

1 From: Enri Marini
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5 DATE SUBMITTED: May 23, 2025

6 To: Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
7 CC: Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles Commission on Disability, Los Angeles Office of
8 the Mayor, Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, Los Angeles City Clerk's Office

9 **SUBJECT: DEMAND FOR VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ALL LOS ANGELES
10 CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND CITY COUNCIL**

11 To Whom It May Concern:

12 **INTRODUCTION**

13 As a constituent and taxpayer in the City of Los Angeles, I write to you not in anger, but
14 in earnest hope for a fair and reasonable solution — one that avoids litigation, respects our shared
15 democratic values, honors your sworn oath to uphold and defend the Constitution, and protects
16 the public's right to be heard. Over the past year, I and other members of the public have made
17 every good-faith effort to participate in public meetings, offer informed comment, and engage
18 with local government in the way California law intends and encourages. Yet despite repeated
19 attempts to be heard and to remedy these issues through formal channels, we have encountered
20 ongoing suppression, procedural obstruction, and a growing disregard for transparency and
21 accountability. I am reaching out to you now — before seeking judicial relief — with a clear
22 message: this matter should not have to be resolved in the courtroom.

23 Public resources are precious, especially now in a time where the city is in a budget crisis
24 of at least \$1 billion. Our courts should not have to waste resources on litigating whether the
25 public deserves the right to participate in its own government, especially in an updated modality
26 that keeps up with 21st century demands.

27 What follows is a detailed statement of the facts and the modest relief requested. I
28

1 respectfully urge you to take this matter seriously and to exercise your oversight to help restore
2 transparency, accountability, lawful process, and public trust in the institutions that serve us all.

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4 This letter serves as a formal demand that all official City Council committees—excluding
5 neighborhood councils — restore and maintain access to public comment via electronic virtual
6 means, such as but not limited to Zoom, for all future meetings.

7 At present, several City Council committees are engaging in what amounts to systemic
8 exclusion of entire groups of marginalized individuals, most notably the ADA community. By
9 requiring physical attendance for public comment, these bodies are effectively discriminating
10 against residents for whom travel to City Hall is not just inconvenient—it is cost-prohibitive,
11 logistically impossible, and in direct contradiction to the inclusive spirit of the Americans with
12 Disabilities Act. Those who require full-time support or use mobility aids such as wheelchairs
13 face unacceptable barriers under the current regime.

14 This issue is not theoretical. A dear friend and well-known community advocate,
15 AuditLA, has been unable to participate in committee meetings after her wheelchair broke down.
16 It is not that she lost interest in civic engagement—she was simply locked out by a system that
17 refused to offer a virtual door. It must be emphasized that multiple city committees already allow
18 for public comment via Zoom, including the Ethics Commission, the Board of Public Works, the
19 LADOT Transportation Committee, LAPD Board of Police Commissioners, and the Commission
20 on Disability. Their continued use of virtual public comment sets a precedent and exposes the
21 fallacy of any claim that it cannot be done. If it can be done by some, it can be done by all. This
22 inconsistent practice of allowing virtual public comment
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24 There is no technical, financial, or logistical justification for the refusal to allow virtual
25 public comment across the board. Every room where city committees meet—listed below—is
26 already fully equipped with the necessary teleconference infrastructure, including microphones,
27 video cameras, speaker systems, and internet access. Meetings are already streamed online and
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1 recorded using city-held Zoom licenses. The city already employs the staff necessary to facilitate
2 this. There are no new expenses. There is no excuse.
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4 Meeting Rooms:

- 5 1. John Ferraro Council Chamber, Room 340, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles,
6 CA 90012
- 7 2. Edward R. Roybal BPW Session Room, Room 350, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los
8 Angeles, CA 90012
- 9 3. Room 401, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- 10 4. Room 1060, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- 11 5. Conference Room 1070, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- 12 6. Room 1820, City Hall East, 200 N. Main St., 18th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012
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15 We are not asking for anything new. We are demanding a return to a practice that was
16 already working—one that expanded access, reduced barriers, and helped keep physical
17 attendance within safe limits per fire code. This is an administrative demand made in good faith,
18 but we are fully prepared to pursue legal remedies should this issue not be resolved within 30
19 days of receipt of this letter. We assert that access to one's government—especially the right to
20 speak and be heard—is a fundamental democratic right. It should not require a lawsuit to secure
21 equitable access, but if necessary, litigation will follow.
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23 We urge you to do what is right. Reinstate virtual public comment for all City Council
24 committees immediately.
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26 Respectfully yours,

27 Enri Marini
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PROOF OF SERVICE

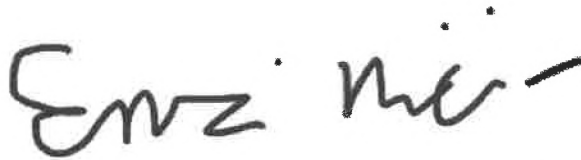
I, Enri Marini, on Friday May 23, 2025 I respectfully served the following document(s) to the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles Commission on Disability, Los Angeles Office of the Mayor, Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council.

DEMAND FOR VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND CITY COUNCIL

(X) BY SERVING A TRUE COPY OF THIS NOTICE IN PERSON TO EACH AGENCY'S OFFICE CLERK AT LOS ANGELES NORTH ST CITY HALL

Respectfully submitted by

Enri Marini



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Enri Marini", is written over a horizontal line.