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General Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, September 18, 2025 @ 7:00pm

Location: Burton House Hotel, 1177 S Beverly Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90035- Meeting Room

1. **Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Michael Lynn at 7:12 PM**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jack Twaijri**

3. **Roll Call: Terrence Gomes**

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

Board Members Absent- Noah Damsky, Meera Srinivasan, Joe Lisuzzo, Sandy Block.

Joseph Mollaie entered the meeting at 7:24 PM.

4. **General Public Comment : None.**

5. **Brief Board Announcements**

Items for Committee Agendas and other Brief Board Announcements

Michael Lynn mentioned that the next board meeting may or may not happen at this hotel, another location or online; he encouraged everyone to check their emails for updates on next month's meeting location.

Beth Klein mentioned making a future agenda item around SB 79 encouraging council people to do something similar to Tracy Parks and write a letter to the mayor and councilwoman discussing a comprehensive impact on our infrastructure.

Michael Lynn said this would be sent to the appropriate committee.

Joseph Mollaie entered the meeting at 7:24 PM.

6. **Community Reports**

- a. LA Police Department (Baker) - 39796@lapd.online / (Ojeda) – **Not present.**
36393@lapd.online
- b. LA Fire Department- Battalion 18 lafdbattalion18@lacity.org **Not present.**
- c. Office of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, CD-5 (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org
Present, gave report.
- d. Office of Councilwoman Hutt, CD-10 (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org
Present, gave report.
- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) - commission@empowerla.org
Not Present.
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Doub)- helena.doub@lacity.org
Present, gave report.
- g. Office of Mayor Bass (Hull) - jennifer.hull@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
Not Present.
- k. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas, SD-28 (Hickambottom) -
Ann.Hickambottom@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
Michael Lynn mentioned an email from BONC regarding the LA Summit, all NC members are invited November 8th from 11am-2pm but everyone needs to RSVP.

7. **Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations**

Multiple Item Public Comment:

- a. Announcement of the Resignation of Avi Rejwan on August 21, 2025 from the SORO NC General Board; and that the At-Large Representative (term expires June 30, 2029) seat is now open for appointment application on the SORO NC website *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment*
- b. Motion to appoint the Organization Representative seat (term expires June 30, 2029). *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment, who officially represents organized groups of Stakeholders within the Council boundaries, such as religious, charitable and other non-profit organizations (GB091825-01)*

- Nathan Maryamian

Mr. Maryamian introduced himself as a local to SORO; a USC graduate; he mentioned he was interested in helping the community as someone that was rooted in service as well a background in business and real estate.

Baila Romm asked what his opinions were on SB 79. Mr. Maryamian said he was not a fan of SB 79 but that he had no personal stake in the issue.

Motion to appoint Nathanal Maryamian as an Organization Representative Moved by Mitch Cohen; Seconded by Baila Romm.

Megan Golding- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Mitch Cohen- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes, Judit Maull- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Terrence Gomes- No, Stuart Weiss-Abstain, Jason Plummer- Abstain, Shia Fisher- Abstain.

13 Yes, 1 No, 3 Abstain.

Nathan Maryamian joined the meeting at 7:48 PM.

- c. Motion to appoint the At-Large Representative seat (formerly Business Representative 3) (term expires June 30, 2027). *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment* (GB091825-02)

□ Michelle Bega

Ms. Bega introduced herself as a SORO resident of 40 years, saying she felt qualified to represent the community because she understand the concerns of the area and wants to work for the future of the SORO community.

Ms. Bega said she has worked as representation for over 30 years for actors, authors and filmmakers.

Joseph Mollaie asked what specifically did she want to change about SORO. Ms. Bega it was not so much as she wanted to change but to help the community; she added that she wanted to join the board because she did not realize she could, that she only learned of the SORO NC from a lawn sign that she saw.

Motion to appoint Michelle Bega as an At-Large Representative Moved by Mitch Cohen; Seconded by Baila Romm.

