



General Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, July 17, 2025 @ 7:00pm

Location: online via Zoom- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89787982890> and by phone (877) 853 5257 (Meeting ID No. 897 8798 2890)

1. Meeting called to Order by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment NEA
Helena Doub at 7:04 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Michael Lynn

3. Roll Call:

Present- Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Margarita Guzman, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull.

Absent- Avi Rejwan, Sandy Block, Meera Srinivasan, Joe Lisuzzo.

Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Jack Twaijri entered the meeting at 8:36 PM.

4. SPECIAL ORDERS

a. Installation of newly elected General Board members (Oath of Office)
Helena Doub administered the Oath of Office

b. Election of new Executive Officers:

I. President (GB071725-01) Mitch Cohen nominated Michael Lynn;
Michael Lynn Accepted.

Moved by Judit Maull; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie.

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Roll Call;

Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Margarita Guzman, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull.

No- 0

16 Yes, 0 No. Michael Lynn elected President.

II. Vice President

**Shia Fisher self-nominated.
Joseph Mollaie nominated Mitch Cohen.
Mitch Cohen respectfully declined.
Moved by Shia Fisher; Seconded by Judit Maull.
Roll Call:**

**Yes- Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Shia Fisher,
Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith,
Margarita Guzman, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz,
Shirley Traum, Judit Maull.**

No- Joseph Mollaie.

Abstain- Baila Romm, Mitch Cohen.

**13 Yes, 1 No, 2 Abstain. Motion Passes. Shia Fisher elected
new Vice President.**

Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 7:37 PM.

III. Treasurer (GB071725-03)

**Mitch Cohen nominated Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Baila
Romm.**

Terrence Gomes accepted.

Roll Call:

**Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia
Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith,
Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph
Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Noah Damsky.**

No- 0

Abstain- Margarita Guzman.

16 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Terrence Gomes becomes the Treasurer.

IV. Secretary (GB071725-04)

**No nominations. Continued to next General Board meeting, without
objection.**

V. Corresponding Secretary (GB071725-05)

Baila Romm nominated Stuart Weiss.

Stuart Weiss accepted; Seconded by Jason Plummer.

No Public Comment.

Roll Call:

**Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia
Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith,
Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Margarita Guzman,
Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Noah
Damsky.**

No- 0

17 Yes, 0 No. Stuart Weiss elected Corresponding Secretary.

**Helena Doub congratulated all and yielded the Chair back to Michael Lynn at
7:53 PM.**

5. General Public Comment

Public Comment 1-

6. Brief Board Announcements

- a. Items for Committee Agendas and other Brief Board Announcements
Baila Romm mentioned the catalytic converter etching sessions with the LAPD to be held on Wednesday August 13 at 1663 Butler Avenue at the West LA LAPD station from 8-10 AM; she added if you are interested in protecting your catalytic converter come down and get it etched with your identification.

7. Community Reports

- a. LA Police Department (Baker) - 39796@lapd.online / (Ojeda) - 36393@lapd.online
Not Present.
- b. LA Fire Department- Battalion 18 lafdbattalion18@lacity.org
- c. Office of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, CD-5 (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org
Not Present.
- d. Office of Councilwoman Hutt, CD-10 (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org **Present, gave report.**
- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) - commission@empowerla.org
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Andrews)- Helena.doubs@lacity.org
Present, gave report.
- g. Office of Mayor Bass (Miller) - kenneth.g.miller@lacity.org **Not Present.**
- h. Office of County Supervisor Mitchell, 2nd District (Park) - DPark@bos.lacounty.gov
Not Present.
- i. Office of County Supervisor Horvath, 3rd District (Laflan) - ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov **Not Present.**
- j. Office of State Assemblymember Bryan, AD-55 (Persoff) -Michelle.Persoff@asm.ca.gov
Present, gave report.
- k. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas, SD-28 (Penilla) - carlos.penilla@sen.ca.gov **Not Present.**
- l. Office of Congressman Kamlager-Dove, CD-37 (Benarroch) - Jackson.Benarroch@mail.house.gov **Not Present.**
- m. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices
- n. **Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations** Motion to appoint the Student Representative (1 year term). *Stakeholder who attends a school in the council area and who is between 14 and up to 18 years of age at the time of the election.* (GB071725-06)
 - Jack Twajjri
Moved by Terrence Gomes; Second by Jason Plummer
Jack Twajjri introduced himself saying that he has lived in the community his whole life and that he attends Hamilton High; he stated that he wants to make a different bridging the youth of the community and the SORO council.
No Public Comment.
Roll Call:
Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Jason

Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Noah Damsky.

No- 0

Abstain- Margarita Guzman

16 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Motion Passes.

Jack Twaijri joined the meeting at 8:36 PM.

- **Leora Dakar- Not Present.**

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

a. Liaison and Alliance Representative Appointments

- I. **Motion to appoint LADWP Alternate Representative (GB071725-07)**

Postponed.

- II. **Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative 1 (GB071725-08)**

Terrence Gomes said the budget advocate is a 2/4yr term and they represent SORO; they give a voice to our board with regards to the city budget; advocates, works with the Mayor's office to create a budget based on our input.

Michael Lynn nominated Shia Fisher.

Shia Fisher said he would wait to learn more about the role.

No other self nominations or nominations. Postponed

- III. **Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative 2 (GB071725-09)**

Postponed

b. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports

- I. **Standing Committees: Executive; Education; Land Use; Public Safety; Homelessness; Outreach; Transportation; Budget & Finance; Bylaws; Board Development**

Margarita Guzman said the meeting would be held on Monday; the agenda would be sent out tomorrow.

Baila Romm for Public Safety said that former neighborhood team Pico Prepared; anyone who came to the meeting needs to set up RYLAN meetings in their area; she mentioned to email her in order to get started.

Terrence Gomes stated that Homelessness and Public Safety both have similar issues due to the fact that they deal in law enforcement.

Michael Lynn asked if the Homelessness committee should be disbanded or rolled into Public Safety.

Terrence Gomes agreed with the latter.

Michael Lynn said the Outreach committee will meet one week from Monday and added that they need more people to join the committee.

Jason Plummer said Transportation would be electing a new chair and added if anyone was interested to please attend.

Terrence Gomes said they were waiting for roll-over but the budget had been created.

Michael Lynn mentioned that Shia Fisher is now the chair for By-Laws.

Michael Lynn added that the Board Development would need the Secretary in order to plan the board retreat.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: None
Michael Lynn said anyone interested in new ad-hoc committees should contact him or the executive committee.
Barry Levine said they have not had new notifications on trees in six months.

- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC, WRAC, LADWP, Budget Advocates, City Attorney, Sustainability, District 37 Congressional Council, Homelessness
Michael Lynn said LANCC mentioned the Great Los Angeles Vector Control's 2nd presentation on vermin control as well as an upcoming LADWP presentation on water issues.
Michael Lynn said WRAC would be meeting Monday at 7AM at the Breakfast with the Mayor event; mentioned that he and Jason will report back on the event.
Jason Plummer said there were no updates from LADWP.
Stuart Weiss said anyone interested can follow up with the Congresswoman on her website for District 37 Congressional Council.
Marlene Katz for Homelessness reminded everyone to report encampments to 311 at my311.la.city.gov; she stressed not to go to the encampments just report them.

