

From: [Hedab](#)
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 5:09:49 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,

In Peace
Sent from my iPhone

From: Daniel Heitner
To: Gordo, Victor
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:38:18 AM

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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,
Daniel Heitner

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: David Henriquez
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:34 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 had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

I do not condone the vicious attack at the Supernova Sukkot Gathering which left 364 Israeli civilians killed or wounded. But 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.

Thank you

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: Isabella Henriquez
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:40 PM
To: cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Gordo, Victor
Subject: Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

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

Thank you

From:
To: action@endjewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:28:02 AM

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[important](#)

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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,

Jon Herbitter, PhD

#

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].

Jon Herbitter, PhD

#

From: [Belen Hernandez](#)
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 1:04:55 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,
Belen H

From: [Cristian Hernandez](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:04:14 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,

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: Beth Herndobler
To: Lyon, Jason
Cc: Gordo, Victor
Subject: Please call for an immediate ceasefire
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:18:58 AM

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{contact_data~salutation,}

I write to you as a constituent and as a member of Amnesty International USA with deep concern over the escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel. The U.S. government – including at the local level – is uniquely positioned to have tremendous impact in this conflict to ensure the protection of civilians and prevent further suffering.

Since October 7, we have witnessed horror unfolding on an unimaginable scale in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel. More than 2 million Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip are struggling to survive amid the Israeli military's ongoing offensive, and the level of civilian casualties has been unprecedented.

I am encouraging you to publicly call for an immediate ceasefire and appeal to the Israeli government to allow life-saving fuel, water, and food into Gaza.

The majority of Americans support a ceasefire, but President Biden has yet to call for one. In response, towns and cities across the country are rising up to pass their own resolutions. I ask that you, in your capacity, do what you can to help to pass one here.

The need for an immediate ceasefire by all parties is more urgent than ever to protect civilians, prevent a mounting civilian death toll in Gaza, prevent further displacement of Palestinians, and provide an opportunity to secure the safe release of the remaining hostages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beth Herndobler

cc: Victor Gordo
100 N. Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, Los Angeles
91109

From: [Cheri Herrboldt](#)
To: [cityclerk](#); [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Ceasefire Resolution
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 8:45:42 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

Please vote "Yes" to the resolution condemning the genocide in Gaza and calling for a ceasefire on Monday March 18.

[Human Rights Watch](#) agrees with the International Court of Justice that Israel's actions in Gaza constitute a genocide and urges other countries to "use all forms of leverage, including sanctions and embargoes, to press the Israeli government to comply with the court's binding orders in the genocide case."

[Human Rights Watch](#) has also previously called the conditions in the West Bank and Gaza "apartheid" conditions.

The Israeli human rights group, [B'T Selem](#), [accuses Israel of War Crimes in Gaza](#) and states, "...this policy is not new, but has been implemented towards Gaza for many years. The death, destruction, pain and horror it has wrought have led to nothing but more horror."

Pasadena can do our part by passing a ceasefire resolution now.

Thank you very much,

Cheri Herrboldt

From: [Debbie Hertz](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:18:15 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,
Debbie Hertz

From: [Hervey MD](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:07:15 PM

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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,
Hervey MD

From: [Donelia Heyn-Lamb](#)
To: [Lyon, Jason](#)
Cc: [Gordo, Victor](#); [cityclerk](#)
Subject: YES on Ceasefire resolution
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 1:33:34 PM

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Dear Councilmember Lyon,

My name is Donelia Heyn-Lamb, and I reside in Pasadena, zip code 91104. Thank you for voting to agendize the resolution on ceasefire in Gaza. I was in the council chambers last Monday and it was an exciting moment.

And now I must urge you to vote YES on the resolution for ceasefire this Monday. This is an extremely important issue for me as I have spent the last 25 years advocating for peace and justice in Palestine and Israel. I am appalled at Israel's response in Gaza and the U.S. blank check for more and more weapons for Israel's war on all the people of Gaza. It must stop! And so must the U.S. supply of weaponry in spite of our own laws against it.

The very least we must do is go on the record with other cities and towns across the nation saying enough is enough! Stop the killing! Please vote yes to support the resolution for ceasefire.

Thank you,
Donelia Heyn-Lamb

From: [Randall Heyn-Lamb](#)
To: [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Pass the Ceasefire Now Resolution
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 4:51:03 PM

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Dear Jess,

My name is Randall Heyn-Lamb and I live in your district.

I testified during last night's open comment period and I'm writing to thank you for your vote to put a ceasefire resolution on the council agenda for Monday. I also want to urge you to vote YES on the resolution when it comes up for a vote.

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.

As I testified last night, the staff of Al Ahli Hospital in the Gaza City neighborhood of Zeitoun is the only hospital remaining open in the northern half of the Gaza Strip. But they are providing services out of a blast damaged building, understaffed, undersupplied and under stress.

Refusing to act is not an option. We need a ceasefire resolution and we need one immediately. This is a critical issue in our community.

Thank you for your time.


Randall Heyn-Lamb

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:16 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: Anwar Hijaz
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:15:49 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,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lana Hijaz](#)
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 6:38:01 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,


Lana Hijaz

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:57 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: Adel Hijazi
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:56:47 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,

Adel Hijazi

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,
J.K. Hill

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].

Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

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[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>

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Naomi Hillel

From: [Ruthi Hirschberg](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:17:47 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,
Ruthi Hirschberg

From: [David Hirschman](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 2:35:22 PM

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Sincerely,
David Hirschman

From: [Jay Hodes](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 11:15:34 PM

You don't often get email from [jay.hodes@pasadena.gov](#), so this is important

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

As a frequent patron of the arts to your city, 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.

