

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Klein

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2024 06:43 PM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing to urge Los Angeles City Council members to pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, the restoration of humanitarian aid to Palestinians, and an end to all military assistance to Israel. Anyone not in favor of a ceasefire, is necessarily in favor of genocide by default. Those are the choices. I therefore call upon L.A. City Council to reflect the values of the people of Los Angeles and join hundreds of other city councils across the United States, including at least 24 in California, by passing a ceasefire resolution without delay.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Hayk H

**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 07:24 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members and Mayor, It is imperative that you take a strong position on a permanent ceasefire and deep sanctions in response to the Israeli regime's intensification of genocide of Palestinians. Your legitimacy as a governing body is deeply compromised on all your local, as well as global actions, as long as you are silent about Palestine. As an Armenian, an Armenian with one side of my family from Artsakh, your proclamations about Artsakh and Armenian Genocide are not worth anything, if you are picking and choosing which genocides and banishments to push against, however symbolic, and which to be silent on. Just as Council President Krekorian and Mayor Bass bravely called for providing direct U.S. humanitarian assistance to Artsakh, including food and medical supplies, assertive U.S. diplomatic engagement to facilitate negotiations to guarantee the rights and security of the Armenian population of Artsakh, and taking tangible action against the regime in Azerbaijan to hold it accountable for its crimes, the City must call on the US to do the same for Palestinians in Gaza who have been denied basic necessities to survive. Regards, Hayk

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Victoria Keossian  
**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 10:18 AM  
**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** Good morning, my name is Victoria Keossian and I am writing from council city district 12 to voice my support for an immediate and permanent ceasefire for Palestine. As the great granddaughter of an armenian genocide survivor, I usually spend this time of year connecting with my family and honoring my ancestors but this year is very different. Not only is my homeland still recovering from the aftermaths of that genocide, but it is under threat of another. The descendants of that same Ottoman empire that tried to wipe out the Armenian people are determined to "finish the job their great-grandfathers began." What's more, the ancient Armenian quarter of Palestine is under attack by Israeli occupational forces. In other words, we are attempting to commemorate something that is still alive and well, and repeating itself with the people of Palestine. The similarities are undisputable. 109 years ago, hundreds of Armenian intellectuals were rounded up and killed. Today, students and professors in higher education across the nation are being violently arrested for bringing to light what we are already seeing in the news. 'bringing my family's horrific memories to life all over again. I urge you to introduce and vote yes on any city council legislation calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Just as Council President Krekorian and Mayor Bass bravely called for providing direct U.S. humanitarian assistance to Artsakh, including food and medical supplies, assertive U.S. diplomatic engagement to facilitate negotiations to guarantee the rights and security of the Armenian population of Artsakh, and taking tangible action against the regime in Azerbaijan to hold it accountable for its crimes, the City must call on the US to do the same for Palestinians in Gaza who have been denied basic necessities to survive. Let's not stand idly by while history repeats itself. Let's not create another reason for commemoration. We all know this is wrong and the empty allyship with countries for monetary benefits will prove to not be worth it once we've lost all peace and order.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Estee Chandler