- c. Opportunity to Join and/or Change Membership to Board Committees (GB071725-10)
Judit Maull joined Public Safety.
Jack Twaijri joined Education.
Shia Fisher Chair of the By-Laws Committee.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. None

10. Consent Agenda

- a. Motion to approve June 19, 2025 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB071725-11)
- b. Motion to approve June 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (GB071725-12)
- c. Motion for the SORO NC to co-sponsor the Friday, July 18, 2025 CD-10 Movies-In-The-Park event at Reynier Park and fund up to \$500 for refreshments (GB071725-13)
- d. Motion for the SORO NC to co-sponsor the Sunday, August 24, 2025 CD-10 Splish-Splash event at Reynier Park and fund up to \$1200 for refreshments (GB071725-14)
- e. Motion for the SORO NC to sponsor a public outreach and engagement campaign to promote Pico Prepared (formerly known as the Neighborhood Team Program) (GB071725-15)
- f. Motion for the SORO NC to write a letter expressing condolences on the Passing of Sergeant Deng (West LAPD) to the Family of Sergeant Deng, and the Members of the Los Angeles Police Department, West Los Angeles Division; CCing LAPD Chief Jim McDonnell and the Los Angeles Police Commission (GB071725-16)

- g. Motion for the SORO NC to discontinue use and salvage to Piper Tech the Brother MFC 5440CN Printer, Brother HL 5250DN Printer, and four (4) TN436 toner cartridges (GB071725-17)
- h. Motion for the SORO NC to continue to allow administrative and technical access to Ken Blaker to help maintain the SORO NC website and email, at the direction of the Executive Committee (GB071725-18)
- ~~i. Motion for the SORO NC to write a letter to CD 5 Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky and CD 10 Councilwoman Heather Hutt to express the SORO NC's Opposition to legislation mandating housing density, unless there is adequate funding in place (GB071725-19)~~
- ~~j. Motion for the SORO NC to send a letter to Mayor Karen Bass demanding that she immediately consent to a full audit of the Inside Safe Program by the City Controller Kenneth Mejia; and that she, and/or the City Administrative Officer Matthew Szabo, disclose the full extent of all sources of its funding (GB071725-20)~~
- k. Motion for the SORO NC to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of the motion in CF 20-1376-S5 which calls for certain amendments of LAMC Sec. 41.18 and a report back by the City Attorney on the feasibility of amending 41.18 to prohibit encampments as per the Governor's model ordinance (GB071725-21)

Items Removed (Boardmember) Joseph Mollaie removes item J, Jason Plummer remove Item I.

Moved by Joseph Mollaie; Seconded by Terrence Gomes

Roll Call:

Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Margarita Guzman.

No- 0

16 Yes, 0 No, Consent Agenda Passes.

11. New Business

Multiple Public Comment (Item) None.

Noah Damsky left the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

- a. Motion for the SORO NC to send an email to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) in support of the proposed underground heavy rail subway mode of transportation through the Sepulveda Pass because it will carry more passengers than the proposed monorail mode of transportation. The heavy rail mode of transportation is described in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project, released by Metro on June 2, 2025, in the discussion of alternatives 4, 5 and 6 (GB071725-22)
Moved by Jason Plummer; Seconded by Terrence Gomes.

Jason Plummer presented on the proposed public transportation options through the Sepulveda pass with two monorail options and three heavy rail options that would go underground; he mentioned his bias towards heavy rail options but noted WRAC was not supporting options that did not have stops at UCLA; mentioned that monorail stops would be on freeways where

it is loud and there is lots of pollution; he favored any heavy rail over monorail despite the projected completion of the monorail to be faster than heavy rail; he added that he would be amending the motion to fall in line with WRAC's stipulations.

Barry Levine asked about the differences between automated and heavy rail.

Jason Plummer said the automated would have sliding doors at the station which are great safety measures but this option would not include a driver.

Baila Romm asked if there had been any data with regards to earthquake safety with any of these modes of transportation.

Jason Plummer said it is safer to be underground than above.

Baila Romm said she was not convinced but also asked where the statistics were coming from with regards to ridership.

Jason Plummer said Metro did their analysis; it was not a corporation making these projections, it was a government body.

Megan asked about the percentage of time the train is underground; but that in the valley it would basically be above ground.

Jason Plummer said yes.

Joseph Mollaie asked why there was not a Getty Station stop for heavy rail.

Jason Plummer said it was not feasible due to it being so high up.

Joseph Mollaie asked how much was federal money a factor in this.

Jason Plummer said it will be privately funded in part.