Roll Call;

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

17 Yes, 0 No.

Michelle Bega joined the meeting at 7:52 PM.

- d. Motion to appoint the At-Large Representative seat (formerly Resident Zone 8) (term expires June 30, 2027) *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment* (GB091825-03)
 - Ryan Spivey
 - Miger Diaz

Terence Gomes motioned to postpone the vote, pending clarification from the City Attorney’s Office on possible conflict of interest; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie.

Public Comment 1-

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

13 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain, 1 Ineligible

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

- a. Liaison and Alliance Representative Appointments
 - i. Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative 2 (GB091825-04)
Chair continued this item to the next General Board meeting.
- b. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports
 - i. Standing Committees: Executive (Lynn); Education (Guzman); Land Use Cohen); Public Safety (Gomes/Romm); Homelessness (Gomes); Outreach (Lynn); Transportation (Plummer); Budget & Finance (Gomes); Bylaws (Fisher); Board Development (Plummer)
Exec: Michael Lynn told the board to look for an email about information regarding the next General Board meeting location.

Education: Margarita Guzman of Education said they held their meeting on Monday in which they invited 2 guests to appear at their next meeting. Barry Levine mentioned he invited a Jewett Walker and also mentioned there would be a town hall meeting soon. Margarita Guzman added that Christina Wantz had been invited with the goal of giving a presentation on SORO and the Education Committee to introduce themselves and showcasing the committees activities with school administrators and officials.

Land Use- Mitch Cohen said the location of the next meeting had not been determined yet.

Public Safety- Terence Gomes said they were working on making Synagogues safe using relaxed parking enforcement; he mentioned they were working on something with LAPD and LAFD; he added that the speed trailer had been delivered and that LAPD was learning how to

use it as it is an advanced unit. Terrence Gomes said crossing guards are only used for grades 1-6.

Budget and Finance Committee- Terrence Gomes said their meeting will be held Sunday but that they will have more items to discuss next month.

Bylaws- Shia Fisher was happy to report that their meeting ended on time; he described it as a healthy discussion, he told the board to expect to hear from the committee and that they would be bringing ideas from their discussions so that the items that make it to general board meetings are not new to the members; he pledged to make sure Bylaws are up to date, he encouraged the board to send their ideas to him through email so that they could all discuss it. Michael Lynn added that the Bylaws were on the About section on the SORO website.

Judit Maull left the meeting at 8:22 PM.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: None
- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC (Gomes), WRAC (Lynn), LADWP (Plummer, Maull), Budget Advocates (Maull), City Attorney (Lynn), District 37 Congressional Council (Weiss), Homelessness (Katz)
LANCC- Terrence Gomes said DA Nathan Hochman will be at the next LANCC meeting that will be virtual and will have a representative from each of the 99 neighborhood councils.

LADWP- Jason Plummer informed the board on the major announcement with regards to ground water remediation in the San Fernando Valley which will be go into effect in 2026, a new reclamation plant that will decontaminate water; for more information visit LADWP's Pure Water Los Angeles.

- c. Opportunity for Boardmembers to Join and/or Change Membership of Standing Committees (GB091825-05)

Shirley Traum joins Education.

Baila Romm joins Board Development.

Joseph Mollaie withdraws from Bylaws.

Nathan Maryamian joins Land Use and Budget and Finance.

Michelle Bega joins Public Safety and Outreach.

- d. Motion to confirm Laurie Levine as a Stakeholder Committee Member of the Public Safety Committee (GB091825-06)

Moved by Baila Romm ; Seconded by Terrence Gomes

Roll Call; Megan Golding- Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Stuart Weiss- Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Jason Plummer- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Mitch Cohen- Yes, Joseph

Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes. Shia Fisher- Abstain.

15 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain

9. Unfinished Business

- a. None

10. Consent Agenda

Multiple Item Public Comment: Public Comment 1-

Items Removed: K removed by Megan Golding, L removed by Jason, A removed by Shia Fisher.

