

CEASEFIRE RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN MA

Somerville ([Link](#)) January 25, 2024

Cambridge ([Link](#)) January 29, 2024

Medford ([Link](#)) February 6, 2024

Northampton ([Link](#)) February 27, 2024

Amherst ([Link](#)) March 4, 2024

Melrose ([Link](#)) March 11, 2024

TEMPLATE CEASEFIRE Resolutions

Somerville Draft

WHEREAS, All human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, Between October 7, 2023, and January 12, 2024, armed violence has claimed the lives of at least 23,000 Palestinians and over 1,200 Israelis, and wounded 60,000 Palestinians according to the Palestinian Health Ministry and the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs ; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 1,700,000 Palestinians have been displaced within or in Gaza since October 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, The World Food Programme urges an immediate, emergency humanitarian response as the entire population of Gaza is at crisis or higher levels of food insecurity and about 50% of the population is at emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Dec 21, 2023 report)

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian lives are at imminent risk in Gaza without a sustained ceasefire and without massive humanitarian relief; and

WHEREAS, The lives of more than 137 remaining Israeli hostages in Gaza are also at imminent risk; and

WHEREAS, The United States Government currently provides substantial military funding to Israel; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an “immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce” between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and various international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, The City of Somerville recognizes its diverse community with residents having deep connections to Israel and Palestine, including family, friends, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of labor unions have recently called for a ceasefire, including local unions in Somerville such as the Somerville Educators Union that represent the majority of Somerville Public School employees,

WHEREAS, Members of the Somerville community, including Palestinians, Israelis, Arabs, Muslims, Jews, and others, have experienced and continue to experience shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia, and antisemitism both nationally and locally; and

WHEREAS, Islamophobic, anti-Palestinian, anti-arab, antisemitic, and xenophobic rhetoric and attacks are on the rise across the nation and in Somerville; and

WHEREAS, Somerville advocates for the safety, dignity, freedom, and equality of all people, regardless of religion, race, or nationality, in line with its commitment to human rights and ethical standards and its commitment as a Sanctuary City; and

WHEREAS, The City of Somerville is committed to collaborating with other cities, national bodies, and international organizations in efforts to resolve this conflict and share best practices; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of cities around the country, including labor unions representing City workers in Somerville, have called for a ceasefire and expressed concerns over rising instances of discrimination as they perform their job duties; and

...

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Somerville City Council calls for a sustained ceasefire, provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages, innocent detainees and political prisoners; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Somerville City Council urges the Biden Administration, Senate and Congress to call for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages, innocent detainees and political prisoners; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Somerville City Council condemns antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, anti-arab, Islamophobic, anti-israeli and all xenophobic rhetoric and attacks, and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the **legislative bodies of our neighboring municipalities, Boston, Everett, Malden, Medford, Arlington, and Cambridge,** as well as U.S Senator Elizabeth Warren, U.S Senator Edward “Ed” Markey, Governor Maura Healey, Representative Ayanna Pressley, U.S. President Joe Biden, and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, urging them to take immediate action and use their position and influence to represent the will of the people, calling for a sustained ceasefire.

The Somerville for Palestine Draft drew on the San Francisco and Oakland Ceasefire Resolutions which are below.

San Francisco CEASEFIRE Resolution

[Calling for Sustained Ceasefire in Gaza, Humanitarian Aid, Release of Hostages and Political Prisoners, and Condemning Antisemitic, Anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic Rhetoric and Attacks] Resolution calling for a sustained ceasefire in Gaza, humanitarian aid, release of hostages, and condemning antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic rhetoric and attacks.

WHEREAS, All human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, Between October 7 and December 4, 2023, armed violence has claimed the lives of at least 15,000 Palestinians and over 1,200 Israelis, and wounded thousands more; and
WHEREAS, An estimated 1,700,000 Palestinians have been displaced from Gaza since October 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk in Gaza without a sustained ceasefire and without massive humanitarian relief; and

WHEREAS, The lives of more than 137 remaining Israeli hostages in Gaza are also at imminent risk; and

WHEREAS, The United States Government currently provides substantial military funding to Israel; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an “immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce” between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and various other international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire; and Supervisors Preston, Ronen

