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General Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Location: [Claude Pepper Recreational Senior Citizens Center](#)
[1762 S. La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035](#)

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Michael Lynn at 6:40 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Daniel Romm

3. Roll Call

Board members present: Baila Romm, Ronak Tumari, Stuart Weiss, Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Michelle Bega, Joseph Mollaie, Barry Levine, Daniel Romm, Rachael Petru, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Ryan Spivey, Mitch Cohen, and Shirley Traum.

Board members absent: Megan Goldring, David Bruk, Aaron Sinai, Judit Maull, and Marlene Katz

Board members that entered later: Ronald Steinhoff joined at 6:51 PM. Joe Lisuzzo joined at 6:57 PM. Sandy Block joined at 7:00 PM. Abby Pollitt joined at 7:50 PM. Noah Tabibnia joined at 7:56 PM

Board member that left earlier: Mitch left meeting at 7:31 PM. Daniel Romm left the meeting at 7:31 PM and rejoined at 8:19 PM.

4. General Public Comment:

Didra Brown from Cheviot Hills High School introduced herself and expressed interest in establishing partnerships with the South Robertson community.

5. Brief Board Announcements

a. Items for Committee Agendas and other Brief Board Announcements

Mitch Cohen provided an update on the most recent Land Use Committee meeting, noting that two items had been continued, with one expected to return for consideration and another continued pending additional information. A Board member raised a potential agenda item regarding Neighborhood Council board CERT certification requirements. Ryan Spivey raised awareness of Flock cameras in the community and referred residents to Deflock.org for information regarding camera locations and related privacy concerns. Beth Klein reported

community concerns regarding coyotes and noted that informational materials may be available, with the issue potentially addressed through future community outreach.

6. Community Reports

- a. LA Police Department (Cohen) - 41706@lapd.online / (Ojeda) - 36393@lapd.online - **Not present**
- b. LA Fire Department- Battalion 18 lafdbattalion18@lacity.org

Cody Weireter, representing LAFD Battalion 18, introduced himself and noted that this was his first SORO NC meeting, stating that he looked forward to working with the Neighborhood Council. He did not have a specific update but was available for questions and stated that, to his knowledge, there had been no extraordinary changes to LAFD's wildfire response following recent fires, with the Department continuing its regular prevention, training, staffing, and preparedness activities.

- c. Office of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, CD-5 (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org

Cairo Rodriguez, representing Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, updated CD 5 and South Robertson on several City issues. On homelessness, the Councilwoman advocates hiring outside experts to evaluate oversight, clarify City vs. County program management, and improve financial accountability while sustaining services. Regarding 2028 Olympic preparations, the focus is protecting taxpayers through fiscal transparency and seeking City reimbursement for public safety, traffic, and infrastructure. Rodriguez also invited residents to share and attend a virtual coyote safety event with Animal Services on Tuesday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m. covering behavior and deterrence.

- d. Office of Councilwoman Hutt, CD-10 (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org

Mayra Guevara thanked SORO NC for its participation in recent community events, including the Splish Splash event, and announced an upcoming event at Westside Neighborhood Park on August 22 as well as another event relocated from Del Rey Park to Chateau Park. She also noted that the District has adjusted event scheduling and amenities in response to community needs, including offering Sunday events and kosher food.

- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) - commission@empowerla.org
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Manzo)- alfonso.manzo@lacity.org

No representative from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment was present. Michael Lynn relayed information from Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Alfonso Manzo regarding an upcoming homelessness life-skills meeting on August 31 and a Robert's Rules workshop on September 9; the information would be forwarded to the Board and posted on the SORO NC website.

- g. Office of Mayor Bass (Hatcher) - konstantin.hatcher@lacity.org / (Moret) allen.moret@lacity.org

Allen Moret, representing the Mayor's Office, introduced himself as the new representative for Council District 10 and provided updates on homelessness initiatives, including Inside Safe, tiny-home villages, and the City's broader affordable-housing efforts. He also discussed the permanent expansion of an animal-cruelty enforcement pilot involving LAPD and Animal Services, upcoming Shine LA cleanups, evacuation-route compliance under Council File 25-0848, and questions regarding Inside Safe retention rates and treatment-center capacity, for which he said he would provide additional information.