- a. ~~Motion to approve the August 21, 2025 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB091825-07)~~
- b. Motion to approve the August 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (GB091825-08)
- c. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to confirm this fiscal year's Outreach Committee meetings to be held at 7pm on the last Monday of each month on Zoom, with the following exceptions: Monday, October 27, 2025 will be held in-person; December 2025 – no meeting; Thurs., May 28, 2026; (GB091825-09)
- d. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to co-sponsor the October 19, 2025 Pico-Robertson Neighborhood Cleanup Event, and to fund up to \$250.00 for pizza and refreshments (GB091825-10)
- e. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to co-sponsor the October 30, 2025 Fall Festival at the Robertson Recreation Center, and to fund up to \$250.00 for refreshments (GB091825-11)
- f. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to fund up to \$1050.00 for the purchase of 500 reusable shopping bags (20" wide x 16" tall x 6" deep), with the SORO NC Medallion printed on the front (GB091825-12)
- g. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to create a Standing Rule that all Liaison appointments remain in effect until the person holding a position resigns from that position, resigns from the SORO NC, or is removed by a vote of the General Board (GB091825-13)
- h. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to send a letter to LAPD and CD5 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky to address Stakeholder concerns about unsafe conditions on Pico Boulevard (including illegal drug use, exposure, ADA compliance, and general filth) between La Cienega Boulevard and South Robertson Boulevard (GB091825-14)
- i. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC create a Standing Rule to authorize any Executive Committee member to facilitate a Committee Meeting in absence of that Committee's Chair. If not a member of that Committee, the Executive Committee member is not eligible to vote and does not count towards quorum; and to authorize the Executive Committee to schedule a Committee Meeting for any Standing Committee that has not met for three consecutive months (GB091825-15)
- j. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC disband the Homelessness Committee (GB091825-16)

- ~~k. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC send letters to CD5 and CD10 requesting they create a Council File regarding the evaluation of sidewalks during property transfers and/or developments, in order to predetermine responsibility of the property owner for any future sidewalk repairs. [LAMC 62.104](#) (GB091825-17)~~
- ~~i. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC support the WRAC Motions supporting [CE 25-0848](#) (AB 747 / City Compliance Status / Existing Evacuation Plans / Improve Evacuation Route Infrastructure) found at westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-cf-25-0848-expedite-after-action-reports/ (GB091825-18)~~

Motion to approve Consent Agenda (Items b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j)

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie;

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

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

15 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain

Judit Maull entered the meeting at 8:46 PM.

11. New Business

Public Comment: None

- a. Discussion and possible action to recommend that the SORO NC create a Tree Trimming, Planting, and Removals Ad-Hoc Committee to be considered at the next General Board Meeting (GB091825-19)

Terrence Gomes moved to recommend that the SORO NC create a Tree Trimming, Planting, and Removals Ad-Hoc Committee to be considered at the next General Board Meeting the next meeting; Seconded by Baila Romm.

Michael Lynn suggested adding the names tonight so that it could be a complete item at the next meeting.

Shia Fisher if this were voted on it would be on the agenda; you first create the committee and then assign the meeting.

Baila Romm asked if a motion could be made to revise this agenda item.

Roll Call;

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

17 Yes, 0 No.

12. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

K, L, A

- k. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC send letters to CD5 and CD10 requesting they create a Council File regarding the evaluation of sidewalks during property transfers and/or developments, in order to predetermine responsibility of the property owner for any future sidewalk repairs. [LAMC 62.104](#) (GB091825-17)

Beth Klein asked who was responsible for broken sidewalks?

Terrence Gomes said it was the statute that the sidewalks would be the property owner's responsibility.

Shirley Traum added that in reference to a recent lawsuit from homeowners. the city would repair broken sidewalks one more time and at that point it would be up to the homeowner.

Terrence Gomes added that they city would sign off sidewalks in good shape to property owners.

Moved by Joseph Mollaie; Seconded by Terrence Gomes.

