

Cultural Heritage Commission Meeting

Thursday, September 5th, 2024, 10:00 AM

LA City Hall Cultural Heritage Commission, 200 N. Spring St, 10th Floor, Room 1010

ZOOM Option:

<https://planning-lacity-org.zoom.us/j/89715783204>

Meeting ID: 897 1578 3204

Passcode 531988

Call Option:

(213) 338-8477 or (669) 900-9128

Meeting ID No. 897 1578 3204 and then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. Please use Meeting Passcode 531988.

Barry Building Demolition Talking Points

Below are suggested talking points that can be used for the Cultural Heritage Commission Meeting. One can use any combination of the provided talking points that best supports their argument. It is suggested to keep comments concise and clear, ensuring the commission understands the urgency of demolition to protect the community. The goal is to convey the importance of these actions for the well-being and future of the community.

THE BARRY BUILDING IS STRUCTURALLY UNFIT

- Structural experts and the City of Los Angeles have determined that the Barry Building is structurally unfit and is likely to suffer severe damage in an earthquake.
- The building is subject to the City's Soft Story Retrofit Program and does not meet the minimum seismic standards of the City.
- The building cannot remain "as-is" because the City of Los Angeles has issued an Order to Comply with the City's Soft Story Retrofit Program.
- Can you imagine what would happen if there was an earthquake and it collapsed and hurt somebody?

THE BARRY BUILDING IS A SAFETY HAZARD

- The structural deficiencies of the Barry Building represent serious safety hazards to the community.
- The demolition of the Barry building prioritizes community safety and eliminates risks posed by an earthquake.
- The building has been vacant for years and poses a risk for vandalism, loitering, and other public safety hazards associated with vacant buildings.

- The Barry Building has already experienced copper wire theft, which is a clear indicator of its vulnerability to further criminal activity.
- To prevent additional thefts and other potential safety risks, it's imperative that we move forward with the demolition of the building as soon as possible.
- A vacant lot would eliminate these security and safety concerns creating a safer community.

THE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO DEMOLITION THE BARRY BUILDING

- Demolition of the building is the safest and most viable solution to mitigate the risk posed by the Barry building.
- There are not economically feasible solutions other than demolition.
- Seismically retrofitting the building would cost nearly \$15 million and would lead to a negative valuation of the property.
- It is unfair for the City to require a private property owner to spend more on seismic upgrades than the property is worth.
- The owner seeks to demolish the building in order to comply with the City's Soft Story Ordinance.
- The community benefits of safety and security outweigh the desire to preserve a building that is a nuisance.

THE COMMISSION SHOULD SUPPORT THE DEMOLITION

- The Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission should support the demolition of the structurally and seismically unsafe Barry Building.
- There is substantial evidence (economic, legal, social, and other benefits) to support adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations.
- Please certify the Environmental Impact Report and adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations to demolish the Barry Building.