

**From:** [Maryam Saleemi](#)  
**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 9:16:40 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,

Maryam Saleemi

**From:** [Shandiz Savaheli](#)  
**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 8:42:47 AM

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**From:** [Madjda Sahtout](#)  
**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 10:38:46 AM

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Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Michael Sacher  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 3:53:53 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,  
Michael Sacher



**From:** [Jessica sacher](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:13:02 AM

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Sincerely,  
Jessica sacher

**From:** [Sandra Saffer](#)  
**To:** [action@endjewhatred.com](mailto:action@endjewhatred.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 3:35:45 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,

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/](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](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].



**From:** [Kirsten](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18, please vote yes  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:22:24 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

Thank you so much for adding the ceasefire resolution on the agenda for Monday. 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,  
Kirsten Schaffer

**From:** [Suniti Sanghavi](#)  
**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 6:55:12 PM

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Thank you,

Suniti Sanghavi

**From:** Sarah Salim  
**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,  
Sarah Salim

**From:** [Madida Sahtout](#)  
**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  
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Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [M. Salah](#)  
**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 7:42:31 PM

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Thank you,

David

**From:** Regina Safdie  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:55:40 PM

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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,  
Regina Safdie

**From:** [Joshua Saidoff](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 3:48:20 PM

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Sincerely,  
Joshua Saidoff

**From:** [Jake Sachse](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 2:34:56 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,  
Jake Sachse



**From:** Sara Savar  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 2:46:58 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.
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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,  
Sara Savar

**From:** [Anthony Savino](#)  
**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 6:02:02 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,  
Anthony Savino

**From:** [Beatrice Satmary](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 6:10:37 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,  
Beatrice Satmary

**From:** [tura.satanaa](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Jones, Justin](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:06:31 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,

Jessica Parral

**From:** [Angela Sassounian](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:51:53 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,

**From:** [Nina Sarnelle](#)  
**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 5:02:00 PM

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-----  
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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,

Nina Sarnelle  
Pasadena resident

**From:** [Sofia Santos](#)  
**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 7:57:20 PM

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Thank you,  
Sofia Santos

## Kenebrew, Jerice

---

**From:** JANET SAADIAN   
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 10:22 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:

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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,  
JANET SAADIAN


Great Neck, NY 11023




## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Emma Scott   
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 11:51 AM  
**To:** Rivas, Jessica  
**Cc:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; cityclerk  
**Subject:** Vote yes on ceasefire resolution

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Dear Councilmember Jess Rivas,

My name is Emma Scott, I'm registered to vote in district 5 in Pasadena. I'm writing to ask that you vote YES on the Gaza ceasefire resolution today. I am deeply concerned about the genocide Israel is committing against the people of Gaza. Tens of thousands of people have died, the majority of which have been women and children. Beyond that, the vast majority of the people living there are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked-- and Israel attacks the people trying to access the aid that does get in.

Please support Pasadena joining the dozens of other US cities in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. I truly believe that local politics matter even in global affairs where we otherwise feel powerless. Furthermore, I'm proud to say I grew up and live in Pasadena-- I hope the city will be on the right side of history today.

Please vote YES on the ceasefire.


Sincerely,  
Emma (Emmanuelle) Scott

## Sabha, Tamer

---

**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 8:47 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

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**From:** Tam Sackman   
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 8:46:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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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,

Tam Sackman


Sent via [Superhuman](#)

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Donna Saunders   
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 7:09 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.

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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.

**From:** Denise Schaefer  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Cc:** Jomsky, Mark; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Comments on the Ceasefire Resolution at March meeting  
**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:16:51 PM

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Dear Esteemed Mayor and Elected Officials of the Pasadena City Council-

I lived with my family in Pasadena for 18 years- my husband's business is in Pasadena, I worked in Pasadena for 30 years, and we sent our children to Pasadena schools. I currently volunteer my time to tutor at one of the PUSD elementary schools.

