

From: [Maria Epelbeym](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:39:06 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
Maria Epelbeym

From: [Rabbi Stephen Epstein](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Márquez, Miguel](#); [Jomsky, Mark](#)
Cc: [Jason Moss](#); [Rebecca Russell](#)
Subject: Resolution regarding Pasadena City Council holding a single agenda item meeting to discuss this current conflict between Israel and Hamas
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 2:47:14 PM

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Dear Members of the Pasadena City Council:

This meeting and its agenda item just came to my attention.

I am the rabbi at Temple Sholom of Ontario in Ontario, California. Even though we are not in your community, this item greatly affects us as it does all Jews everywhere. It is very unfortunate that our fellow Jews and others in Israel have come under physical attack and many have been murdered, taken hostage and died fighting for their country and their lives.

It is even more unfortunate that some vilify and denigrate the Jewish people and hold them responsible for this unprovoked and brutal attack. This is nothing more than antisemitism at its worst. Clearly, any other country would be supported in its mission to eradicate an enemy that brutally murdered innocent civilians. And it is even more outrageous that people are blaming Israel, the clear victim who is by international law defending themselves and making sure this doesn't happen again.

Even beyond this, consider all the actions that the Israel Defense Forces is taking to keep any collateral civilian casualties in Gaza to a minimum; in fact, statistics bear out the claim that fewer civilians have died as a result of the fighting than any other war since these records have been kept. Consider also that they have achieved this while fighting an enemy that wears no uniform or any other distinguishing emblems to separate them as an army separate from civilians.

On behalf of my congregation, my people, and my fellow human beings, I implore you to do the right thing and support Israel in its effort to defeat these terrorists and restore order and prosperity to the region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Stephen Epstein

--

Shalom & B'Tzelahah,

Rabbi Stephen Epstein רבי שמואל בן-יהושע

Rabbi at [Temple Sholom of Ontario](#)

Serving San Bernardino and Southwest Riverside Counties and Surrounding Areas

From: [Naima Errokas](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:18:05 AM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Isabella Ersoz](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 11:14:14 PM

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It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday.

Thank you, sincerely,
Isabella Ersoz

From: [A'Maya Ettien](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:31:10 PM

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Thank you,

A'Maya

Sabha, Tamer

From: Natalie Eunson < >
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:04 AM
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up on the 18th. Pasadena should join the dozens of American cities that have passed ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an inflow of aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

From:
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:17:53 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Stephanie Ewashkow](#)
To: action@endiewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 4:42:58 PM

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Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out in opposition to a ceasefire resolution that will be proposed at your meeting.

While this appears to be a resolution in favor of peace, in fact it is a propaganda move to incite anti-Democracy, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish sentiments. We urge you to refuse to even consider the resolution.

These politically motivated resolutions are circulating in “toolkits” sent out by the Committee on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and other terrorist network support groups in the U.S. [1]. The toolkits overtly state that they do not care about the wording; they just want to be able to claim that the city/county has denounced Israel. They have unfailingly proved divisive to the community and have had the effect of pitting sides against each other in antipathy rather than bonding them together in a mutual desire for peace.

There is no possibility of a ceasefire while Hamas is still in power. As Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) said, “Israel must destroy every element of Hamas,” who’s sole and sinister purpose is to eradicate Israel and the Jewish people [2]. For your reference, we have provided excerpts from the Hamas charter below [3].

Hamas has rejected proposals for months-long pauses in fighting simply in exchange for releasing the hostages. They have vowed to draw Israel into an eternal war, manipulating public opinion and thwarting the process of normalization underway between Israel and several Arab countries. Please note that there was in fact a ceasefire in place on October 7, when Hamas slaughtered Israelis, Americans, and Foreign Nationals in the most barbaric ways seen in centuries. Hamas vows to repeat this over and over even after a new ceasefire agreement is reached.

Furthermore, we urge you not to approve any resolution whose language parrots a false narrative claiming that Jewish people in Israel are colonizers engaged in a 75-year occupation. In fact there has been a Jewish presence in Israel for the past 3,000 years. They are neither colonizers, nor “occupiers” in Gaza - Gaza has been independent since 2005 when Israel removed all its residents and military from Gaza. In 2006, Gazans voted Hamas into power and they have been under Hamas rule since. Nonetheless, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish voices claim that Israel is occupying Gaza and that "resistance is justified", spreading dangerous misinformation about a democratic country that is used as a justification for terrorism.

