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- **Initial Submissions:** Written materials not limited as to volume must be received by the Commission Executive Assistant no later than by 4 p.m. Monday of the week prior to the week of the Commission meeting. Initial Submissions are appended to the end of the Staff Report, which can be accessed by clicking on the Case Number linked from the Agenda.
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Secondary Submissions

**Robert Blue & Sieglinde Kruse Blue
Los Angeles, CA 90049**

bob.blue@live.com

ziggykruse2005@yahoo.com

August 17, 2026

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Cultural Heritage Commission: chc@lacity.org

Subject: Public Comment for August 20, 2026 Meeting -

Agenda Item 1 (Old Business): Update on Preservation Efforts for the Barry Building, Historic-Cultural Monument #887, Located at 11973-11975 West San Vicente Boulevard, Council District 11

Honorable Commissioners,

We are writing to formally address the applicant's ongoing claims that they have made a good faith effort to find a buyer for the Barry Building (HCM #887) but have been unable to do so. A review of the applicant's own stated objectives and recent communications reveals that this narrative is false and misleading.

The Stated Intent

The applicant claims that preserving the Barry Building on-site is economically infeasible. In formal correspondence submitted to the Office of Historic Resources dated July 15, 2024, the applicant's legal counsel explicitly stated that following demolition, the applicant "intends only to dispose of the property."¹

The Action: Artificial Severance of Building and Land

Simultaneously, the applicant is actively refusing to sell the land and the historic building together. As the Commission is aware, an Historic-Cultural Monument designation applies to both the building and the underlying land on which it sits. Selling the intact parcel is the most direct, logical, and feasible path to "disposing of the property" while simultaneously achieving historic preservation.

¹ Letter from Edward J. Casey to Ken Bernstein, Re: 11973 San Vicente Boulevard Project / ENV-2019-6645-EIR / State Clearinghouse No. 2020110210 ("Barry Building") (July 15, 2024), at 10–11 n.12.

Cultural Heritage Commission
Barry Building, HCM 887
08-17-2026

Instead, the applicant has artificially separated the structure from the land. By offering the building structure for \$1 but demanding that a buyer fund a nearly impossible disassembly and relocation, they are deliberately setting a condition designed to fail.

Conclusion: A Manufactured Hurdle

If the owners truly desire to dispose of the property, their explicit refusal to even list or market the parcel with the Barry Building intact strongly suggests that their arguments about economic infeasibility are a manufactured hurdle rather than a genuine constraint.

In the context of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this self-imposed restriction severely weakens their claim that they have exhausted all feasible preservation alternatives. We respectfully request that the Commission scrutinize this contradiction when evaluating the applicant's true compliance with the current efforts to seek preservation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Blue and Ziggy Kruse Blue

cc: Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, Manager of OHR
Lambert Giessinger, Senior Architect
Melissa Jones, City Planner

Robert Harden
12610 Braddock Drive
Los Angeles, Ca 90066

Ed Casey

Re: Barry Building security upgrade.

To whom it may concern, due to the continued break-in threats and recent break-in, we have taken the following measures.

1. Installed one inch grid 9 ga chain link fencing at a height of 8 ft along the west side of the building. The fencing is installed without contacting the walls of the building with a 4.5-inch gap between the wall of the building and the fencing. The fencing is installed with the support poles on the outside of the chain link and without a center or top rail. That allow the fencing to collapse against itself if it is cut or disengaged from the support poles, without allowing support for a body attempting to climb the fencing.
2. We repaired and reinstated the camera system that had been rendered inoperable in the break-in that stripped the building of it's copper wiring and water pipes. Along with repairing the camera network, we installed a Wi-Fi monitoring system connected to my phone for real time monitoring,
3. We added star head screws to all door and window coverings replacing most of the Phillips head screws previously used in the plywood covering.

These measures were taken as necessary steps to try to stay ahead of the continued threat by those seeking to gain entry to the closed property.

Robert Harden,
Property Manager

Day of Hearing Submissions



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

CHC Meeting for 08/20/2026, Agenda Item 1, Old Business, Update on Preservation Efforts for the Barry Building ... Please see email for details ...

