Bock

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## Full Proposal

There is an upcoming proposed change of current ordinances to allow overnight parking of commercial vehicles including taxis on residential streets.

## Proposed Motion

- I. That SORO NC send a letter to the appropriate City Agencies opposing a proposed change of current ordinances to allow overnight parking of commercial vehicles including taxis on residential streets.

## Considerations

Pro	Con
Preserve the safety and quality of our residential streets.	None proposed

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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# Motion to support the Weiss billboard ordinance

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-9  
**Date:** May 13, 2009  
**Proposed By:** Land Use Committee

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## Summary

Motion supporting Proposed City sign ordinance.

## Full Proposal

Support the ordinance adopted March 26 by the City Planning Commission, with amendments that limit sign districts to the downtown area, limit wall sign sizes to preclude large-scale supergraphic signs on buildings with blank walls, prohibit temporary signs with off-site messages, regulate existing digital signs as to illumination and hours of operation, make advertisers and advertising agencies liable for penalties assessed against illegal signs.

## Proposed Motion

That SORO NC express its support for the proposed sign ordinance

## Considerations

### Pro

The Land Use Committee has received several complaints regarding supergraphic, electrical, and other illegal signage.

### Con

Some people believe the proposed ordinance does not go far enough to regulate signage.

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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# Motion to support the enforcement of the marijuana dispensary interim ordinance and immediate processing of hardship applications

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-10

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Land Use Committee

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## Summary

Motion to send letter to the city attorney, city counsel, zoning administrator, and planning commission regarding failures to enforce the marijuana dispensary interim ordinance and failure to process hardship applications.

## Full Proposal

Motion to send letter to city attorney, city counsel, zoning administrator, and planning commission regarding failures to enforce the marijuana dispensary interim ordinance and failure to process hardship applications.

1. At the Land Use committee meeting the committee learned that the City Attorney has instructed City departments not to prevent marijuana dispensaries from operating while applications for hardship status are pending. This motion requests that the City Attorney either change his instructions to City departments, and/or provide this neighborhood counsel with an explanation for the legal basis for his decision to tell City agencies not to enforce the provisions of the interim ordinance.

2. At the Land Use committee meeting the committee learned that almost every marijuana dispensary is operating under an application for hardship status, and that the various City departments and committees have not processed most or all of the hardship applications to determine whether the stores have a valid claim to operate under the hardship exception. This motion requests that the various City departments and committees immediately process the hardship applications of the marijuana dispensaries.

## Proposed Motion

- I. That a letter be written requesting that the City Attorney advise all City departments to comply with the interim marijuana dispensary ordinance, including provisions preventing stores from operating while applications for hardship are pending, and or provide this neighborhood counsel with an explanation of the legal basis for advising City departments not to enforce the provisions of the interim ordinance.
- II. That a letter be written requesting that various City departments and committees immediately process the hardship applications of the marijuana dispensaries.

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## Considerations

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### Pro

The Land Use Committee has received several complaints regarding the unchecked spread of marijuana dispensaries.

### Con

The City Attorney never responded to our last letter!

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion that the South Robertson Neighborhood Council purchase 30 tee-shirts bearing the new SORO NC logo at a cost not exceeding \$420.00.

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-11

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Paula Waxman

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## Summary

The tee shirts with the official South Robertson Neighborhood Council logo would help to identify us as a group, especially when working public events such as festivals, clean up projects, fund raisers and other activities.

## Full Proposal

The initial idea of the tee shirt grew out of a Green Team Committee discussion about recruiting new members during the Soro Inc. Festival. We thought it would be easier if we were identified as a group. Then we realized that we should not limit ourselves to tee shirts that only the Green Team could wear, but create shirts that could be used by all of our members and their committees.

## Proposed Motion

- I. That the South Robertson Neighborhood Council purchase 30 tee shirts in various sizes and bearing the new South Robertson Neighborhood Council logo at a cost not to exceed \$420.00.

## Considerations

### Pro

The shirts will help to identify the group at festivals, and community events.

The shirts will assist in recruitment

### Con

The shirts are not necessary to identify the group.

The shirts will have little impact on recruitment

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to allocate \$540 for snacks for the SCATCH program

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-12

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Barry Levine

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## Motion tabled for May

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Jon Liberman**  
Vice-President

**Ann Hammond**  
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Treasurer

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# Motion to grant \$3500 for the Castle Heights Elementary School Computer Training Program

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-13

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Terrence Gomes

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## Summary

Castle Heights Elementary School Computer Training Program

## Full Proposal

Friends of Castle Heights are requesting a neighborhood purpose grant (NPG) for \$3500 to provide the students of Castle Heights Elementary School with a comprehensive computer training program. The program, open to all students that attend the school, will be used in the classroom for advance math training which the students will need to excel in today's world. See attached NPG for project parameters and costs.