As a city council, you represent your local residents in municipal decisions. If the city council were to engage in international affairs, you would likely need to vote on various matters, such as the ongoing Syrian war, the Yemen Civil War, the Rohingya Crisis, the South Sudanese

Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

Sadly, ceasefire resolutions have been considered in many city councils in the past few months, and each time rather than enhance peace, they have brought with them vitriol, which has contributed to the 400% increase in anti-Semitism in this country [4]. We have most recently witnessed alarming Neo-Nazi marches in Nashville, the apprehension of an individual plotting to harm the Jewish community in Indiana, physical harm inflicted on Jews on college campuses, the murder of a Jewish man in San Diego and the unsettling cancellation of all college classes in Queens due to a credible terrorist threat.

Normalizing hate against Jews fuels white supremacy, which is seeing an unprecedented growth. The normalization of hate against Jews inadvertently is going to impact ALL minorities. We don't need any more hate in this country. We cannot regress as a country.

Jewish people do not advocate for unnecessary conflicts; it's not in our nature. Our priority is the safe return of our innocent civilians who are being held hostage, possibly under very violent conditions. Additionally, we must protect ourselves from a hostile terrorist organization that harbors destructive intentions towards Jews. Let's be clear, Hamas is waging a war against the Jewish people and democracy itself. Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Al-Zahar stated on December 12, 2022, "The entire 510 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." (source: <http://tinyurl.com/5n8298r4>)

Furthermore, with all the international conflicts that have not merited your attention, deciding to suddenly weigh in on Israel's foreign policy would send a dual message: a) that a democracy has no right to defend itself against barbaric terrorism, and b) that you hold Israel to a different standard than other countries.

The European Parliament has passed a stipulation that any call for a ceasefire should be conditional on the complete dismantling of Hamas and the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. We hope you would agree.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Ewashkow

82% of Americans support Israel's fight against Hamas" (Harvard Harris Poll). [5]

References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/

[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel->

[hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/](#)

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Eti Ezra <
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:00 AM
To: Márquez, Miguel
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

From: [Mohamed Ezz](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:09:35 AM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday


Thank you,
Mohamed Tawfik

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: cityclerk
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 4:24 PM
To: Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John
Subject: FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

From: Nazia F <
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 4:23:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Thank you,
Nazi
Sent from my iPhone

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Vicki F < >
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:37 AM
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Yes on Ceasefire Resolution

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

My name is Victoria Friesen and I work in Pasadena.

Please vote "Yes" to the ceasefire resolution on Monday, March 18.

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, "the last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire by voting "Yes" on Monday.

Thank you,

Victoria Friesen

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Brian Fagan < >
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:30 AM
To: Márquez, Miguel
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I lived in Pasadena for many years and attended CalTech to earn a Masters in Mechanical Engineering. I lived in Pasadena after graduation and worked at Hughes Aircraft and had engagement with JPL. For many years, I have always visited Pasadena and have a special place for Pasadena in my heart as a native Angelino.

Today am writing to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution related to the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolution will only alienate those that care about the survival of Israel and also care about Palestinian civilian lives.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Eugene G. Fahnestock < >
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:59 AM
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

Importance: High

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up today, 3/18/2024. Pasadena should join the dozens of other American cities that have passed similar ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - and this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an immediate inflow of significant aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all Israeli hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the current Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

From: _____
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:35:08 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

From: Adeena Fargo
To: Gordo, Victor
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:09:01 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
Adeena Fargo

From: [MARC FARAHMANDIAN](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 3:01:38 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

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I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
MARC FARAHMANDIAN

From: [Jane El Farra](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [cityclerk](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:49:57 PM

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Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

From: [Ruth Fast](#)
To: action@endjewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 5:29:03 PM

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Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out in opposition to a ceasefire resolution that will be proposed at your meeting.

While this appears to be a resolution in favor of peace, in fact it is a propaganda move to incite anti-Democracy, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish sentiments. We urge you to refuse to even consider the resolution.