1 message

Bob Blue <bob.blue@live.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2026 at 4:18 PM

To: Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Cc: Ziggy Kruse <ziggykruse2005@yahoo.com>, Ken Bernstein <ken.bernstein@lacity.org>, Lambert Giessinger <lambert.giessinger@lacity.org>, Melissa Jones <melissa.jones@lacity.org>

Subject: CHC Meeting for 08/20/2026, **Agenda Item 1**, Old Business, **Update on Preservation Efforts for the Barry Building** ... Please see email for details ...

Dear Mr. Sanchez,

Attached to this email is a July 9, 2026 email communication from us to Mr. Bernstein discussing Active Security Breaches and Neglect at the Barry Building (HCM #887).

The attachment consists of 2-pages of text and 2-pages of photos.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and its attachment and ensure that it is distributed to the Commissioners for their review prior to the 08-20-2026 CHC Commission meeting.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob Blue and Ziggy Kruse Blue

**2026-08-20_Email and Photos_One document.pdf**
878K



Re: URGENT: Active Security Breaches and Neglect at the Barry Building (HCM #887) – Request for Immediate Enforcement

From Lambert Giessinger <lambert.giessinger@lacity.org>

Date Fri 7/10/2026 12:48 PM

To Bob Blue <bob.blue@live.com>

Cc Ken Bernstein <ken.bernstein@lacity.org>; Ziggy Kruse <ziggykruse2005@yahoo.com>; Melissa Jones <melissa.jones@lacity.org>

Hi Bob and Ziggy,

Thanks for your continued concern for the well-being of the Barry Building. The Planning Department cannot compel an owner to do anything since we have no role in code enforcement. That function and the police powers that go with it are under the purview of the Building Department. You should file a complaint on their website: <https://www.ladbsservices2.lacity.org/OnlineServices/?service=rav> or by calling 311. However, Ken is reaching out to Ed Casey, the owner's rep, to ask if he can get the property re-secured quickly.

Lambert



Lambert Giessinger

Senior Architect | Office of Historic Resources
Los Angeles City Planning

221 N. Figueroa St., Suite 1350

Los Angeles, CA 90012

T: (213) 847-3648 | Planning4LA.org

On Thu, Jul 9, 2026 at 8:15 PM Bob Blue <bob.blue@live.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Bernstein,

We are writing to request that the Office of Historic Resources immediately compel the owner of the Barry Building (HCM #887) to secure the property and halt ongoing, severe neglect that puts this designated Historic-Cultural Monument in immediate jeopardy.

During recent observations from the public right-of-way, we identified critical, unaddressed security breaches that leave the building entirely exposed to unauthorized entry, vandalism, and weather damage. Specifically:

- West Wing Exterior: A perimeter door is currently standing wide open, leaving the interior entirely unprotected and exposed.
- East Wing Interior Courtyard: An interior door within the courtyard area is also completely open, creating an unmonitored point of entry.

We have documented these unsecured entry points, and you can view the photographic evidence here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/CuWtfl1tVJoVdSJo96>

These open doors and windows represent an immediate violation of the owner's legal maintenance mandates under LAMC Section 91.8104 and stewardship obligations under the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Ordinance (LAAC Section 22.171).

This situation is particularly alarming given that the owner has previously acknowledged a history of break-ins at the property. Despite this explicit knowledge, the owner has failed to implement basic security measures or active monitoring. Leaving a compromised, historically significant structure unlocked and unmonitored constitutes a severe failure of property management that invites irreversible harm.