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, A growing number of cities around the country have called for a ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of labor unions have recently called for a ceasefire, including local unions in San Francisco that represent City workers, some of whom are reporting higher instances of anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia, antisemitism, and xenophobia as they perform their job duties; and

WHEREAS, On November 21, 2023, the Biden Administration announced an agreement to a four-day pause in hostilities, the release of at least 50 Israeli hostages, and the release of 150 Palestinian prisoners; and

WHEREAS, On November 24, 2023, the four-day pause in hostilities began, and was extended two days on November 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, On November 27, 2023, the UN Secretary General issued a statement urging that “[t]he dialogue that led to the agreement must continue, resulting in a full humanitarian ceasefire, for the benefit of the people of Gaza, Israel and the wider region;” and

WHEREAS, The temporary pause ended on December 1, 2023, and was immediately followed by aerial bombardment and rocket fire; and

WHEREAS, Many San Franciscans have deep connections to Israel, Gaza, and the region, including family, friends, and loved ones there; and

WHEREAS, Following the brutal attack by Hamas militants on Israelis on October 7, 2023, San Francisco Israelis, Jews and others have experienced, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising antisemitism in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Israel’s sustained and devastating military assault on Gaza since October 7th has caused San Francisco Palestinians, Muslims and others to experience, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and xenophobic rhetoric and attacks are on the rise across the nation and in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls for a sustained ceasefire, provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages and detainees on both sides; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Biden Administration and Congress to call for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemns antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and all xenophobic rhetoric and attacks.

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.
INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL FIFE

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING OAKLAND'S LOVE LIFE COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL AND WORLDWIDE CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

WHEREAS, all life is precious and the City of Oakland's official motto "Love Life" calls on elected officials and residents alike to protect life and stand united against violence; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland condemns the recent rise of Antisemitic, Islamophobic, racist, homophobic, and xenophobic attacks in our city and across the nation, including the doxxing of elected officials, students, professors, journalists, and others speaking truth to power; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland advocates for the safety, dignity, freedom, and equality of all people, regardless of religion, race, or nationality; and

WHEREAS, over one thousand people in Israel and more than eleven thousand Palestinians in Gaza have been killed in a matter of weeks, of whom over five thousand are children; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland recognizes that the current crisis takes place within a long history and affirms that, for a pathway to lasting peace and justice to be developed, the root causes of the crisis need to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, Gaza is in a dire humanitarian crisis that is getting worse with each passing day, with the only remaining hospitals running out of fuel and medical supplies, and over 1.5 million Palestinians facing displacement, homelessness, and starvation; and 2

WHEREAS, international organizations like Amnesty International, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the

International Rescue Committee, and many others have made a call for a ceasefire in order to prevent the further loss of life of civilians and to be in accordance with international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, sixty six percent of American voters support a ceasefire, according to an October 20th, 2023 Data For Progress poll¹, and want to see the U.S. leverage its diplomatic relationships "to prevent further violence and civilian deaths"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the City of Oakland supports U.S. Congress Resolution H.R.786 and joins other cities in calling on our Congress Members to demand: an immediate ceasefire; release of all hostages, the unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; the restoration of food, water, electricity, and medical supplies to Gaza; and the respect for international law; and calls for a resolution that protects the security of all innocent civilians; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to city councils in the San Francisco Bay Area, the offices of Assemblymember Mia Bonta, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, State Senator Nancy Skinner, Governor of California Gavin Newsom, U.S. Representative Barbara Lee, U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, U.S. President Joe Biden, and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, urging them to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end violence.



ISAAC B. "ZAC" BEARS
President

City of Medford

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

City Hall
85 George P. Hasset Drive
Medford, Massachusetts 02155

KIT COLLINS
Vice President

ANNA CALLAHAN
EMRY LAZZARO
MATT LEMING
GEORGE SCARFELLI
JUSTIN TSING
Councilors

Resolution in Support of a Ceasefire in Israel and Gaza

Whereas, the Medford City Council recognizes and affirms the sanctity, preciousness, and equality of all human life; and

Whereas, on October 7th, 2023, the terrorist group Hamas killed over 1,200 Israeli residents, took over 240 hostages, committed horrific atrocities, displaced families, wreaked untold grief and trauma upon the civilian population of Israel, and have continued to attack Israeli civilians, injuring hundreds in rocket attacks since October 7th; and

