



February 25, 2025

Dear Los Angeles City Council,

As an organization dedicated to promoting community peace, and engagement with our communities with gun violence reduction strategies, we are writing to express our concern about the inappropriate language and behavior that continues to take place during Council Meetings.

Cease Fire relies on being able to provide public comment or advocate during Council meetings and our members are exposed to hateful language, to which often is a conveyor of aggression, hostility and thwarts emotions of anger and violence. Vulgar and offensive language does not contribute to resolving the issues at hand. Public meetings should prioritize constructive and meaningful engagement, and this type of behavior must not be normalized in any public forum.

Council Chambers should be a space where all participants feel safe and where respectful dialogue is the standard. We strongly urge Councilmembers to establish and enforce clear standards to restore order and ensure a productive environment for public discourse.

Thus, while freedom of speech is essential, it should not extend to verbal or vulgar language in public settings where such speech compromises the rights of others to a respectful and peaceful environment.

With warmest regards and sincere appreciation,
In His Hands,

Ben "Taco" Owens

Mr. Ben Owens
So Cal Cease Fire Committee
1202 West 135th Street
Gardena, Ca. 90247
310-768-8100

So Cal Cease Fire Committee
1202 West 135th Street
Gardena, Ca 90247
310.768.8100
Ceasefireletmelive.org