These politically motivated resolutions are circulating in “toolkits” sent out by the Committee on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and other terrorist network support groups in the U.S. [1]. The toolkits overtly state that they do not care about the wording; they just want to be able to claim that the city/county has denounced Israel. They have unfailingly proved divisive to the community and have had the effect of pitting sides against each other in antipathy rather than bonding them together in a mutual desire for peace.

There is no possibility of a ceasefire while Hamas is still in power. As Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) said, “Israel must destroy every element of Hamas,” who’s sole and sinister purpose is to eradicate Israel and the Jewish people [2]. For your reference, we have provided excerpts from the Hamas charter below [3].

Hamas has rejected proposals for months-long pauses in fighting simply in exchange for releasing the hostages. They have vowed to draw Israel into an eternal war, manipulating public opinion and thwarting the process of normalization underway between Israel and several Arab countries. Please note that there was in fact a ceasefire in place on October 7, when Hamas slaughtered Israelis, Americans, and Foreign Nationals in the most barbaric ways seen in centuries. Hamas vows to repeat this over and over even after a new ceasefire agreement is reached.

Furthermore, we urge you not to approve any resolution whose language parrots a false narrative claiming that Jewish people in Israel are colonizers engaged in a 75-year occupation. In fact there has been a Jewish presence in Israel for the past 3,000 years. They are neither colonizers, nor “occupiers” in Gaza - Gaza has been independent since 2005 when Israel removed all its residents and military from Gaza. In 2006, Gazans voted Hamas into power and they have been under Hamas rule since. Nonetheless, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish voices claim that Israel is occupying Gaza and that “resistance is justified”, spreading dangerous misinformation about a democratic country that is used as a justification for terrorism.

As a city council, you represent your local residents in municipal decisions. If the city council were to engage in international affairs, you would likely need to vote on various matters, such as the ongoing Syrian war, the Yemen Civil War, the Rohingya Crisis, the South Sudanese

Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

Sadly, ceasefire resolutions have been considered in many city councils in the past few months, and each time rather than enhance peace, they have brought with them vitriol, which has contributed to the 400% increase in anti-Semitism in this country [4]. We have most recently witnessed alarming Neo-Nazi marches in Nashville, the apprehension of an individual plotting to harm the Jewish community in Indiana, physical harm inflicted on Jews on college campuses, the murder of a Jewish man in San Diego and the unsettling cancellation of all college classes in Queens due to a credible terrorist threat.

Normalizing hate against Jews fuels white supremacy, which is seeing an unprecedented growth. The normalization of hate against Jews inadvertently is going to impact ALL minorities. We don't need any more hate in this country. We cannot regress as a country.

Jewish people do not advocate for unnecessary conflicts; it's not in our nature. Our priority is the safe return of our innocent civilians who are being held hostage, possibly under very violent conditions. Additionally, we must protect ourselves from a hostile terrorist organization that harbors destructive intentions towards Jews. Let's be clear, Hamas is waging a war against the Jewish people and democracy itself. Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Al-Zahar stated on December 12, 2022, "The entire 510 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." (source: <http://tinyurl.com/5n8298r4>)

Furthermore, with all the international conflicts that have not merited your attention, deciding to suddenly weigh in on Israel's foreign policy would send a dual message: a) that a democracy has no right to defend itself against barbaric terrorism, and b) that you hold Israel to a different standard than other countries.

The European Parliament has passed a stipulation that any call for a ceasefire should be conditional on the complete dismantling of Hamas and the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. We hope you would agree.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ruth Fast

References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/

[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel-hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/>

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. 'There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

Sabha, Tamer

From: Jaklin Farzan <
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:33 AM
To: Márquez, Miguel
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquez,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
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3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: Gary Fayman <gary.fayman@pasadena.net>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:57 PM
To: Márquez, Miguel
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
Gary Fayman

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: Walaa Fawaz < >
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:00 PM
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up on the 18th. Pasadena should join the dozens of American cities that have passed ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an inflow of aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

From: Sarah Feder
To: action@endiewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 2:40:54 PM

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Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out in opposition to a ceasefire resolution that will be proposed at your meeting. While this appears to be a resolution in favor of peace, in fact it is a propaganda move to incite anti-Democracy, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish sentiments. We urge you to refuse to even consider the resolution. These politically motivated resolutions are circulating in “toolkits” sent out by the Committee on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and other terrorist network support groups in the U.S. [1]. The toolkits overtly state that they do not care about the wording; they just want to be able to claim that the city/county has denounced Israel. They have unfailingly proved divisive to the community and have had the effect of pitting sides against each other in antipathy rather than bonding them together in a mutual desire for peace.