Whereas, since those horrific attacks, the ongoing Israeli military campaign and blockade has created a humanitarian crisis of catastrophic proportions in Gaza; and

Whereas, since October 7th, the Israeli military has killed over 26,000 Palestinians in Gaza, injured over 62,000, and more than 85% of all Gaza residents have been displaced; and

Whereas, the ongoing military campaign has had a horrific toll on civilians in Gaza, with UNICEF describing the Gaza Strip as the "world's most dangerous place to be a child," and reporting that 40% of all deaths in Gaza have been deaths of children; and

Whereas, the Israeli military has launched more than 22,000 airstrikes at Gaza, resulting in the destruction of over 70% of all homes and schools, and most of its civilian infrastructure, including electricity, communications, water, sewer and sanitation systems, with the World Health Organization reporting that all Gazan hospitals have been destroyed or seriously damaged, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis; and

Whereas, the near-total siege on Gaza has prevented the delivery of lifesaving humanitarian aid; and

Whereas, the World Food Program has reported that all 2.2 million people in Gaza are facing crisis levels of food insecurity; that one in four Gazans is facing catastrophic hunger; and that without an end to bombardment and resumption of humanitarian aid, famine will spread quickly across the population; and



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Whereas, humanitarian organizations report that the Israeli military kills an average of 250 Palestinians each day, almost all civilians, and that these deaths are a direct result of airstrikes, the blockade of basic food and medical aid, and the destruction of hospitals and basic shelter, which are war crimes; and

Whereas, Hamas continues to hold over 100 Israeli civilians hostage and target Israeli civilians, which are war crimes; and

Whereas, Israel continues to detain thousands of Palestinians who have never been charged with or convicted of a crime, including scores of children; and

Whereas, on October 26, 2023, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce" between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and numerous international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire;

Whereas, the previous ceasefire from November 24 to November 30, 2023 allowed for the release of some Israeli hostages, some Palestinian detainees, and allowed emergency aid and fuel to enter Gaza; and

Whereas, the history of Israel and Palestine since 1948 includes systemic displacement of Palestinians and occupation of Palestine, the imposition of illegal blockades upon and denial of basic civil and human rights to Palestinian civilians, ongoing and escalating terrorism and violent attacks by Israeli soldiers and settlers against Palestinian civilians in the occupied West Bank, and extremist violence aimed at Israeli civilians; and

Whereas, many members of the Medford community are suffering from trauma, grief, shock and fear, compounded by increased incidents of Islamophobia, antisemitism, and anti-Palestinian racism, both nationally and locally; and

Whereas, members of the Medford community, including Palestinians and Jews, are speaking out for peace in Israel and Palestine and in support of a permanent, bilateral ceasefire and a return of all hostages, innocent detainees, and political prisoners; now, therefore:

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that we support an enduring, bilateral ceasefire in Israel and Gaza and the immediate return of all hostages, innocent detainees, and political prisoners.

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Be it Further Resolved by the Medford City Council that we unequivocally condemn all violence against civilians, including the attacks by Hamas on October 7th, 2023 against Israeli civilians, the Israeli military campaign against Gaza that continues to unleash disproportionate violence against Palestinian civilians, attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians in the occupied West Bank, and all attacks, by all parties, against civilians.

Be it Further Resolved by the Medford City Council that we support the lifting of the blockade and the uninhibited provision of life-saving humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Be it Further Resolved by the Medford City Council that we affirm the inalienable right of all people to live in peace, free from fear of harm and prejudice.

Be it Further Resolved by the Medford City Council that we unequivocally condemn all xenophobic violence, attacks and rhetoric, and affirms the inalienable right of all people to know safety and acceptance regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity, nationality, or skin color;

Be it Further Resolved by the Medford City Council that we urge the Biden Administration, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. Congress to exert the full extent of their power, influence and funding to bring about an enduring ceasefire, the uninhibited provision of humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages and detained innocents.

Be it Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of Medford's federal delegation and to President Biden urging them to use their power and influence to bring about a sustained and enduring ceasefire so as to protect and honor all human life.