- h. Office of County Supervisor Mitchell, 2nd District (Park) - DPark@bos.lacounty.gov - **Not present**
- i. Office of County Supervisor Horvath, 3rd District (Amanda Laflen) - ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov - **Not present**
- j. Office of State Assemblymember Bryan, AD-55 (Persoff) - Michelle.Persoff@asm.ca.gov - **Not present**
- k. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas, SD-28 (Hickambottom) - Ann.Hickambottom@sen.ca.gov
- l. Office of Congressman Kamlager-Dove, CD-37 (Benarroch) - Jackson.Benarroch@mail.house.gov - **Not present**
- m. Office of LAUSD School Board District 1 – (Newbill) - **Not present**
- n. Budget Advocates (Jay Handel) sgrest@aol.com

Jay Handel, representing Budget Advocates, discussed the City's financial challenges, including an estimated \$15 billion backlog in infrastructure repairs and reductions in City services resulting from budget constraints. He encouraged residents to visit BudgetAdvocates.org to sign up for updates and noted that the organization receives no funding from the City. In response to board questions, Handel indicated that he would return for future meetings and joked that he would bring the “bad news” next month.

- o. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices - **Not present**

7. Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations

Multiple Item Public Comment:

- a. Appointment of the Organization Representative 3 Board Seat (Currently At Large, Term ending June 2027) (GB082026-01)
- Abby Pollitt
 - Benjamin Judah Phelps

Board members questioned both candidates about themselves and their interest in serving on the Board.

Both candidates addressed the Board.

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Ryan Spivey

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Abstain**, Ronak Tumari - **Abby Pollitt**, Stuart Weiss - **Abby Pollitt**, Terrence Gomes - **Abby Pollitt**, Michael Lynn - **Abby Pollitt**, Michelle Bega - **Abby Pollitt**, Barry Levine - **Abby Pollitt**, Rachael Petru - **Benjamin Judah Phelps**, Jason Plummer - **Benjamin Judah Phelps**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Beth Klein - **Abby Pollitt**, Ryan Spivey - **Abby Pollitt**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Benjamin Judah Phelps**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Abby Pollitt**, Joseph Mollaie - **Abby Pollitt**, Shirley Traum - **Abby Pollitt**

11 Abby, 3 Benjamin, 1 Abstain, 1 ineligible.

Abby Pollitt was appointed to the Organization Representative 3 Board Seat.

b. Appointment of the Student Representative Board Seat (1 year term)
(GB082026-02)

- Max Ezra Feingold
- Noah Tabibnia

Board members questioned both candidates about themselves and their interest in serving on the Board.

Both candidates addressed the Board.

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Noah Tabibnia**, Ronak Tumari - **Noah Tabibnia**, Stuart Weiss - **Noah Tabibnia**, Terrence Gomes - **Noah Tabibnia**, Michael Lynn - **Noah Tabibnia**, Michelle Bega - **Noah Tabibnia**, Barry Levine - **Noah Tabibnia**, Rachael Petru - **Noah Tabibnia**, Abby Pollitt - **Max Ezra Feingold**, Jason Plummer - **Noah Tabibnia**, Beth Klein - **Noah Tabibnia**, Ryan Spivey - **Noah Tabibnia**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Noah Tabibnia**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Abstain**, Shirley Traum - **Noah Tabibnia**

1 Max Ezra Feingold, 13 Noah Tabibnia, 1 Abstain, 2 ineligible.

Noah Tabibnia was appointed to the Student Representative Board Seat.

c. Motion to appoint a SORO NC Vice President (GB082026-03)

Ryan Spivey nominates himself

Moved by Baila Romm; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible.

