

March 3, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson
City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Council President Harris-Dawson,

As a civically engaged member of the Los Angeles community, I am deeply concerned about the lack of civility in City Council meetings. Public forums should be a space for thoughtful discussion and collective problem-solving, yet too often, lately they are disrupted by hostile rhetoric and hateful speech. This environment discourages meaningful participation and erodes trust in the democratic process.

However, the current state of City Council meetings makes it increasingly difficult for meaningful participation to take place. Instead of serving as a space for thoughtful discussion and policymaking, meetings are too often overtaken by outside groups whose primary goal is disruption rather than progress. Public comment, which should be an opportunity for diverse voices to be heard, has instead become a stage for division and hostility.

These disruptions don't just waste time—they discourage everyday residents from engaging with their government. When meetings are hijacked by chaos, the people who come in good faith to express concerns and propose solutions are often drowned out. This dynamic weakens the democratic process and creates an environment where intimidation and spectacle take precedence over substance.

I urge you to take steps to restore order and professionalism in Council meetings. Setting and enforcing clear standards for respectful dialogue will help ensure that public forums remain accessible and productive for all Angelenos. We need a City Council that upholds the principles of democracy by fostering an atmosphere where ideas can be exchanged without fear or obstruction.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. I appreciate your leadership and commitment to making City Council meetings a space for real solutions and meaningful public engagement.

Sincerely,



Julio C. Esperias, Jr.

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