From: REDACTED

To: <u>Carol Ann Desiderio; Peg Crowe; Paul Condon; Amanda Linehan; Ryan O"Malley; Ari Taylor; Stephen Winslow;</u>

Chris Simonelli; Jadeane Sica; Craig Spadafora; Karen Colón Hayes; Carey McDonald; Mayor Christenson Sinan

Cc: <u>AbuShanab</u>

Subject: Re: Support Malden Ceasefire Resolution Date: Monday, June 3, 2024 12:17:22 PM

Hi Carol Ann, my apologies for leaving that off. Can you please leave my email signature (and cell phone number off the public record):

Please consider the message below as my statement:

Dear Malden City Council Members and Mayor Christenson,

When my husband, Sinan, and I moved to Malden in 2019, it was in large part due to the cultural diversity and progressive values that make this city so unique. Malden has largely lived up to that reputation through its numerous events, proclamations, and policies, like celebrating Pride, Juneteenth, Lunar New Year, Menorah lighting, investing in renewable energy, divesting in Russians investments, and countless other actions. These policies are a crucial part of lifting up the humanity and dignity of Malden residents and their many intersectional identities. I implore our City Councilors to continue that legacy by supporting the proposed ceasefire resolution. By affirming calls for a ceasefire, our City Council would be advocating for the "safety, dignity, freedom, and collective humanity of all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or nationality."

Prior to moving to Massachusetts, I lived in Palestine. I saw first hand what South Africans themselves have called out as an apartheid system. Israel restricted water flow to the point where we couldn't shower, do laundry, or have enough to drink- meanwhile the settlements (Israeli cities inside the West Bank) have green grass and swimming pools full of water. Israeli checkpoints within the West Bank prohibited us from visiting my husband's extended family, who lived a mere 20 miles away. Israeli settlers placed trailer homes on my husband's land and declared it their own, preventing our family from accessing our olive and fruit trees. While settlements are being built daily by Israelis, Palestinians are prevented from building. If they still choose to do so, it's with the high risk that Israel will bulldoze their home (and in Rachel Corrie's case, kill while doing so). This makes it impossible for Sinan and I to build a home there without the real threat that it would be destroyed in a moment. Even the farmer's market that we frequented in Ramallah was destroyed by Israel this week. "Security" is used as a cover to control the Palestinian population and depopulate the land. All the systemic inequalities I witnessed are antithetical to our own Bill of Rights, and certainly the dignity of life that Malden purports to support.

It's difficult to understand the level of suffering occurring in Gaza right now. Life in any form has been treated as a threat- naked Israeli hostages with a white flag attempting to flee were shot on sight; parents forced to abandon their children at gunpoint; neonatal babies left to rot in incubators; families killed in their tents in what was declared a safe zone; a 7 year old child starved to the point of weighing *ELEVEN POUNDS*. What is clear and easy to understand, however, is that is it **past** the time to recognize the responsibility we have as Americans, as the <u>largest provider of military aid to Israel</u>, to call for an end to the war, freeing of hostages and administrative detainees, lifting of all barriers to the provision of aid, and beginning the collective undertaking of repair of damage.

Amy AbuShanab 5 Pagum Street Malden, MA (Ward 6)

On Mon, Jun 3, 2024 at 12:14 PM Carol Ann Desiderio < CDesiderio@cityofmalden.org > wrote:

Dear Sir or Madam,

In order for your submission of public comment to go on the record at Tuesday's City Council meeting your home address, in addition to your name, is required.

Thank you,

Carol Ann Desiderio,

Malden City Clerk

From: Amy

Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 12:11 PM

To: Peg Crowe crowe@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG; Paul Condon condon@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG;
Amanda Linehan clityofmalden.org; Ryan O'Malley

<romalley@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Ari Taylor <a taylor@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Stephen Winslow
<swinslow@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Chris Simonelli <a taylor@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Jadeane
Sica <i sica@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Craig Spadafora@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Karen
Colón Hayes <a track/rectage/screen/kcolonhayes@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Carey McDonald

<cmcdonald@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Mayor Christenson <mayor@cityofmalden.org>; Carol Ann
Desiderio <CDesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>

Cc: Maria Luise < mluise@cityOfMALDEN.ORG">mluise@cityOfMALDEN.ORG; Sinan AbuShanab < sinanshanab@gmail.com>

Subject: Support Malden Ceasefire Resolution

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Amy AbuShanab

Texas A&M '13

Brandeis University '21

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