There is no possibility of a ceasefire while Hamas is still in power. As Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) said, “Israel must destroy every element of Hamas,” whose sole and sinister purpose is to eradicate Israel and the Jewish people [2]. For your reference, we have provided excerpts from the Hamas charter below [3]. Hamas has rejected proposals for months-long pauses in fighting simply in exchange for releasing the hostages. They have vowed to draw Israel into an eternal war, manipulating public opinion and thwarting the process of normalization underway between Israel and several Arab countries.

Please note that there was in fact a ceasefire in place on October 7, when Hamas slaughtered Israelis, Americans, and Foreign Nationals in the most barbaric ways seen in centuries. Hamas vows to repeat this over and over even after a new ceasefire agreement is reached. Furthermore, we urge you not to approve any resolution whose language parrots a false narrative claiming that Jewish people in Israel are colonizers engaged in a 75-year occupation. In fact there has been a Jewish presence in Israel for the past 3,000 years. They are neither colonizers, nor “occupiers” in Gaza - Gaza has been independent since 2005 when Israel removed all its residents and military from Gaza. In 2006, Gazans voted Hamas into power and they have been under Hamas rule since. Nonetheless, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish voices claim that Israel is occupying Gaza and that “resistance is justified”, spreading dangerous misinformation about a democratic country that is used as a justification for terrorism.

As a city council, you represent your local residents in municipal decisions. If the city council were to engage in international affairs, you would likely need to vote on various matters, such as the ongoing Syrian war, the Yemen Civil War, the Rohingya Crisis, the South Sudanese Civil War, and numerous other global issues. Sadly, ceasefire resolutions have been considered in many city councils in the past few months, and each time rather than enhance peace, they have brought with them vitriol, which has contributed to the 400% increase in anti-Semitism in this country [4]. We have most recently witnessed alarming Neo-Nazi marches in Nashville, the apprehension of an individual plotting to harm the Jewish

community in Indiana, physical harm inflicted on Jews on college campuses, the murder of a Jewish man in San Diego and the unsettling cancellation of all college classes in Queens due to a credible terrorist threat. Normalizing hate against Jews fuels white supremacy, which is seeing an unprecedented growth. The normalization of hate against Jews inadvertently is going to impact ALL minorities.

We don't need any more hate in this country. We cannot regress as a country. Jewish people do not advocate for unnecessary conflicts; it's not in our nature. Our priority is the safe return of our innocent civilians who are being held hostage, possibly under very violent conditions. Additionally, we must protect ourselves from a hostile terrorist organization that harbors destructive intentions towards Jews. Let's be clear, Hamas is waging a war against the Jewish people and democracy itself. Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Al-Zahar stated on December 12, 2022, "The entire 510 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." (source: <http://tinyurl.com/5n8298r4>) Furthermore, with all the international conflicts that have not merited your attention, deciding to suddenly weigh in on Israel's foreign policy would send a dual message: a) that a democracy has no right to defend itself against barbaric terrorism, and b) that you hold Israel to a different standard than other countries. The European Parliament has passed a stipulation that any call for a ceasefire should be conditional on the complete dismantling of Hamas and the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. We hope you would agree.

Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,
Sarah feder

82% of Americans support Israel's fight against Hamas" (Harvard Harris Poll). [5]
References: [1] CAIR toolkit: https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/ [2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire> [3] https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp [4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel-hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/> [5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com> Excerpts from Hamas Charter: 1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble) 2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15) 3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33) 4. There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13) 5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

--

Sarah Feder MS CCC/SLP

From: [June Feigelman](#)
To: action@endiewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 6:40:40 PM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

82% of Americans support Israel's fight against Hamas" (Harvard Harris Poll). [5]

References:

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[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel-hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/>

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June Feigelman
Cell

From: [Anne Feingold](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:30:22 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
Anne Feingold

From: Galit Feinreich
To: Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Lyon, Jason; Márquez, Miguel; Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Please shut down the highly divisive and inappropriate ceasefire resolution
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 12:37:20 PM

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Dear Honorable Mayor Gordo and esteemed City Council of Pasadena,

I am writing to plead that you please do not put to vote a resolution regarding a unilateral Ceasefire in the war in Gaza. As a 21 year resident of the area (Altadena and La Canada) I love Pasadena and love spending time enjoying its many outdoor, retail, food and cultural offerings -- and this resolution would truly break my heart and my confidence in my elected leaders to protect minority ethnic groups in your midst.

Firstly, please understand that advocating for a ceasefire in Gaza without conditioning it on the release of the 134+ remaining hostages and the surrender of the Hamas terrorist group is immoral and unjust. Moreover it will only add to the ongoing trauma experienced by your Jewish residents and visitors who are still suffering from the impact of the ongoing crimes against humanity of October 7, the brutal war following, and the skyrocketing antisemitism everywhere we turn.

To be frank, this body does not have the expertise, charter or resources to weigh in on this complex international conflict. As has happened in cities all over the country, these resolutions become an opportunity for misinformed or even hateful folks to further spew hurtful slogans and disinformation about Israel, Jews and the conflict. These protests may masquerade as being pro-Palestinian, but in actuality do nothing to help the Palestinian cause. They mostly serve to further traumatize and gaslight Jews -- most of whom care deeply about Palestinian lives as we mourn our own losses. As we speak 134+ remaining hostages are likely being tortured -- not to mention what their families are experiencing as they count the seconds until they return.

As you hopefully know, on October 7, the Jewish people endured their most horrific mass slaughter since the holocaust, including atrocities that have now been verified by the UN and NY Times among others: mass rape, torturing children in front of their parents and vice versa, burning alive entire families and neighborhoods. Horrifically, many of these details came to light because they were gleefully live streamed by the terrorists themselves. Dozens of innocent people: including children, women, the elderly -- and several Americans remain in captivity as hostages in Gaza. In addition tens of thousands of Israeli citizens remain uprooted

from their homes due to ongoing missile strikes from Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon. In addition, we mourn the heavy losses of Gazan civilians who have also been dragged into this war by Hamas -- and who are being used as human shields while Hamas militants hide in 350 miles of tunnels and hospitals, mosques and schools -- and literally shoot Gazans who try to flee. Israel has been forced to respond harshly to eradicate this US designated terrorist group and prevent further attacks by Hamas (not to mention Hezbollah in Lebanon), who has repeatedly promised to repeat October 7 until Jews are wiped off the earth.

I am grateful that some of you came to the vigil at Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, shortly after the atrocities of October 7. I was the person who stood when Jason Moss asked if there were any Israelis in the audience. In the midst of the most intense grief of my life, I was grateful to feel care and solidarity from Mayor Gordo, Judy Chu and other leaders. But while 5 months have passed, my community is still in shock and grief -- not only from the indescribable impact on Israelis and Gazans as a result of the brutal attack, but also given the alarming rise of antisemitism and hate crimes against Jewish people worldwide. Reported hate crimes against Jews have skyrocketed past any other hate crimes, including islamophobic and race motivated attacks. My son is in college and what is happening on US college campuses absolutely echoes the atmosphere in 1930's Europe before the holocaust.

As such, even raising a resolution for an unconditional ceasefire -- opening the door for more disinformation and vitriol to be hurled our way -- sends a signal that the City Council of Pasadena doesn't care about your Jewish constituents. And opening the matter to vote would be an injustice as Jews represent a tiny ethnic minority -- 0.02% of the world and 2% of the US world population -- and even smaller in Pasadena. We simply can't out yell or outvote this issue in our small numbers.

