



Public Comments Not Uploaded Public Comment – Objection to Demolition of the Barry Building (Council File No. 25-1518)

1 message

Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 11:23 AM

Reply-To: clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org

To: "clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org" <clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org>

Dear Members of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee,

Again, I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed demolition of the Barry Building (HCM #887). This historic landmark, completed in 1951 and designed by Milton Caughey, is a unique and irreplaceable part of Los Angeles' architectural and cultural heritage.

The Barry Building exemplifies mid-century modern design with its International Style elements, simple horizontal lines, and integration of indoor and outdoor spaces through its central courtyard. Its curving, cantilevered stairways and courtyard-facing windows are rare features in commercial architecture, reflecting an innovative approach to urban design.

Beyond its architectural significance, the building holds deep cultural and communal value. Dutton's Bookstore, a long-time occupant, made the Barry Building a beloved destination for readers, students, and residents for over twenty years. It housed numerous offices of small business creating a community. The building's layout and history contribute to the unique character of our community, and its loss would be an irreplaceable blow to our Brentwood and Los Angeles's historic city fabric.

I urge the Committee not only to reject the demolition appeal, once and for all, but to put active steps in to preserve this mid-century treasure. The Barry Building is not just a structure it is a testament to Los Angeles' architectural innovation and cultural memory. Its preservation will ensure that future generations can experience and learn from this important piece of our city's history.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully request that this comment be uploaded to Council File No. 25-1518 so that it becomes part of the official record.

Kind regards,

Brian Butler