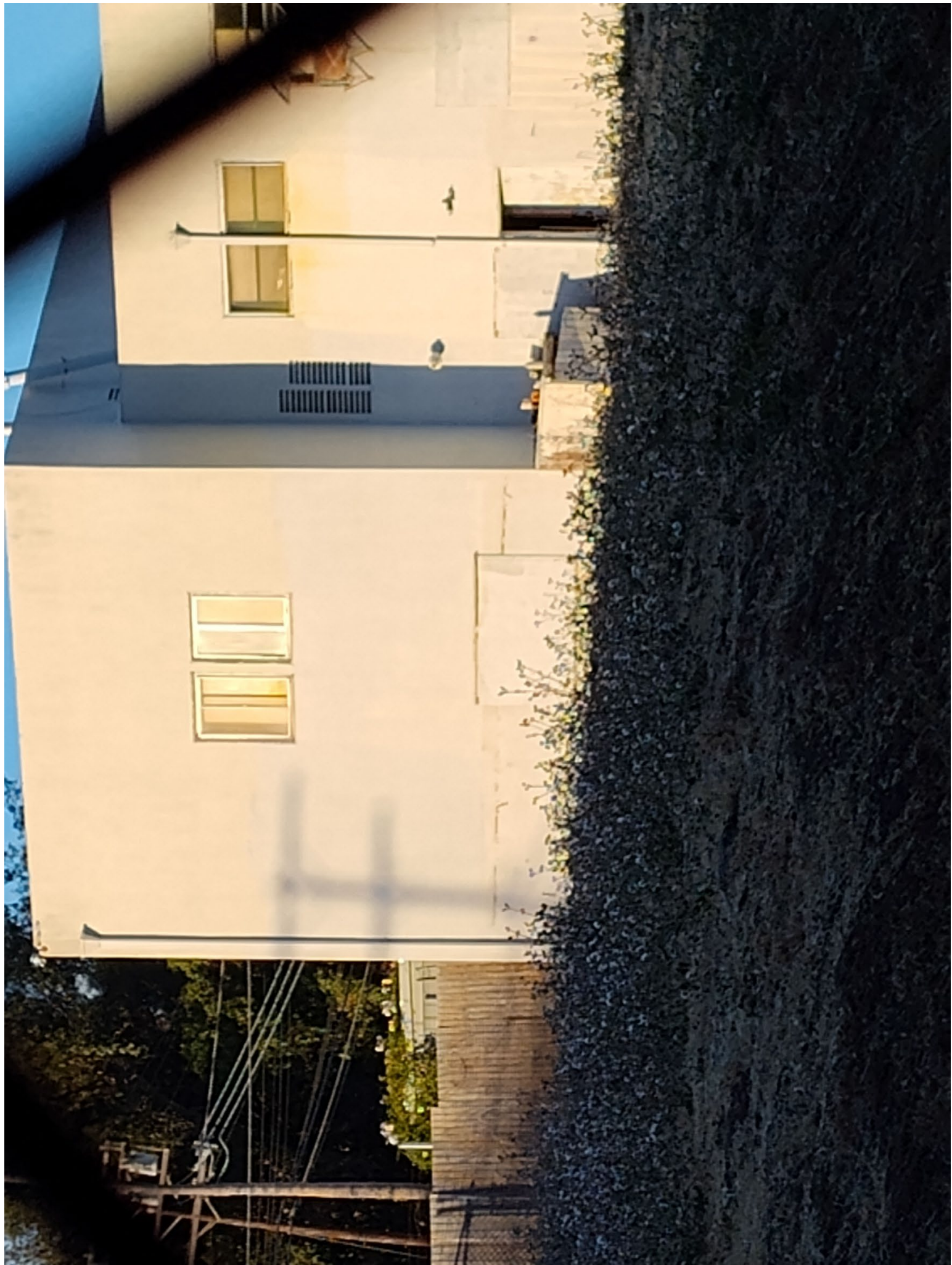
We urge your office to intervene swiftly to ensure the owner secures all openings, establishes a rigorous monitoring protocol, and brings the property into full compliance.

Thank you for your prompt attention and leadership on this urgent preservation matter.

Sincerely,

Bob Blue and Ziggy Kruse Blue







Barry Building, HCM #887

11973-11975 N. San Vicente Blvd.