Baila Romm asked if property owners are responsible for sidewalks will the city take into consideration when they plant inappropriate trees.

Michael Lynn said this motion was about sidewalks that were in acceptable condition; property owner signs off on it and it becomes their responsibility after that.

Megan Golding asked if without the council file would it still be the property owner's responsibility.

Terrence Gomes said yes it would still be the responsibility of the property owner.

Michael Lynn said this would be preemptive.

Baila Romm asked as with new construction, new sidewalks would call for new permits, why can't the city track this.

Michael Lynn said the permit is the tracker.

Shia Fisher felt it was a genius way to do it, it allows the city to do good data; surveys and focus on something identifiable.

Megan Golding agreed that it is a good way to track though it can also be a headache for new homeowners.

Jason Plummer said it was not aggressive enough especially on existing lots.

Roll Call; Megan Golding- Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Stuart Weiss-Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shia Fisher- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Mitch Cohen- No, Shirley Traum- No, Jason Plummer- No.

14 es, 3 No, 0 Abstain. Motion Passes.

- l. Motion to recommend that the SORO NC support the WRAC Motions supporting [CF 25-0848](#) (AB 747 / City Compliance Status / Existing Evacuation Plans / Improve Evacuation Route Infrastructure) found at [westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-cf-25-0848-expedite-after-action-reports/](#) (GB091825-18)

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Joseph Mollaie

Shia Fisher said he was in support, that it was good to be proactive for things

that affects our general safety; it is good to support neighbors.

Beth Klein asked don't evacuation plans affect everyone.

Michael Lynn explained that this is also for the coastal areas specifically Brentwood, Venice, the Palisades; it does not include our area of SORO but it affects other alliance councils on the west side, WRAC.

Beth Klein asked if we could request evacuation plans for the rest of the areas.

Michael Lynn said this was just focusing on the west side for now.

Shia Fisher said a show of support is important; we benefit from their knowledge and what they have done, we could tap into certain people; it would be good for us to be thinking of this kind of policy.

Michael Lynn said SORO would be the deciding vote to send it to council.

Jason Plummer said this does not apply to our area; investing in these areas is not smart, it is subsidizing richer areas.

Megan Golding asked why aren't other areas in the city doing this.

Jason Plummer said poorer neighborhoods do not have the same resources.

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

Terrence Gomes- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Stuart Weiss-Yes,

Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Shia Fisher- Yes.

Margarita Guzmán- No, Jason Plummer- No, Mallory Smith- No, Mitch Cohen- No.

Megan Golding- Abstain, Marlene Katz- Abstain.

10 Yes, 4 No, 2 Abstain. Motion Passes.

- a. Motion to approve the August 21, 2025 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB091825-07)

Baila Romm asked if she did not attend the meeting did she have to vote to approve the minutes.

Michael Lynn said a member did not have to be present to approve the minutes.

Mitch Cohen asked why would we need a new standing rule.

Michael Lynn replied that the current language was ambiguous.

Terrence Gomes moved to amend to change the word "approve" to "accept";
Seconded by Baila Romm.

Roll Call; Megan Golding- Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Stuart Weiss-Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Mitch Cohen- No, Shirley Traum- No, Jason Plummer- Yes, Judit Maull- Yes, Shia Fisher- Abstain.

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

Michael Lynn added 15 minutes to the meeting, without objection.

Michael Lynn said the voting would now be motion as amended.

Roll Call; Megan Golding- Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Stuart Weiss-Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Jack Twaijri- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Mitch Cohen- No, Shirley Traum- No, Jason Plummer- Yes, Judit Maull- Yes, Shia Fisher- Yes, Baila Romm- Abstain, Beth Klein-Abstain.

15 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain. Motion Passes.

Shia Fisher asked the council to please not leave the room while voting is underway; he also advised the council to limit side talking while people are voting; he also added it is important to have a pregnant pause so as not to skip over any information in between vote counting.

13. Meeting adjourned by Chair at 9:32 PM, without objection.