



March 10, 2025

Dear Members of the Council,

As an organization committed to serving underinvested communities and building thriving local economies, Inclusive Action for the City works to improve access to transformative capital and advance policy through collaborative research and community-driven advocacy. We envision a future where diverse communities have equitable and sustained access to resources and the ability to exercise agency over their livelihoods.

Today, we write to express our deep concern about the inappropriate language and behavior that continue to take place during Council meetings. Our organization relies on being able to provide public comment or advocate during Council meetings and our members are exposed to hateful language. 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.

Committed to empowering our local communities to participate in local government processes, we believe that public forums should uphold respect and inclusivity. To ensure meaningful civic participation, we respectfully ask that Council Chambers be a space where all participants feel safe and where respectful dialogue is the standard. We strongly urge Councilmembers to establish and enforce clear guidelines to restore order and ensure a productive environment for public discourse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luz Castro", written in a cursive style.

Luz Castro

Associate Director of Policy

Luz@inclusiveaction.org