Shia Fisher asked about maintenance costs.

Jason Plummer he did not have exact figures but that yes heavy rail would require more maintenance.

Jason Plummer amended the motion to add language to include opposition to the monorail option; Seconded by Stuart Weiss.

Discussion.

Michael Lynn extended the meeting to 9:45 p.m.

Vote on Amendment to add language opposing the monorail options to original motion, so that the motion reads "The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC), a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) opposes the two proposed Monorail Options

(Alternative 1 and Alternative 3) due to their significantly lower ridership projections and lower capacities, and their significantly slower speeds and longer travel times, and supports the proposed underground Heavy Rail subway mode of transportation through the Sepulveda Pass because it will carry significantly more passengers than the proposed Monorail mode of transportation.”

Roll Call;

Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Jason Plummer, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Margarita Guzman, Jack Twaijri.

No- 0

Abstain- Baila Romm, Beth Klein.

15 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain.

Amendment Passes.

Discussion on Motion, as amended.

Joseph Mollaie thanked Jason for the presentation however he felt we were not in the position to make a decision with the information we have been given and the time we have been allotted.

Beth Klein said it was a lot to digest and she was going to abstain for now.

Mitch Cohen said he agreed with Jason’s amendment and that we should not support the aforementioned options however which should leave it up to more qualified people to decide which of the options to choose.

Jason Plummer said opinions would be taken into consideration until August 30th.

Roll Call;

Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Jason Plummer, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Shirley Traum, Margarita Guzman,

No- 0

Abstain- Baila Romm, Beth Klein, Jack Twaijri, Joseph Mollaie, Shia Fisher, Stuart Weiss, Mallory Smith, Judit Maull.

9 Yes, 0 No, 8 Abstain. Motion Passes.

Michael Lynn extended the meeting to 9:50pm, without objection.

- b. Motion for the SORO NC to sponsor a booth at the Tuesday, August 5, 2025 National-Night-Out event at Stoner Park (GB071725-23)
Moved by Baila Romm; Seconded by Beth Klein.
Public Comment: None

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

Yes - Megan Golding, Terrence Gomes, Baila Romm, Shia Fisher, Stuart

Weiss, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Jason Plummer, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Margarita Guzman, Jack Twaijri.
No- 0
Motion Passes 17-0

Items Removed from Consent Agenda: I & J

Michael Lynn extended the meeting to 9:55pm, without objection.

- i. Motion for the SORO NC to write a letter to CD-5 Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky and CD-10 Councilwoman Heather Hutt to express the SORO NC's Opposition to legislation mandating housing density, unless there is adequate funding in place (GB071725-19)
Move by ; Seconded by
Jason Plummer asked what funding are we concerned about here.
Michael Lynn said several pieces of legislation that allow for overriding density zoning locally with no funding for infrastructure upgrades.
Beth Klein said this was a huge problems, new construction with many units are being built with no parking.
Michael Lynn said we are asking to oppose unless infrastructure issues are covered.
Jason Plummer said that rent payers bring a lot of revenue and money for the necessary infrastructure updates.
Shia Fisher said parking issues must be address if there is to be greater density.
Terrence Gomes said when the State of California does any mandates Sacramento must fund it; second they are not reducing the ability to be able to build; that is why we are having rental shortages.

Roll Call;

Yes - Terrence Gomes, Shia Fisher, Michael Lynn, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Beth Klein, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Judit Maull, Jack Twaijri.

No- Jason Plummer, Megan Golding, Stuart Weiss.

Abstain- Margarita Guzman, Baila Romm, Marlene Katz.

11 Yes, 3 No, 3 Abstain. Motion Passes.

- j. Motion for the SORO NC to send a letter to Mayor Karen Bass demanding that she immediately consent to a full audit of the Inside Safe Program by the City Controller Kenneth Mejia; and that she, and/or the City Administrative Officer Matthew Szabo, disclose the full extent of all sources of its funding (GB071725-20)

12. Meeting adjourned at 9:57 PM by Michael Lynn