Ideally, you will shut down this opportunity to spread hate, divisiveness and propaganda before it starts. If your desire is to express solidarity with innocent Palestinian civilians who are suffering greatly in this war (which is a goal that I also share), I respectfully suggest that you consider a ceasefire resolution that clearly demanding release of all hostages, surrender of Hamas and a ceasefire from Hezbollah, Hamas, Palestinian Jihad along with Israel. In addition, might I respectfully suggest a resolution asking Egypt, Jordan, Qatar and other neighboring countries to open their doors and provide a temporary safe haven to innocent Gazan civilians as has been done in a number of conflicts, including the one in Syria ongoing war in Ukraine -- where six million civilians were taken in by neighboring countries.

Please consider that even entertaining a ceasefire resolution will harm many of your constituents as well as your standing as ambassadors of tolerance, respect and inclusivity for all. I personally would feel heartbroken if this incredibly biased resolution passes in my beloved hometown.

From: [Craig Feinstein](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:59:20 AM

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,
Craig Feinstein

From: [DrDonna Feldman](#)
To: action@endjewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:32:27 AM

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Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out in opposition to a ceasefire resolution that will be proposed at your meeting.

While this appears to be a resolution in favor of peace, in fact it is a propaganda move to incite anti-Democracy, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish sentiments. We urge you to refuse to even consider the resolution.

These politically motivated resolutions are circulating in “toolkits” sent out by the Committee on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and other terrorist network support groups in the U.S. [1]. The toolkits overtly state that they do not care about the wording; they just want to be able to claim that the city/county has denounced Israel. They have unfailingly proved divisive to the community and have had the effect of pitting sides against each other in antipathy rather than bonding them together in a mutual desire for peace.

There is no possibility of a ceasefire while Hamas is still in power. As Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) said, “Israel must destroy every element of Hamas,” who’s sole and sinister purpose is to eradicate Israel and the Jewish people [2]. For your reference, we have provided excerpts from the Hamas charter below [3].

Hamas has rejected proposals for months-long pauses in fighting simply in exchange for releasing the hostages. They have vowed to draw Israel into an eternal war, manipulating public opinion and thwarting the process of normalization underway between Israel and several Arab countries. Please note that there was in fact a ceasefire in place on October 7, when Hamas slaughtered Israelis, Americans, and Foreign Nationals in the most barbaric ways seen in centuries. Hamas vows to repeat this over and over even after a new ceasefire agreement is reached.

Furthermore, we urge you not to approve any resolution whose language parrots a false narrative claiming that Jewish people in Israel are colonizers engaged in a 75-year occupation. In fact there has been a Jewish presence in Israel for the past 3,000 years. They are neither colonizers, nor “occupiers” in Gaza - Gaza has been independent since 2005 when Israel removed all its residents and military from Gaza. In 2006, Gazans voted Hamas into power and they have been under Hamas rule since. Nonetheless, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish voices claim that Israel is occupying Gaza and that “resistance is justified”, spreading dangerous misinformation about a democratic country that is used as a justification for terrorism.

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Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

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From: deena.feller
To: action@endjewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:49:46 PM

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Deena Feller

From: NATHANIEL FELLER
To: action@endjewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 4:58:07 PM

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Nathaniel D Feller

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[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Erica Felsenthal < >
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:49 PM
To: Márquez, Miguel
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

From: Lovelle Femme
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:40:05 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,


Lovelle Femme

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:53 AM
To: Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John
Subject: FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

From: J Fennell <
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:53:09 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Gordo, Victor
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,
J Fennell (they/them)

From: [Jacob Fenton](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 10:11:16 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

This is not relevant or jurisdictionally appropriate business to the city of Pasadena either.

From: [Melissa Fernandez](#)
Cc: [cityclerk](#); [PublicComment-AutoResponse](#); [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Ceasefire Now!
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:54:40 PM

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Dear Mayor Victor Gordo,

I lived in Pasadena for four years attending ArtCenter College of Design and grew fond of the community. It is small but mighty and I've noticed how every individual's voice displays acts of determination and peace.

Please vote "Yes" to the ceasefire resolution on Monday, March 18.

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, "the last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudhy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire by voting "Yes" on Monday.

Thank you,

Melissa Fernandez

From: [Melissa Ferrari](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:25:23 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I am a South Pas resident who has been deeply horrified by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge. Our US tax dollars are enabling this genocide - the least we can do is officially call for a ceasefire.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

We must respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,
Melissa Ferrari
South Pasadena