

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Chase

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Council File No: 24-0656

Comments for Public Posting: As your constituents and concerned Americans we urge the LA City Council and South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC), whether they are separate entities or related entities, to vote NO on any ceasefire resolution regarding the war in Gaza. Sadly, the LA City Council and SORO NC have allowed themselves to be dragged into a discussion about a ceasefire resolution, which is part of Hamas' global PR campaign to cover up their double war crimes against Israelis and Palestinians. Make no mistake about it - any participation in Hamas' PR campaign emboldens them to commit further atrocities against our only democratic ally in the Middle East, Palestinians, and increased violence against Jewish people in the world, the U.S., and particularly in Los Angeles [1-2]. Considering you have no authority regarding foreign policy, have you considered that voting on a ceasefire resolution is misguided? Your job as a city council member would be much better served making sure your Jewish constituents are kept safe, given the rampant antisemitism by pro-Hamas support groups (e.g., CAIR, SJP, AMP) afflicting the city [3-4]. Israel pulled out of Gaza in 2005 as a gesture towards peace [5]. True to form, Hamas took over Gaza (2007) and responded with kidnappings and 30,000 rocket attacks against Israel since then [6-8]. On October 7, 2023, Hamas attacked Israel on land that was within the boundaries of the partition defined in the original UN Partition Plan – UN Resolution 181 (in 1947). There was a ceasefire in place prior to October 7th and Hamas, as usual, broke it. Hamas uses ceasefires for two reasons: to re-supply and to catch Israel off guard – as it did on October 7th. Any ceasefires Hamas has negotiated with Israel over the years have ALWAYS been broken by... Hamas. Who are we kidding here? Hamas leaders have stated very clearly that when possible, they will commit October 7th over and over again [9]. The Hamas Charter states, "Israel will exist until Islam obliterates it," and "The stones and trees will say, 'O Muslim, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him'" [10]. Do you honestly believe Israel is dealing with a legitimate peace partner? As an arm of the notorious Muslim Brotherhood [11], Hamas is a barbaric terrorist organization that has taken innocent hostages (Americans, Israelis, and Foreign Nationals) and boasts of hiding among Palestinian civilians to increase casualties as a PR strategy to try

and delegitimize Israel [12]. Numerous U.S. military experts have stated that Israel's record of protecting civilians in warfare exceeds that of any other military in the world [13-15]. According to international law and ethics, Israeli and Palestinian deaths fall squarely on Hamas' shoulders. The only way for this war to end is for Hamas to surrender and return the hostages. Please vote NO on this ceasefire resolution and bring a rational approach to a situation that has run amok. Thank you, References: 1 NY Post, Shocking video shows Jewish teen pummeled by a classmate in alleged antisemitic attack, 5-17-24 2 National Review, Anti-Israel mob beats Jewish woman in riot outside Los Angeles synagogue, 6-24-24 3 CAIR is Hamas: How the federal government proved that CAIR is a front for terrorism, Center for Security and Policy, 2016. 4 ISGAP, New comprehensive research reveals Hamas-linked funding to Students for Justice in Palestine and groups growing web of influence post October 7th 5 Britannica, Israel's disengagement from Gaza 6 The Guardian, Hamas officials: We were behind the kidnapping of three Israeli teenagers, 8-21-2014 7 Wikipedia, Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel 8 NY Times, Hamas and other militant groups are firing rockets into Israel every day, 12-27-23. 9 Economic Times, Hamas officials vow to 'repeat' October 7 attack repeatedly to teach Israel a lesson, 11-2-23 10 The Avalon Project, Yale Law School, Hamas Covenant 1988. 11 Muslim Brotherhood: Director of National Intelligence Counter Terrorism Guide, Terrorist Groups: Hamas 12 Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Hamas officials admit its strategy is to use Palestinian civilians as human shields, 11/01/2023 13 JINSA, Updated open letter from retired U.S. military leaders in support of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, 5-10-24 14 Sky News, Eren Molan interviews American military expert M. Pregent, 6-16-24 15 Times of Israel, Urban warfare expert: 'Israel is being held to double, triple standards', 6-30-24

Communication from Public

Name:

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Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to vote down the referenced resolution calling for a ceasefire in the current Israel - Hamas war, a war which is happening in the wake of a long string of unilateral ceasefire violations committed by Hamas and the horrifying massacre Hamas committed against innocent Israelis on October 7th. While I desperately would like to see a peaceful resolution including the unconditional return of all the hostages, these misguided resolutions, which contain inaccurate and inflammatory information, do not help the situation and only encourage violence such as protestors committed against members of the Jewish community on June 23rd. There are many reasons to vote no on the resolution, perhaps most importantly that City Council has no authority regarding U.S. foreign policy and should be focused on local needs. In addition, the resolution should be voted down because: 1. There have been many ceasefires during the past 15 years, each hailed as a victory by Hamas and each of which was used by Hamas to re-arm. Each of the previous ceasefires then were violated by Hamas. There is no rational way to expect the problem can be solved by another unilateral ceasefire. 2. Hamas and the anti-Israel attackers predicate their argument on the idea that Israel is illegitimate - but the October 7th attacks took place within the boundaries of the partition define in the original UN partition plan (UN Resolution 181) in 1947. These groups demand to 'free Palestine from the river to the sea' reflects this position that the sovereign state of Israel, within its internationally and UN recognized borders, is not legitimate. They threaten the existence of the state of Israel and are not resisting 'occupation' - keep in mind that Gaza has not been occupied by Israel for almost 20 years since they're full withdrawal in 2005. Since 2006 elections, Hamas has ruled Gaza. This delegitimization of the Jewish homeland, Israel, is a deeply hateful antisemitic act and is fueling much of the Jew hatred and violence we are seeing today.