Ryan Spivey was appointed Vice President of the South Robertson Neighborhood Council

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

a. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports

- I. Standing Committees: Executive (Lynn) - The Executive Committee reported that, now that the Board was complete, information would be collected from the new Board members so that business cards could be ordered. The Board had previously approved moving forward with business cards; Education (VACANT); Land Use Cohen); Public Safety (Gomes/Romm); Outreach (Lynn); Transportation (Plummer); Budget & Finance (Gomes); Bylaws (VACANT); Board Development (Plummer)

Executive: The committee reported that information would be collected from the new Board members so that business cards could be ordered. The Board had previously approved moving forward with business cards.

Outreach: The committee reported that there were no major events scheduled until October and that October and December events, including staffing and outreach requests, would be discussed at the end-of-month meeting.

Transportation: Committee reported no additional items beyond matters appearing later on the agenda.

Budget & Finance: The committee reported that the city clerk had not yet provided an update regarding the Neighborhood Council's funding and rollover order. The Board discussed waiting for confirmation of funding before proceeding with related expenditures or activities.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: Trees

- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC (Gomes), WRAC (Lynn), LADWP (Plummer, Maull), Budget Advocates (Maull), City Attorney (Lynn), Homelessness (Katz)

- b. Motion to appoint a second SORO NC Representative to the Budget Advocates (GB082026-04)

Ronald Steinhoff nominates himself.

Moved by: Baila Romm; Seconded by: Joseph Mollaie

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Abstain**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

14 yes, 0 no, 1 Abstain, 3 ineligible

Ronald Steinhoff was appointed as the second SORO NC representative to Budget Advocates.

- c. Opportunity for Boardmembers to Join and/or Change Membership of Standing Committees (GB082026-05)

Shirley Traum and Abby Pollitt joined the Land Use Committee. Noah Tabibinia joined the Public Safety Committee

9. Unfinished Business

Multiple Item Public Comment: None

- a. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to send a letter to CD 5 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky and the Los Angeles Zoning Administrator recommending approval of the construction of a new seven-story, 78' height, 55,567sf apartment building on a vacant lot at 1416 S. Beverly Dr., on the condition of review of the impact on the water supply, sewer and electrical systems servicing the site (GB082026-06)

Continued to next General Board meeting by Chair, without objection

- b. Motion to approve that the Los Angeles City Clerk conduct the SORO NC Boardmember Elections on Sunday, June 6, 2027 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the Robertson Recreation Center, and approve Michael Lynn as the Elections Committee Chair (GB082026-07)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Jason Plummer

The Board discussed the differences between having the City Clerk conduct the election and having SORO NC conduct its own selection process. Discussion included mail-in voting, voter eligibility, verification of stakeholder status, outreach responsibilities, costs, scheduling, election-site expenses, and the level of participation in previous Neighborhood Council elections or selections.

Board members noted that a City Clerk-administered election would involve several stages of outreach and voting, while a SORO NC-administered selection would place greater responsibility for candidate recruitment, outreach, election logistics, and associated expenses on the Neighborhood Council.

The Board also discussed the historical participation levels in SORO NC elections and selections and the importance of outreach to increase participation.

Motion to Amend the Main Motion by removing the reference to the Los Angeles City Clerk and changing the process from an “election” to a “SORO NC Board member selection”, while retaining the June 6, 2027 date and other provisions.

Moved by: Baila Romm; Seconded by: Ryan Spivey

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **No**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **No**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **No**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **No**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

12 yes, 4 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible. Amendment was passed.

Public comment was reopened briefly and subsequently closed with none given.

The Board further discussed the need for volunteers to administer the selection process and the responsibilities of the Elections Committee.

The Amended Motion to approve that the SORO NC have its Boardmember Selections on Sunday, June 6, 2027 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the Robertson Recreation Center, and approve Michael Lynn as the Elections Committee Chair, was then considered.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **Yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **No**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **No**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **No**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

13 yes, 3 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible.

The Amended Motion was passed.