CHC-2007-1585-HCM

ENV-2019-6645-EIR / SCH #2020110210

LOS ANGELES
CITY PLANNING

Cultural Heritage Commission
August 20, 2026

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Los Angeles, CA \$1

Listing #	27204
Circa	1951
Approx Sq Ft	13,956



Mike Ai



mike@afriat.com



818-422-0828



Virtual Tour



8/14/26, 12:18 PM

The Barry Building, Los Angeles, CA

The Barry Building

For sale—the building located at 11973 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. The land is not for sale. The building, which is commonly known as the Barry Building, has been designated an historic cultural monument under the laws of the City of Los Angeles (but not under state or federal law). The historic features of the building are discussed in further detail on pages 13 to 14 of the document provided in the following link. https://cityclerk.lacity.org/online/docs/2025/25-1518_misc_4-8-26.pdf. (That document will be referred to as the City's Findings.) The building is a two-story commercial building (approximately 23.5 feet in height) and approximately 13,956 square feet in size. The building will only be sold to a person or entity that will relocate the building to a different property and do so in a manner that will maintain its character-defining features and the historic designation of the building. Further details concerning the relocation of the building and its restoration are discussed on pages 19 to 25 and pages 28 to 32 of the City's Findings (specifically, the discussion of Alternatives 2 and 4 evaluated in an Environmental Impact Report certified by the City). The sale of the building is subject to, among other conditions, approval of a relocation plan by the City of Los Angeles. The sales price is \$1 (one dollar).

<https://www.historicproperties.com/Listing/View/27204>

**DEPARTMENT OF
CITY PLANNING**

OFFICE OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
221 N. FIGUEROA STREET, SUITE 1350
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-2639

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August 17, 2026

Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 350
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: PROPOSED FENCING AT GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR PARK,
HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT #100**

Dear President Sanchez and Members of the Board,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Cultural Heritage Commission to express our concerns over the proposed project to install a fence around MacArthur Park, a designated Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument. Department of Recreation and Parks staff, along with their consultant from Tetra Tech, presented the project to the Cultural Heritage Commission on July 16, 2026. Given the impact on the park's historic character and that the park is a significant defining feature along that segment of Wilshire Boulevard, the Commission was unanimous in its opposition to the proposed project as presented.

For over 100 years, MacArthur Park has been a prominent open landscape available to all Angelenos to enjoy. While the Commission is sympathetic to the Department of Recreation and Parks' operational challenges and safety concerns, the Commission is apprehensive about the concept of closing off a civic monument to the public. More specifically, the Commission questions the appropriateness of the apparent permanency of the fence, as well as the height, proposed to be between 8- and 11-feet at various sections.

Although park operations are outside the jurisdiction of our Commission, it was highlighted that the current issues at MacArthur Park appear to parallel those that were previously present at Echo Park, also designated as an Historic-Cultural Monument. In March 2021, a temporary chain-link fence was installed around that park, and the fence was removed two years later, in March 2023.

While we heard that the Department plans to start work on the fence installation within the next few months, our Commission would like to urge staff to take time to explore other options to address the concerns at MacArthur Park. If installing a physical barrier is determined to be the best approach, perhaps the fencing could be more temporary, similar

Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Park Commission

August 17, 2026

Page 2 of 2

to what was implemented at Echo Park. Also, an overall lower fence height would have less visual impact on the historic landscape.

We welcome the opportunity for staff to come back to present a revised design or alternate proposal for our review at a future public meeting. In addition, as a major, publicly-funded investment on City property, the Commission believes it is important that the proposed project also be reviewed by the Cultural Affairs Commission.

Sincerely,



Barry Milofsky, President
Cultural Heritage Commission



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

CHC-2026-2689-HCM | M.T.O. Shahmaghsoudi School of Islamic Sufism @ 18009 W. Sherman Way

Armida Reyes <armida.reyes@lacity.org>

Wed, Aug 19, 2026 at 1:59 PM

To: Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>, Rafael Fontes <rafael.fontes@lacity.org>, Lambert Giessinger <lambert.giessinger@lacity.org>, Melissa Jones <melissa.jones@lacity.org>, Mashael Majid <mashael.majid@lacity.org>, Miles Orr <miles.orr@lacity.org>

Hi CHC,

Hope all is well. I will join the CHC meeting tomorrow morning via Zoom and share this support comment on behalf of Council District 4.

Good morning, members of the Cultural Heritage Commission. My name is Armida Reyes, Planning and Housing Deputy for Councilmember Nithya Raman of the Fourth District. Our office supports the Cultural Nomination for the M.T.O. Shahmaghsoudi School of Islamic Sufism. Our office is excited to see this incredibly sacred place, which provides a tangible and heartfelt warmth upon entry, receive this designation. We respectfully ask that the commissioners consider the property for designation as a Historical-Cultural Monument. Thank you.

Thanks in advance.

Best,

--

Armida Reyes (she/her)
Housing and Planning Deputy
Work Phone: 213-500-6903
District Line: 213-473-7004

**NITHYA
RAMAN**

Los Angeles
City Councilmember
4th District

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