

## A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING AN IMMEDIATE BILATERAL CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

**WHEREAS**, the loss of life and displacement of people in Israel and Palestine has directly impacted our community through both our direct connections to friends and loved ones in Israel and Gaza, and our shared suffering in the face of the ongoing crisis and its ripples; and

1           **WHEREAS**, on October 7th, over 1,200 citizens of Israel and visitors from other  
2 countries lost their lives; and

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4           **WHEREAS**, since October 7th over 30,000 Palestinians and countless visitors and aid  
5 workers in Gaza have perished, and

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7           **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany recognizes the fear, anxiety, and grief of Israelis and  
8 Albany residents whose friends and loved ones perished, were taken hostage or survived the  
9 October 7th attack with physical and psychological injuries, and the continuing pain for the  
10 suffering of those who are being held hostage; and

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12           **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany recognizes the fear, anxiety, and grief of Palestinians,  
13 Gazans, and Albany residents whose friends and loved ones have perished since October 7 or  
14 have survived with physical and psychological injuries; and

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16           **WHEREAS**, millions of lives are at imminent risk from the continued hostilities and  
17 due to a lack of food and medical care; and

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19           **WHEREAS**, international organizations like Amnesty International, the United  
20 Nations, European Parliament, the World Health Organization, the US Agency for  
21 International Development (USAID), the International Rescue Committee, the International  
22 Court of Justice, and many others have made calls for an end to the hostilities in order to  
23 prevent the further loss of civilian lives, allow entry of humanitarian aid, and comply with  
24 international humanitarian law; and

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26           **WHEREAS**, our nation and our leaders are uniquely situated to help bring about a  
27 peaceful end to the current violence.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Albany City Council does hereby urge our community to develop and participate in activities that foster tolerance, empathy, education, understanding of people of all backgrounds and religious faiths, and promote peaceful conflict resolution among all parties; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Albany joins other cities in calling for our national government to demand an immediate, unconditional and bilateral ceasefire in Gaza, unconditional release of all hostages and civilian prisoners, the unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza, the full restoration of food, water, electricity, and medical supplies to Gaza, and negotiation of a permanent, just solution to the conflict that results in lasting prosperity for all by affirming all parties right to self determination and peaceful coexistence; and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the offices of U.S. Representative Barbara Lee, U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, Qatari Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, U.S. President Joe Biden, and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, as well as the leadership of both Israel and Gaza urging them to take immediate action to use their position and influence to negotiate an end to the violence in Gaza and Israel.

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JOHN MIKI, MAYOR