Contact: Vice President Kit Collins
kcollins@medford-ma.gov
781-816-7676

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San Francisco CEASEFIRE Resolution

[Calling for Sustained Ceasefire in Gaza, Humanitarian Aid, Release of Hostages and Political Prisoners, and Condemning Antisemitic, Anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic Rhetoric and Attacks] Resolution calling for a sustained ceasefire in Gaza, humanitarian aid, release of hostages, and condemning antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic rhetoric and attacks.

WHEREAS, All human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, Between October 7 and December 4, 2023, armed violence has claimed the lives of at least 15,000 Palestinians and over 1,200 Israelis, and wounded thousands more; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 1,700,000 Palestinians have been displaced from Gaza since October 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk in Gaza without a sustained ceasefire and without massive humanitarian relief; and

WHEREAS, The lives of more than 137 remaining Israeli hostages in Gaza are also at imminent risk; and

WHEREAS, The United States Government currently provides substantial military funding to Israel; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an “immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce” between Israeli forces and Hamas militants in Gaza, and various other international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire; and Supervisors Preston, Ronen
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WHEREAS, A growing number of cities around the country have called for a ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of labor unions have recently called for a ceasefire, including local unions in San Francisco that represent City workers, some of whom are reporting higher instances of anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia, antisemitism, and xenophobia as they perform their job duties; and

WHEREAS, On November 21, 2023, the Biden Administration announced an agreement to a four-day pause in hostilities, the release of at least 50 Israeli hostages, and the release of 150 Palestinian prisoners; and

WHEREAS, On November 24, 2023, the four-day pause in hostilities began, and was extended two days on November 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, On November 27, 2023, the UN Secretary General issued a statement urging that “[t]he dialogue that led to the agreement must continue, resulting in a full humanitarian ceasefire, for the benefit of the people of Gaza, Israel and the wider region;” and

WHEREAS, The temporary pause ended on December 1, 2023, and was immediately followed by aerial bombardment and rocket fire; and

WHEREAS, Many San Franciscans have deep connections to Israel, Gaza, and the region, including family, friends, and loved ones there; and

WHEREAS, Following the brutal attack by Hamas militants on Israelis on October 7, 2023, San Francisco Israelis, Jews and others have experienced, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising antisemitism in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Israel's sustained and devastating military assault on Gaza since October 7th has caused San Francisco Palestinians, Muslims and others to experience, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and xenophobic rhetoric and attacks are on the rise across the nation and in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls for a sustained ceasefire, provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages and detainees on both sides; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Biden Administration and Congress to call for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages; and, be it

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WHEREAS, the City of Oakland condemns the recent rise of Antisemitic, Islamophobic, racist, homophobic, and xenophobic attacks in our city and across the nation, including the doxxing of elected officials, students, professors, journalists, and others speaking truth to power; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland advocates for the safety, dignity, freedom, and equality of all people, regardless of religion, race, or nationality; and

WHEREAS, over one thousand people in Israel and more than eleven thousand Palestinians in Gaza have been killed in a matter of weeks, of whom over five thousand are children; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland recognizes that the current crisis takes place within a long history and affirms that, for a pathway to lasting peace and justice to be developed, the root causes of the crisis need to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, Gaza is in a dire humanitarian crisis that is getting worse with each passing day, with the only remaining hospitals running out of fuel and medical supplies, and over 1.5 million Palestinians facing displacement, homelessness, and starvation; and 2

WHEREAS, international organizations like Amnesty International, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Rescue Committee, and many others have made a call for a ceasefire in order to prevent the further loss of life of civilians and to be in accordance with international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, sixty six percent of American voters support a ceasefire, according to an October 20th, 2023 Data For Progress poll¹, and want to see the U.S. leverage its diplomatic relationships "to prevent further violence and civilian deaths"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the City of Oakland supports U.S. Congress Resolution H.R.786 and joins other cities in calling on our Congress Members to demand: an immediate ceasefire; release of all hostages, the unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; the restoration of food, water, electricity, and medical supplies to Gaza; and the respect for international law; and calls for a resolution that protects the security of all innocent civilians; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to city councils in the San Francisco Bay Area, the offices of Assemblymember Mia Bonta, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, State Senator Nancy Skinner, Governor of California Gavin Newsom, U.S. Representative Barbara Lee, U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, U.S. President Joe Biden, and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, urging them to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end violence.