

02-27-2025

Dear LA City Council,

As an engaged member of our community, I have attended Council Meetings with the hope of listening, learning, and contributing to discussions that directly impact our city. However, I have been increasingly concerned by the conduct I have witnessed—behavior that not only disrupts proceedings but also discourages meaningful public participation.

At a recent meeting, I observed critical discussions repeatedly interrupted by shouting, personal attacks, and, at times, outright disrespect. Instead of fostering thoughtful dialogue on pressing issues—such as public safety, housing, and economic development—conversations were derailed by hostility. As a result, many community members, myself included, feel reluctant or even unsafe voicing our perspectives in such an environment.

Council Chambers should be a space where residents of all backgrounds can engage in civil discourse, share concerns, and work collaboratively toward solutions. When meetings devolve into disorder, the democratic process is weakened, and the opportunity for real progress is lost. I urge you to implement and enforce clear expectations for professionalism and decorum, ensuring that meetings remain inclusive, constructive, and respectful of all voices.

Our city is strongest when its people are heard. I encourage you to take the necessary steps to restore the integrity of these meetings so that they fulfill their purpose—bringing the community together in a productive, solution-driven forum.

Jonathan Kinnard

jonathankinnard@gmail.com

(615) 202 - 9047