## Proposed Motion

The motion is for the Board of SORONC to approve the NPG for Friends of Castle Heights to benefit the students of Castle Heights Elementary School for \$3500.

## Considerations

Pro	Con
Math skills are critical in today's world.	Cost.

---

## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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City of Los Angeles, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment  
Neighborhood Council Funding Program

**APPLICATION for Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG)**



This form is to be completed by the applicant seeking the Neighborhood Purposes Grant and submitted to the Neighborhood Council from whom the grant is being sought. All applications for grants must be reviewed and approved in a public meeting. The Neighborhood Council, upon approval of the application, shall submit the approved application along with all required documentation to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment via the Project Coordinator.

Name of Neighborhood Council you are seeking the grant from: South Robertson  
Neighborhood Council Name

**SECTION I - APPLICANT VERIFICATION INFORMATION**

1A) FRIENDS OF CASTLE HEIGHTS 95-3972768 CA 1986  
 Organization Name Federal I.D. # (EIN#) State of Incorporation Date of 501(c)(3) Status (if applicable)

1B) 9755 CATTARAUGUS AVE LA CA 90034  
 Organization Mailing Address City State Zip Code

1C) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Address (if different) City State Zip Code

1D) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of Affiliated Organization (if applicable) City State Zip Code

Name and address of person designated to receive official/legal notices: Name: ANN WARREN

2) 9755 CATTARAUGUS AVE LA CA 90034  
 Street City State Zip Code

3) Type of Organization- Please select one: (Organizations must be located within the City of Los Angeles)  
 Public School (not to include private schools) or  501(c)(3) Non-profits (other than religious institutions)  
 Attach Letterhead  Attach IRS Determination Letter

**SECTION II - PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

4) Please describe the Neighborhood Improvement Project for which the grant is intended.

Technology is needed by our elementary students to learn and ready themselves in today's world. We desire to fund an advanced computer program for equipment that will provide access to all students.

5) How will this grant be used to primarily support or serve a non-discriminatory, public purpose and benefit the public at-large.

Funds will be used for grade level programs where all students participate. Providing this resource at a public school will provide opportunity for those students that otherwise can't attend private schools or training.

City of Los Angeles, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment  
NPG APPLICATION Page 2

**SECTION III - PROJECT BUDGET OUTLINE - Please outline the project budget below.**

6A) **Personnel Related Expenses**

Requested by NC	Total Projected Cost
\$	\$
\$	\$
\$	\$
\$	\$

6B) **Non-Personnel Related Expenses**

Requested by NC	Total Projected Cost
PLANET BRAND EDUCATION PROGRAM	\$ 25,000
5 MATH LAB CENTS (CMT, LAPTOP, PAPER)	\$ 10,000
	\$
	\$

7) Is the implementation of this specific program or purpose described in box 4 above contingent on any other factors or sources or funding?  Yes, please describe below  No

Source of Funding

Source of Funding	Amount	Total Projected Cost
FAMILY DONATION	\$	\$ 10,000
BUSINESS SPONSORS	\$	\$ 10,000
FUND RAISING	\$	\$ 11,500
SPD GRANTS	\$	\$ 3,500

8) What is the TOTAL amount of the grant funding requested with this application: \$ 31,500.

9) What is the expected completion date? 6/1/2009 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**SECTION IV - PROJECT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Provide the name, telephone number, fax and e-mail address (if applicable) of the person(s) responsible for the funds and program(s) listed in Section II of this application.

10A) LAURENCE R DEMERS, TREASURER of FCH  
 First Name Last Name MI  
310 836 0340 310 836 1008 Larry@DEMERSand  
 Telephone Number Fax Number E-mail  
ASSOCIATES.COM

10B) ANN WARREN, PRESIDENT of FCH  
 First Name Last Name MI  
310 837 0350  
 Telephone Number Fax Number E-mail

**SECTION V - DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE**

I hereby affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided herein and communicated otherwise is truly and accurately stated. I further affirm that I have read Appendix A, "What is a Public Benefit," and Appendix B "Conflicts of Interest" of this application and affirm that the proposed project(s) and/or program(s) fall within the criteria of a public benefit project/program and that no conflict of interest exist that would prevent the awarding of the Neighborhood Purposes Grant.

