

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members: On Friday, June 7, 2024, I urged you to support a resolution calling for a cease fire in Gaza (File No. 24-0656). In addition I urge you to call for an end to weapons shipments to Israel. Even after the passage of a UN Security Council ceasefire resolution, Israel continues to bomb and kill. Since its passage, 100's more have died or been killed - bombed, shot, burned to death, bled to death on a hospital floor, and other violent forms of death. More buildings have been bombed and turned to dust. More infrastructure burned to the ground. This killing and destruction is made possible by weaponry bought with US tax dollars. A solid majority of US do not support the war on Gaza. <https://news.gallup.com/poll/642695/majority-disapprove-israeli-action-gaza.aspx#:~:text=WASHINGTON%2C%20D.C.%20%2D%20After%20narrowly,actions%2C%20while%2036%25%20> Yet as far as I know, all but three of you on the LA City Council have said nothing and done nothing. Former President Jimmy Carter addressed this problem nearly 20 years ago when he wrote that "reluctance to criticize policies of the Israeli government is due to the extraordinary lobbying efforts" of AIPAC and the "absence of any significant contrary voices." Since President Carter's statement AIPAC has become increasingly right wing and anti-democratic. It is now aligned with the far right wing. The critical voices in the form of protests, encampments, forms of resistance such as Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions are growing. The intensity of the protests is informed in part by the need to fend off AIPAC, rage over the inaction of elected officials, and the historical memory of elected officials' immoral actions in the past and the resulting deaths - 3.8 million dead in Vietnam War, nearly a million killed in direct war violence in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, and Pakistan, and so many other examples. President Biden says he supports a ceasefire but the killing continues. The US must end the shipments of weapons to Israel. It is the only way to end the killing.