

March 18, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear L.A. City Council:

I write this letter because I am extremely concerned about recent reports that certain behavior is being displayed during City Council meetings, ranging from disruptions to outright hate speech. As a citizen who is already dismayed with current state of fear-mongering politics, I worry that this type of egregious behavior is being purposely orchestrated to further alienate civic engagement. If these reports are true, and I have no reason to believe that they are not, our elected officials are having to endure being called racial slurs, something which I cannot believe is being permitted in the year 2025. How is this possible?

The Council Chambers should be a place where the public can peacefully and respectfully engage their elected officials to voice their thoughts and concerns. Any interruption of this important process by those who only wish to obstruct the proceedings, and those who wish to intimidate, should be seen as violation of the rights of the other many citizens of Los Angeles who are respecting the process. Why is such behavior being permitted, especially when it involves hate speech that amounts to a crime?

I plead with Councilmembers to once again make this a safe space for the people of Los Angeles, where citizens like myself can feel encouraged to contribute to the dialogue. Given the current state of the Nation, we should be an example for the rest of the Country and together affirm that this will not stand. Our community deserves better; our City deserves better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raul J. Ocampo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raul J. Ocampo
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