

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.