I am extremely proud of the diversity in Pasadena- it is one of the reasons we moved to this area. It takes careful thought and focus to understand our own community, and then prioritizing the diverse needs of Pasadena. I thank you for all your efforts.

However, spending time on a complicated international issue that diverts your attention is counterproductive to the needs of our entire community. It will only create a divide in your constituents and erode all your work in bringing our diverse community together. This is a lose-lose vote.

PLEASE do the right thing and choose NOT to make a resolution on an international issue. Make us proud to be part of the diverse Pasadena community where all are heard and all are welcome.

With appreciation,  
Denise Schaefer

**From:** [Elliot Schutzer](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:00:21 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

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Sincerely,  
Elliot Schutzer

**From:** [Aileen Schutzer](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 3:59:39 PM

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Sincerely,  
Aileen Schutzer

**From:** [Allie Schreiner](#)  
**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 10:23:48 AM

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Thank you,

Allison Schreiner  
(Fuller Seminary Graduate, Pasadena Mennonite Church Member)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emily Schnitger](#)  
**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 9:09:37 AM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I am a resident and business owner in Pasadena. My kids attend schools in PUSD and my family attends Pasadena Mennonite church. It is my faith and my work as a mental health professional that compels me to me to write to you.

I am deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. The number of people killed by Israeli forces since Oct. 7 - over 38,000!! - is indefensible, particularly as the **number of children murdered is over 13,000. The number of children killed in Gaza in the last 5 months is higher than the combined number of children killed in global conflicts over the previous 4 years.** And now 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.

This is not a war. This has gone beyond self defense. Self defense is not starving an entire population and slaughtering children. We must call for an end to this senseless violence.

The city of Pasadena 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 Council member Rivas, this Monday.

With prayers for peace for the people of Gaza and the people of Israel. We cannot bomb our way to peace.

Thank you,  
Emily Schnitger  
91104, 91101, 91107



**From:** [Elliot Schutzer](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:00:21 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,  
Elliot Schutzer

**From:** Ronit Schwab  
**To:** [action@endjewhatred.com](mailto:action@endjewhatred.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:07:53 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,

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/](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](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].

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sara Schulman](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** City council resolution.  
**Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 2:50:09 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am a longtime Jewish resident of Pasadena. One of the things I love about this city is the spirit of tolerance here; it's a very different energy than what I feel in LA. The local Jewish school (which, sadly, closed in 2020) for years had an annual concert together with the Muslim school, and there was an Israeli Jewish boy who, a few years ago, was a star on the Muslim school's basketball team. That's the kind of city we live in.

Now, I read that the city council is considering a Gaza cease fire resolution on Monday. Such resolutions mean nothing and do nothing, except to antagonize people and pit them against each other. We **all** want an ending to this war and the terrible destruction it is causing, but a cease fire resolution should not be one-sided. It should go along with a release of the remaining Israeli hostages taken on Oct. 7 and an end to the Hamas-led government, which planned and executed this brutal attack and will never be an agent for peace.

There are many Israelis living here who are part of the Caltech community, and many Jews who have family and friends who have lost loved ones. To pass a one-sided resolution against Israel feels like a slap in the face to them, and there is fear that it would lead to more actions to make Jews feel unsafe here. So please, **don't do this!** Leave US foreign policy to the federal government and let Pasadena remain a place of peace and respect for all its citizens.

Best wishes, Sara Schulman

**From:** [mdimbi](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Cease fire in Gaza  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2024 6:31:14 PM

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-----

Member of Pasadena area jewish community; i say yes to ceasefire in Gaza, end to hostilities and restoration of access by Gazans to all necessities of life.

Thanks.

