

Revised Attachment "G"

Revised BABCNC Proposed Motion:

Whereas on May 16, 2024, Councilmembers Eunisses Hernandez and Nithya Raman introduced a resolution in the Los Angeles City Council regarding the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict (CF 24-0002-S69); and

Whereas on June 14, 2024, Councilmembers Bob Blumenfield and Katy Young Yaroslavsky issued a statement opposing the Hernandez-Raman resolution; and

Whereas the Hernandez-Raman resolution is in direct conflict with the City's own rules, specifically Paragraph 91 of the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council, which expressly prohibits the Council from considering any resolution or motion that does not affect the conduct of the business of the City of Los Angeles or its corporate powers or duties as a municipal corporation; and

Whereas commenting on international military conflicts is not within the scope of local policy, and the Hernandez-Raman resolution sets a dangerous precedent by exceeding this scope; and

Whereas the Blumenfield-Yaroslavsky statement argues that the Hernandez-Raman resolution is flawed, biased, adds to an already divisive environment, and distracts from the critical needs of our city; and

Whereas the Hernandez-Raman resolution omits crucial context about the conflict's origins and ongoing obstacles to peace, including the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas and their blocking of all and current ceasefire efforts; and

Whereas Los Angeles is home to over 530,000 Jewish residents and 250,000 Israeli Americans, making it the largest Israeli population outside of Israel, and the Hernandez-Raman resolution fails to consider the perspectives and concerns of these substantial and deeply affected communities; and

Whereas the selective focus on this conflict, while ignoring numerous other global crises, raises legitimate concerns about both antisemitism and inconsistency in addressing international issues;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council supports Councilmembers Blumenfield and Yaroslavsky's position that the Hernandez-Raman resolution is unduly one-sided, omits key facts, fuels disharmony spreading on our Los Angeles streets, and hinders efforts to achieve peace;

Be it further resolved that the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council urges the immediate withdrawal of the Hernandez-Raman resolution as it violates the City Council's own regulations and exceeds its jurisdiction;

Be it finally resolved that the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council will send letters communicating support for the Blumenfield-Yaroslavsky statement, opposition to the Hernandez-Raman resolution, and the importance of adhering to the Council's designated scope of authority to the Los Angeles City Council and Mayor.

PRESENTED BY:

Aaron Kamin & Elizabeth Barcohana

June 20, 2024

Revised June 26, 2024

Paragraph 91 of the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council states:

"The Council shall not consider any resolution, motion, or matter which does not affect the conduct of the business of the City of Los Angeles or its corporate powers or duties as a municipal corporation nor shall the Council consider any resolution or motion supporting or disapproving any legislation or action pending in the Legislature of the State of California, the Congress of the United States, or before any officer or agency of said State or nation unless such proposed legislation or action, if adopted, will affect the conduct of the municipal business or the powers and duties of the City of Los Angeles or its officers or employees. This Rule may only be invoked before deliberation and by ten (10) affirmative votes on the question: 'Shall the Council consider this matter?'"[1]

Citations:

[1] https://clerk.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2021-02/lacityp_026042.pdf

[2] <https://lacity.gov/government/elected-officials/city-council>

Councilmembers Blumenfield and Yaroslavsky Issue Statement Opposing Gaza Resolution

JUNE 14, 2024 | PRESS RELEASE

LOS ANGELES – Councilmembers Blumenfield and Yaroslavsky, representing two large Jewish populations in Los Angeles and serving as the City Council’s two Jewish members, issued the following statement in response to the recently introduced resolution by Councilmembers Hernandez and Raman regarding the war in Gaza and Israel.

“We oppose the resolution. While we know our colleagues to be well intentioned and appropriately desirous of seeing a peaceful end to the Gaza conflict — as are we — the resolution itself is flawed, biased and based on incorrect assumptions. Unfortunately, it adds to an already divisive local environment and distracts from the critical and immediate needs of our city and its many communities.

“Like our colleagues who introduced this motion, we too want to see a permanent end to the conflict and all people treated with dignity and respect. We are hopeful that President Biden’s efforts will prove fruitful and that Hamas, a U.S. designated and internationally-recognized terrorist organization, will accept the ceasefire that is pending before them. On June 3, 2024, State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said, “The roadblock right now to a ceasefire is not Israel – the roadblock to a ceasefire is Hamas.”

“It is important to recognize that prior to October 7, 2023 there had been a ceasefire in effect which Hamas clearly violated when it staged its ruthless attack - the largest single massacre of Jews since the Holocaust.

“Many of the resolution’s flaws, biases and problematic assumptions have been highlighted by a variety of groups and are detailed in [a joint statement](#) authored by the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles, Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Committee, Board of Rabbis Southern California, Holocaust Museum, Agudath Israel of CA and StandWithUs as well [this release](#) from the Israeli American Civic Action Network. We urge supporters of the resolution to carefully consider these concerns.

“It is our hope that this resolution will be withdrawn or defeated. Again, we wish to see a real and permanent peace that leads to a two state solution where both Israel and a Palestinian State can securely and peacefully thrive next to each other.”

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, 1,200 Israelis were killed in a surprise attack by Hamas, in which approximately 240 Israelis were also taken captive; and

WHEREAS, since October 7, more than 37,000 Palestinians, the vast majority of whom were women and children, as well as hundreds of humanitarian workers, healthcare providers, and journalists from various nations have been killed and more than 82,000 people have been wounded by Israeli military forces in Gaza; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles (City) profoundly mourns this senseless and inhumane loss of civilian life in Palestine and Israel, and is deeply disturbed at the sustained violence unfolding in the region; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent Integrated Food Security Phase Classification report and as shared by the United Nations and World Food Programme, 1.1 million people in Gaza are experiencing catastrophic food insecurity and famine is imminent, and it is estimated that one in six children in Gaza is malnourished, and that more than 155,000 pregnant or breastfeeding caretakers are at high risk of malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, over 20,000 babies have been born in Gaza since October 7, and women are giving birth prematurely due to extreme stress, trauma, and shock; and

WHEREAS, 2.3 million Gazans have been internally displaced from destroyed homes, hospitals, refugee camps, and places of worship, and this week, more than one million Gazans were forcefully displaced from Rafah, previously a humanitarian safe zone; and

WHEREAS, world leaders, government officials, humanitarian organizations, labor unions, student demonstrators, news publications, and local jurisdictions have called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, President Joe Biden has called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, and has laid out a plan through which this can be executed; and,

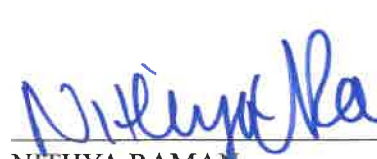
WHEREAS, all parties need to comply with obligations under international law, including rigorous humanitarian standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City joins the call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, the immediate and unconditional return of all hostages, and the safe and immediate passage of unhindered humanitarian aid and medical care to Gaza; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City will not tolerate any form of harmful and racist language, especially antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, and Islamophobic hate speech toward anyone; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the City supports peaceful diplomacy and an end to the conflict that honors all peoples' right to dignity, safety, and justice.

PRESENTED BY: 
EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District


NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 
PK

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JUN 04 2024
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