

2013 NOMA Board Election Candidates

Danilo Bach

I've been a resident of the city for 44 years, the first ten as a renter and homeowner in Ocean Park, where I was involved with preservation and local zoning issues and with my wife and friends helped save and rehab the Irving Gill-designed Horatio West Court apartments, the first Santa Monica landmark to be listed on the National Register. I've since been a resident of north of Montana for over 30 years, made my living as a screenwriter, have a wife who, if anything, is more passionate about the singularity of our city than I, and two sons who are products of Santa Monica's extraordinary public school system.

My involvement with NOMA began about a year ago upon the successful conclusion of a grassroots neighborhood campaign to maintain and renew the existing sections of Georgina and Marguerita Avenues as iconic palm allees within our city's varied urban forest, and when a new leadership at the helm of NOMA put out a call for more hands and more participation. I've since been elected a member of the Board of NOMA and am committed to its mission of maintaining and improving the quality of life in our neighborhood -- which often means involving ourselves as well in the issues of development, crime, recreation, services, and education that confront our city as a whole.

Patricia E. Bauer

Co-vice chair of NOMA's board of directors, recently spearheaded a successful drive to preserve the beautiful and historic vistas of palm trees along the neighborhood's streets. While on NOMA's board, I have sought to maintain and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood in the face of escalating development and traffic congestion on the Westside. I would like to help NOMA become a vibrant, inclusive organization that brings people together, shares useful information about issues and events that affect the community, and advocates effectively on behalf of the neighborhood.

A resident of NOMA for the past 27 years, I have chaired the School Site Council at Franklin Elementary School, co-chaired the school district's Special Education Advisory Committee, and advocated on behalf of students with disabilities through the PTA. Professionally, I served as a senior editor at the Los Angeles Times and as a reporter and bureau chief at the Washington Post. Before coming to the Post, I served as editor of the White House News Summary during the Carter Administration. I am one of the founders of the Pathway Program at UCLA, a postsecondary program for students with disabilities. My husband and I have two adult children.

Victor Fresco

I have been a member of NOMA since the organization began and am currently serving as its treasurer. I think it's vital that our neighborhood has an organization that informs residents about issues and events important to our area. Additionally, I am alarmed at the amount of new development coming to Santa Monica and the effect it will have on north of Montana residents, in terms of increasing traffic and reducing our quality of life. I would like to see NOMA focus more on development issues.

Albin Gielicz

I have been a NOMA member for 2 years and the acting chair for one year. I believe in our mission to protect and enhance our quality of life north of Montana and throughout Santa Monica. At a time of great change in the community, I believe all of our residents need to be informed in a well-rounded and timely manner about issues and topics that could impact life in Santa Monica. Further, with the instances of property crimes on the rise, I am convinced that NOMA needs to play a key role in improving our safety and security. I am also the current chair of both the Social Services Commission and the Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board. Candidate for current vacancy on the Planning Commission.

Todd James

I currently serve on the NOMA board and am a two decade Santa Monica resident who has restored four homes in NOMA. I am saddened and concerned by outside interests' increasing stranglehold on our city which has led to excessive and unsightly development, clogged streets and dilution of our lovely city's character. I would like to continue the process of helping a revitalized NOMA represent our neighborhood's interests and priorities and hopefully reverse some of these unfortunate trends.

Carol Landsberg

I have been a member of NOMA for a year and I am currently serving as Secretary. I have had the privilege of being a founding member of four non-profit boards and have served on two others. I was the founder and administrator of a non-profit elementary school for hearing and hearing impaired children and know how busy young families can be. I believe that our NOMA neighbors need a dynamic organization to keep them informed about issues and events that affect our neighborhood and our City. I have lived in Santa Monica for over 30 years and have watched the changes in the quality and character of our city with alarm. I believe that the people who live in Santa Monica need to have a stronger voice in its governance. I am very concerned about the large number of development projects being considered and its resultant onslaught of parking and traffic problems- especially traffic between the I-10 freeway and our homes in the NOMA neighborhood with all our North-South routes scheduled for development.

Evelyn Lauchenauer

A lifelong resident of Santa Monica, I currently serve as a co-vice chair of NOMA's board of directors. I have seen the city grow from a quiet retirement town to a large city and experienced firsthand how those changes affected residents of the area. I strongly believe that increasing awareness of NOMA to residents and local merchants is key to building a strong and effective voice for the community. To that end, I have participated in every NOMA event this past year (The Santa Monica Festival, 4th of July Parade, Montana Art Walk and the Montana Holiday Walk, to name a few) with the focus of recruiting new members to the organization. I attend city council/neighborhood meetings and city organized community talks where I openly express concerns for the specific needs of the neighborhood. As a Realtor, I know the neighborhood well and am in touch with residents and merchants in my daily business.

Mary Jo Stenger

I have been a NOMA member since its inception. My concerns have been and continue to be traffic, residential parking, overdevelopment, and their effects on our neighborhood. Going forward I am very interested in more people north of Montana getting involved in their city. Informing residents of projects in Santa Monica is extremely important. I am particularly interested in working to set up a program of Block Captains.

Prior to NOMA, I was mostly involved with children. I was a volunteer at the Santa Monica Youth Hostel. At Children's Nature Center I led tours of our state parks for inner city children and helped with fund raising. I am a state certified tutor and have worked with illiterate adults and with children in the Santa Monica schools.

Doris Sosin

Founder of NOMA. Founder of the Santa Monica Conservancy. Served on Parks and Recreation Commission for two terms. Served on the Urban Tree Forest Committee. Interested in building pocket parks and landscaping streets no. of Montana, also in controlling over development in our city.