Madeline Schleimer

Longtime 'Unincorporated County/Pasadena resident.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Saren Schapiro](#)  
**To:** [action@endjewhatred.com](mailto:action@endjewhatred.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 7:33:04 AM

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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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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: [https://www.cair.com/press\\_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/](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](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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**Saren Schapiro, M.Sc., CCC-SLP**  
SAGE Speech & Learning Associates

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**From:** Solvej Schou  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 2:13:58 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,  
Solvej Schou

**From:** [Frank Scoffield](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#)  
**Cc:** [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on Ceasefire Resolution  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:27:48 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo and Council Members,

I am a resident of Pasadena, a member of Pasadena Mennonite Church, and I urge you to **vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas** ([Attachment E](#) on Monday's agenda). I have friends whose civilian families have been killed by Israel's disproportionate and illegal military response against Gaza since October 7th.

Diverse cities like Pasadena have constituencies with direct connections globally. You know this, or you would not have (rightly) condemned the violence in Artsakh in 2022. **If for no other reason, you should pass this Ceasefire Resolution to keep large portions of your constituency.**


I understand that similar to myself, there must be constituents who have Israeli loved ones impacted by the events on and since October 7th. The intention of this Ceasefire Resolution is not to discredit the grief of these Pasadena neighbors. The intention is to put an end to the excessive actions by the state of Israel against the civilian population of Gaza at this critical moment.

**At this point -- with 30k+ Palestinian civilians killed, and with a practical opportunity before us to call for peace (voting YES) -- there is no alternative that wouldn't make us, as a city, complicit by omission in Israel's actions.** I hope that come Monday night, I can be proud that my city's leaders stood for human rights, international law, and the will of its constituents.

Respectfully,  
Frank Scoffield

**From:** [Michael Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Márquez, Miquel](#); [Jomsky, Mark](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting March 18, 2024  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:13:38 PM

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Dear Mr. Mayor and Distinguished Members of the City Council,

I am a resident of Pasadena and have been since 1986. My daughter and her family reside in Pasadena. I am a physician in Pasadena and my daughter and her husband are Orthodontists in Pasadena.

I understand that there is a resolution on the agenda for the March 18th meeting calling for a cease fire in Gaza among other issues related to the Israel/Hamas conflict. The Israeli-Palestinian situation is a highly contested and divisive issue that has been going on for many years. A resolution from the City of Pasadena is not going to facilitate any progress or resolution in the Israeli-Palestinian situation. However, should the city pass a resolution taking a stand on the issue of a cease fire, it is likely to only tear the community apart and engender more conflict among the citizens of Pasadena. The city council should be doing everything in its power to bring the citizens of Pasadena together in this time of strife and uncertainty.

I feel strongly that the Pasadena City Council should not be weighing in on international affairs and conflicts, but should be focused on issues that pertain to Pasadena. It is not the job of the city council to pass resolutions favoring one side or the other in international affairs. Any resolution pertaining to the conflict in Israel and Gaza will only inflame passions that are already at a maximal level, and will by definition exclude and alienate a large percentage of Pasadena residents.

I implore you to take a stand stating that the focus of the Pasadena City Council should be on issues that directly affect the City of Pasadena. Thank you for your attention and your service to our city.

Respectfully,

Michael S. Schwartz, MD, FACS

**From:** [Evan Schwarz](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 12:51:37 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

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Sincerely,  
Evan Schwarz

**From:** Gary Schiller  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 1:04:41 PM

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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,  
Gary Schiller

**From:** alexandria.schieber  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:45:48 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.

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Sincerely,

**From:** [Mike Scherr](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 11:50:42 AM

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Sincerely,  
Mike Scherr



**From:** [Andrew Schleder](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:12:16 PM

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Sincerely,  
Andrew Schleder

**From:** [Audrey Schaps](#)  
**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:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:37:12 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 Council member Rivas, this Monday.

Thank you,  
Audrey Schaps, proud mom, nurse practitioner, wife and anti-zionest Jew

**From:** Sharon Schlossberg  
**To:** [action@endjewhatred.com](mailto:action@endjewhatred.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:18:00 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,

Sharon Schlossberg

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/](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](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].