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Sincerely,
Jay Hodes

From: [Susan Hodes](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 3:32:55 PM

You don't often get email from [Susan Hodes](#). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Sincerely,
Susan Hodes

From: [jen.eleana.hofer](#)
To: [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#); [Gordo, Victor](#); [inlandvalleymuslims@gmail.com](#)
Subject: Vote YES to Pass the Ceasefire Resolution!!
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:54:17 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, official count is over 38,000 people killed by Israeli forces -- very likely thousands more are buried under the rubble. Most recently, Israel has escalated the 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.

I am a Latinx Jewish person committed to the liberation of Palestinians and all people, vehemently against apartheid, oppression and occupation of all kinds. For the past 23 years I've been living and working in Northeast Los Angeles. I regularly work, shop, dine, attend cultural events, bike, and hang out with friends in Pasadena. While I do not live there, your city is an important part of my life and I want to feel good about spending time there. Please do everything you can do end the genocide in Gaza.

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, March 18th.

Thank you,
Jen/Eleana Hofer

--

name preference: eleana or j/e or jen/eleana
pronouns: they/ellx ([why do pronouns matter?](#))

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In solidarity with the Tongva people whose unceded land I steward and where I work and live, I offer an ongoing Kuuy nahwá'a or *guest exchange* -- a voluntary recurring contribution to support the [Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Conservancy](#). If you live in the L.A. area, [consider doing the same!](#) [Learn more about voluntary land taxes](#) including [landback projects in other areas](#).

From: [Ramzi Hogan](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyrone](#); [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 11:24:50 AM

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Thank you,
Ramzi Hogan

From: [Kirsten Hollander](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 2:45:59 PM

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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,
Kirsten Hollander

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:29 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: Tyler Holcomb
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:28:34 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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Thank you,

Tyler Nicchi

Sent from my iPhone

From: [allen Home](#)
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 8:21:53 AM

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Thank you,

From: lindsayimaihong@gmail.com
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 9:46:50 PM

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Thank you,
Lindsay Imai hong

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jenna Hoover](#)
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 4:05:24 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

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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,
Jenna Cobb
District 2 - Zip Code 91106

Sabha, Tamer

From: Richard Horowitz <richard@horowitz.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:19 PM
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.
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: [Jennifer Hotes](#)
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 9:08:15 AM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

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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,
Jennifer Hotes

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:06 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: Kelly Howell <kelly@radicalwellness.co>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:05:47 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,

From: [Emilie Hu](#)
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 10:47:09 PM

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Thank you,


Emilie Hu

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:23 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: Crystal H
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:22:51 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,

Sent from my iPhone

From: Hntr
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 9:36:10 AM

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Thank you,
Hunter

From: [Ellen Hurwitz](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 1:42:17 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:

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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,
Ellen Hurwitz

From: Farooq Hussain
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Cc: [Hampton, Tyrone](#); [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 5:47:47 PM

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Thank you,
Farooq Hussain

From: Nizam Husaini
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 5:06:18 AM

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Thank you,

Nizam Husaini

From: [Rebecca Husaini](#)
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 6:24:46 PM

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Thank you,
Rebecca Husaini
Pasadena resident

Kenebrew, Jerice

From: cityclerk
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John
Subject: FW: An immediate and permanent ceasefire

From: Dan Huynh
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:39:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: An immediate and permanent ceasefire

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

I work and live in Pasadena and am writing to strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on Monday, March 18th on the resolution calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

As a first-generation Asian American and granddaughter of refugees, the reverberations of intergenerational trauma cannot be understated. My heart breaks for the thousands of children of Gaza and Palestine who carry countless memories of suffering and loss. Many more will if we do not act now to change the trajectory of history.

Please join the over 55 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudhy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an **immediate and permanent ceasefire**.

Thank you,
Dan Huynh
91101

From: [John Hyde](#)
To: [Gordo, Victor](#)
Subject: Ceasefire Resolution
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:36:49 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo, I'm John Hyde, the current Chairperson for the Interfaith Study Group, where over 400 Muslims, Christians and Jews have been coming together monthly in Churches, Mosques and Temples since 2007 to appreciate each other's faith traditions and build kinship. Since Oct. 7th, our meetings have focused on supporting each other in our grief through compassionate listening. Christian and Muslim Palestinians and Jews are all grieving their losses and several of our members have lost entire families. It's gratifying to witness our members having room in their hearts to support each other during these difficult times, but the War in Gaza must stop now!

As Senator Shumer, an ardent supporter of Israel, indicated Israel needs to have elections to select a new leader. Netanyahu is unwilling to do what is best for Israel because of his personal ambitions. He has no interest in stopping the killing of innocents.

The slaughter stops and a two-state solution starts with a ceasefire and Senator Shumer and President Biden know that, but need your support to make that happen. A City of Pasadena resolution for an immediate and lasting ceasefire will add to the numbers of cities across America that are already providing support for that political move in this election year. Our city's endorsement will also bring our divided country together again as over 60% of Americans are already in favor of a Ceasefire.

The killing must stop, the hostages returned, and an equitable two state solution must be created right away and supported so Israel and Palestine can live in peace and prosperity.

From: [Carrie Hymowitz](#)
To: action@endiewhatred.com
Subject: Vote NO to a ceasefire
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:31:57 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.

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,

Carrie

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].

Carrie Colwes Hymowitz, PsyD