

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Graebner
Date Submitted: 01/30/2025 07:02 PM
Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: This is my public comment for 1/31/2025. I am glad to see that a meeting is being held in Van Nuys. They should be held in Van Nuys more often. Meetings should be held in other parts of the city as well. In addition, the option to call in to give public comment should be available at all meetings, including committee meetings. Public comment should be taken prior to presentations or other proceedings unrelated to the agenda of the meeting, and all speakers should be heard, both in person and on the phone. Items 3 and 10 both seem unnecessary right now when the money should go towards assisting people affected by the fires and rebuilding the areas affected by the fires. Item 4 should be rejected if the "security" is coming from the LAPD. On Item 5, the funds to pay for the masks should come from the LAPD's budget as compensation for taking up time at press conferences lying about a "surge in looting" when the police chief openly admitted at Tuesday's Police Commission meeting that crime was actually significantly down over the past several weeks. The LAPD's lies were wasting time during press conferences that could have been used by those who were actually working to protect the public during the fires (hint: NOT the LAPD) to give critical information about the fires to the public, and in addition, the LAPD's lies were fueling racist lies on social media by racists and right wing extremists that Black people taking their own belongings from their own houses were "looters." The LAPD's skyrocketing budget and pay raises are literally bankrupting the city and money has been taken away from departments that help prevent and stop the fires during budget cycles to give more money to the LAPD. On Item 6, most of you happily worked alongside Kevin de León for 2 YEARS after the Fed Tapes became widely known and your policies are inherently anti-Black. On Items 12 and 13, the recovery of this city should be focused on making sure that all residents of this city are cared for and they all residents of this city can recover and thrive. The recovery of this city should not be focused on sweeping and locking up unhoused people so they aren't visible to rich people or specifically focusing only on Donald Trump's 2028 MAGA Olympics that Trump is going to use to promote his fascist, anti-Black, anti-Immigrant, anti-Trans agenda to the world. I really find it notable that no one on this Council seems to be concerned about the fact that Donald Trump

will be opening the Olympics right here in Los Angeles funded in part by the city's budget and LA taxpayer dollars. In fact, almost everyone on this Council seems to be very silent about everything Trump is doing. I know that there is not much you can do about him as a body, but it would be nice if some of you would issue statements at least about some of his worst actions. Traci, you spend a lot of time doing presentations during Council meetings where you talk about how you support Trans people. How about some statements condemning all his executive orders that are taking away rights and protections from Trans people. Many of you are focused on rights for Immigrants but you can't seem to put the words together for a statement condemning him sending ICE into ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS or creating a CONCENTRATION CAMP at Guantanamo Bay. We are THE SECOND LARGEST CITY BY POPULATION IN THE COUNTRY. If the Los Angeles City Council says they don't approve of Trump's actions, that at the very least gets a lot of attention directed at the horrific things Trump is doing. Really, you should be passing full Council resolutions condemning these things. You have a powerful voice. Use it