10. Consent Agenda

Multiple Item Public Comment: None

Technical Questions: No

Item Removal Requests (Item/Boardmember): None

- a. Motion to accept July 16, 2026 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB082026-08)
- b. Motion to send a letter of support to the Zoning Administrator for Case Number: ZA-2026-2644-ZV (Burton House 1177 S. Beverly Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035) with the following text: The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) supports the application in Case Number: ZA-2026-2644-ZV for a Variance, as allowed under Section 13B.5.3 of the Chapter 1A of the LAMC, to allow the splitting of five existing suites at the Burton House 1177 S. Beverly Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035 to increase total guest room count from 188 rooms to 193 rooms in conjunction with the operation of an existing hotel as not otherwise permitted under Sections 12.14 C and 12.16 C of the LAMC in the C2-1VL-0 Zone and C4-1VL-0 Zone. No changes to height, parking, floor area or use. (GB082026-09)

Motion to approve Consent Agenda

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Michelle Bega;

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **Yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

16 yes, 0 no, 0 Abstain, 3 ineligible. Motion passes.

11. New Business

Multiple Item Public Comment: None

- a. Motion to approve the July 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report (GB082026-10)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Baila Romm

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Ineligible**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 4 ineligible. Motion passes.

- b. Motion for the SORO NC to move the Mail Chimp expenditure from the Outreach category to the Office category on the SORO NC Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget, funding of up to \$1000 for the maintenance of the Color Laser Printer and Toner, and to approve the Amended Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget (GB082026-11)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Sandy Block

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Ineligible**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Jason Plummer - **yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 4 ineligible. Motion passes

- c. Motion for the SORO NC to send a letter to CD 5 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky and CD 10 Councilwoman Hutt to request that they write a letter to the California Assembly and State Senate Transportation Committees expressing our opposition to [AB-1557 Vehicles: Electric Bicycles](#) (GB082026-12)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Sandy Block

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Abstain**, Ronak Tumari - **No**, Stuart Weiss - **Abstain**, Terrence Gomes - **No**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Abstain**, Barry Levine - **yes**, Daniel Romm - **Abstain**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

9 yes, 2 no, 4 abstain, 3 ineligible. Motion passes

- d. Motion for the SORO NC to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to support the motion in [Council File 14-1057-S10 \(Los Angeles Municipal Code 41.18 / Prohibition on Vehicle Dwelling in Sensitive-Use Sites / Public Safety\)](#), with the attached letter (GB082026-13)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Rachael Petru

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Barry Levine - **yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Abstain**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 3 ineligible. Motion passes

- e. Presentation by 19841 Ventura and Hope, LLC (Harvest of Beverly Wood, DCR Record No. LA-R-26-310051-ANN), the applicant of a new cannabis store at 2622 South Robertson Blvd., with Q&A and possible discussion and action (GB082026-14)

Terrence Gomes recuses himself

The applicant described plans for a cannabis business focused on safety, community involvement, and medicinal uses, with 24-hour surveillance, on-site security, ID verification, and measures to prevent individuals under 21 from entering. The applicant stated that the business would work with LAPD and community representatives, avoid marketing that appeals to youth due to its proximity to Hamilton High School, and likely operate from approximately 9:00 or 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM. The applicant also discussed the upcoming licensing process, confirmed the proposed Robertson Boulevard location, and stated that although the owners do not live in the immediate South Robertson area, they are committed to participating in and communicating with the community.

Moved by Baila Romm; Seconded by Ryan Spivey

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Ronak Tumari - **No**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **No**, Barry Levine - **Yes**, Daniel Romm - **Yes**, Rachael Petru - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Ineligible**, Joe Lisuzzo - **No**, Jason Plummer - **yes**, Sandy Block - **Ineligible**, Beth Klein - **Abstain**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivel - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

10 yes, 3 no, 1 abstain, 3 ineligible. Motion passes

12. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

No items were removed from the consent agenda.

13. Meeting Adjourned by Chair, without objection at 9:06 PM

DRAFT