

March 7, 2020

Dear Los Angeles City Council -

As a deeply invested resident and former staffer eager to continue engaging in our city's governance, I am disheartened by the conduct displayed during Council Meetings. The toxic environment—marked by hate speech, hostility, and disruption—creates barriers to meaningful civic participation. Instead of fostering productive dialogue and solutions, these sessions often descend into chaos, silencing the very voices they are meant to uplift. This is unacceptable.

The Council Chambers should be a space where all Angelenos, regardless of background or identity, feel safe, respected, and heard. It is our right to participate in city affairs without fear of intimidation or obstruction. Yet, the current atmosphere discourages engagement and erodes public trust in our leaders.

I urge you to take decisive action by setting and enforcing clear expectations for respectful dialogue and professional conduct. Our democracy depends on inclusive and constructive discourse, and it is your responsibility to ensure that every resident has the opportunity to contribute without fear or frustration.

Los Angeles deserves better. Let's restore integrity and accessibility to our civic process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mike de la Rocha', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike de la Rocha