11A) Executive Director of Non-Profit Corporation or School Principal

LAURENCE R DEMERS Treasurer [Signature] 5/6/09  
 PRINT First Name/ Last Name Title Signature Date

11B) Secretary of Non-profit Corporation or Assistant School Principal

Kelly Reynolds Secretary [Signature] 5/7/09  
 PRINT First Name/ Last Name Title Signature Date



***Friends of Castle Heights***  
***A Non-Profit 501(c)3 Volunteer Organization Benefiting Elementary Students***  
9755 Cattaraugus Avenue ~ Los Angeles, CA 90034  
P (310) 839-4525

May 7, 2009

South Robertson Neighborhood Council  
Attn: Treasurer

Re: Request for Grant  
Technology Program

Dear SORO NC,

We assist the Castle Heights Elementary School in funding and managing a variety of programs for the benefit of all students. Our programs are not selective, they are grade level programs open to all students and generally used by all the teachers as supplemental training tools.

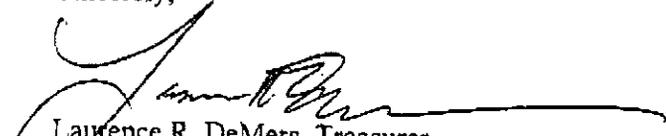
We desire to fund some advanced technology programs including a comprehensive computer training program (provided by Planet Bravo) and further, purchase a combination of media carts/laptops/projector for the teachers to use in class for advanced math training. These 2 programs are expected to cost about \$35,000.

We currently have identified approximately \$30,000 of the funding required and expect to raise another \$1,500. With a grant of \$3,500 from your organization, it will complete the funding of these programs and allow us to take the steps we need to in June and give our students the exposure to technology they need to excel in today's world.

Our group is made up of all volunteers, none of whom get paid. 100% of the funds we raise are spent for the benefit of the school with a focus on education, improvements and access to all students which benefit the community in providing an exceptional education experience

We appreciate your consideration and happy to answer any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Laurence R. DeMers, Treasurer

Friends of Castle Heights, Inc

Laurence@DeMersandAssociates.com

Office 310-836-0340

Internal Revenue Service  
District Director

P O Box 486  
LOS ANGELES, CA 900530486

Department of the Treasur

Date: DEC. 16, 1987

FRIENDS OF CASTLE HEIGHTS  
9755 CATTARAUGUS AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 900340000

Employer Identification Number:  
95-3972768  
Case Number:  
957268009  
Contact Person:  
MAI QUACH  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(213) 894-4170

Our Letter Dated:  
July 29, 1986  
Caveat Applies:  
No

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization which is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(2). Your exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the code is still in effect.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination until the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, a grantor or a contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act of failure to act that resulted in your loss of section 509(a)(2) status, or acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would be removed from classification as a section 509(a)(2) organization.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your private foundation status, please keep it in your permanent records.

If the heading of this letter indicates that a caveat applies, the caveat below or on the enclosure is an integral part of this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown above.

Sincerely yours,



Frederick E. Nelson  
District Director



# Motion to approve the proposed 2010 election procedures

**Agenda Item:** GB051309-14

**Date:** May 13, 2009

**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons / Bylaws Committee

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## Summary

The City Clerk's office will be conducting Neighborhood Council elections in 2010, and have prepared a Stipulation Worksheet that allows SORO NC to customize our election process.

## Full Proposal

The City Clerk's office will be conducting Neighborhood Council elections in 2010. At that time, the entire SORO NC board will be up for re-election.

The City Clerk has prepared a worksheet for the NCs so that they may pick the election procedures most appropriate to their structure. In 2008, we voted on many of the same options. **The options we pick in the worksheet will supersede any conflicting language in our bylaws.**

One area in our bylaws that wasn't covered was the process for selecting our Education 2 seat. Traditionally, it has been filled by a student. The proposal from the Bylaws committee is that this formally becomes a Board-appointed seat open to 15-18 year-olds, rather than a generally-elected seat. As vacancies in the past have required that the Board appoint replacements, this is consistent with our customary practice.

Note also that the NC voted last year to stagger terms. This will require that half the Board be elected to an initial 2 year term, changing to 4 years thereafter. We determined the 2-year term seats last year. Note, however, that by City ordinance, there are no term limits.

Our procedures must be submitted by June 1, 2009 or we will be subject to the default election process, which will almost certainly not be in line with the structure of our NC.

## Proposed Motion

- I. To approve the election procedure recommendations in the attached City Clerk Stipulation Worksheet.

## Considerations

### Pro

The proposal is, with one exception, consistent with our current bylaws, as voted on in 2008.

### Con

The change to the Education 2 seat is not reflected in our current bylaws.

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