**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 10:23 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** LA City Council Written/Submitted Public Comment 4/26/24 I organize with Jewish Voice for Peace Action and our over 10,000 supporters in Los Angeles who along with the overwhelming majority of Angelenos have been out in the streets, making phone calls and sending emails to all who represent us, hold power and influence our federal government and the Biden Administration; and are asking you to immediately call for a permanent ceasefire to save every life possible in Palestine and Israel. I'm a native Angeleno, the proud Jewish American daughter of an Israeli father with a very large family in Israel. My grand-father fled the pogroms in Ukraine with his wife and small children- but didn't come to Chicago with most of our family- instead lured by political Zionism, he took them to Palestine. As Rabbi, Brant Rosen, co-founder of the Jewish Voice for Peace Rabbinic council, wrote at the Chicago Tribune, upon the passage of Chicago's ceasefire resolution, "Ceasefire Resolutions are far more than symbolic exercises, they recognize that we as citizens have personal and civic stakes in events that take place around the world". As you are well aware, because it happens within your body, there is an insidious effort to conflate anti-Semitism with anti- Zionism to confuse and frighten people from speaking out against the Zionist movement's decade's long oppression of Palestinians enforced by the Israeli government. That conflation is being used for the same purpose, to inflict the will of a small minority to stop a movement for justice, equality and safety for everyone. But Antisemitism is the discrimination, targeting, violence, and dehumanizing stereotypes directed at Jews because they are Jewish. Zionism has been an over 100 year-long project of establishing and developing a state of, by and for Jews only at the expense of indigenous Palestinians by means of settler colonialism, ethnic cleansing, and apartheid in historic Palestine. Being anti-Zionist isn't new or antisemitic, it's simply opposing the political ideology that called for the expulsion of Indigenous Palestinians from their land and homes in 1948; and supports the continued maiming, killing, and starving them today. Nothing could be less Jewish. Anti-Zionists have always believed in the lived reality of Never Again- a future where all people on the land live in freedom, safety, and equality with self-determination. As Rabbi Brant also wrote, "Quite simply the ongoing violence in the

Middle East is confronting us all with the most critical moral challenge of our lifetimes.” The death toll in these 200 days, is unprecedented and stands at over 34,200, with at least 72% being children & women. Over 77,000 have been injured, and over 8,000 remain missing/under rubble and over than 90% of the population has been internally displaced. According to the World Health Organization, “the population of Gaza is “starving to death”. This is a Genocide by every moral, legal and common-sense measure. And recently the world saw very clearly why, as 3 World Central Kitchen convoy vehicles were struck 3 times after coordinating their movements with the Israeli occupying military forces, killing 7 people who were guilty of nothing but trying to feed starving people. Take that in. That was not bad luck, it was precision weaponry being used as intended. That is Genocide. Many of us are in chambers today asking you to join a nationwide effort to save every human life possible by passing a resolution calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. History has her eyes on all of us. We will each be confronted with the question of what we did to stop this genocide and when we did it for the rest of our lives. What will your answer be? Never Again is now. Please put a ceasefire resolution on your agenda today.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amin El Gamal  
**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 10:33 AM  
**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a Palestinian American who has lived in CD 13 for the last 16 years. I urge you to introduce and vote yes on any city council legislation calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. I also urge the city to divest all business from Israel and companies that support Israel. As our government fuels Israel's ongoing genocide of the Palestinians and as our leaders on the federal level fail to listen to the will of the people, it is our duty on the city level to uphold democracy and peace. Please do your part.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jess Peterson

**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 10:37 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a resident of the city, I urge you to introduce and vote yes on any city council legislation calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rabbi Ryeh Cohen

**Date Submitted:** 04/26/2024 11:20 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** Good morning, Councilmembers, my name is Rabbi Aryeh Cohen and I've lived in Los Angeles for almost 30 years in CD 5. I am appearing here in an individual capacity. I am here today to ask you to meet with your constituents and to voice my support for an immediate and permanent bilateral ceasefire in Palestine, and a return of the hostages. This week of Passover, the Jewish community commemorates and celebrates freedom. We spent hours in ritual meals and study unpacking what liberty and liberation mean, and unlearning the instincts and ideas that lead to oppression. The bottom line is that the Exodus was an intervention into the notion that one people has the right to oppress another. All this stands in tragic, terrible tension with the fact that after Hamas killed over 1100 Israelis on October 7, and took over 200 hostages, Israel embarked on a campaign of aerial bombardment and then ground invasion which has killed over 30,000 people, a third of them children; leading to a domicile which has destroyed, according to experts, 60% of the housing in Gaza, a humanitarian catastrophe and an impeding famine. Please meet with your constituents to discuss a cease fire resolution.