

Remove the Ceasefire Vote Once and for All

colleen.mitchneck <colleen.mitchneck@verizon.net>

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To: Peg Crowe <pcrowe@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Paul Condon <pcondon@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Amanda Linehan <alinehan@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Ryan O'Malley <romalley@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Ari Taylor <ataylor@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Stephen Winslow <swinslow@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Chris Simonelli <csimonelli@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Jadeane Sica <jsica@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Craig Spadafora <cspadafora@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Karen Colón Hayes <kcolonhayes@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Carey McDonald <cmcdonald@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>; Mayor Christenson <mayor@cityofmalden.org>; Carol Ann Desiderio <CDesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>

Dear Malden City Council Members:

The role of a city council is to protect its city, not to engage in international affairs. By selectively focusing on an issue related to Jews, you reveal an antisemitic bias. It is astonishing that this is the only international issue that ignites such passion when numerous other global crises demand attention. Are you addressing these humanitarian disasters with the same urgency?

1. **Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar (2017-Present):** Over 700,000 Rohingya Muslims have faced massacres, sexual violence, and mass displacement by the Myanmar military.
2. **Uighur Detention Camps in China (Ongoing):** Over a million Uighur Muslims are detained in re-education camps in Xinjiang, enduring forced labor, indoctrination, and severe abuse.
3. **Yemeni Civil War (Ongoing):** Tens of thousands have died, with famine and disease rampant, as all sides target civilians and obstruct aid.
4. **Syrian Civil War (Ongoing):** Widespread atrocities continue, including chemical attacks, sieges, and the mass displacement of millions.
5. **Suppression of Women's Rights in the Middle East:** Gender-based violence, male guardianship, rape, and discrimination in education and the workforce are widespread.

If you do call for a ceasefire we expect you to vote on every international affair moving forward. It would be very suspect to just pick this one. Don't you agree?

Jews are being persecuted globally, and focusing solely on this issue highlights the antisemitic and bullying nature of this resolution. The normalization of hate towards Jews is perilously widespread, evident in white supremacy marches in Tennessee, the bullying of Jewish students on campuses, violent attacks like the murder of a religious Jew in San Diego, beatings in Ubers, the vandalism and destruction of Jewish shops, and the burning of synagogues in Europe. We are witnessing a resurgence of pogroms, with antisemitic attacks reaching unprecedented levels. It is outrageous for the Muslim community to claim they don't feel safe when Jews are the primary targets of violence.

For decades, Hamas has governed Gaza with a covenant calling for Israel's destruction, including explicit antisemitic content. Article 7 states, "The Day of Judgment will not come about until Moslems fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Moslem, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.'" As Senior Hamas leader Mahmoud Al-Zahar recently said, "The entire 512 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." Are you really going to have a city council vote that supports a ceasefire so Hamas can continue its mission to eradicate Jews from the planet?

The more we focus on Jews and a ceasefire, the more we normalize the rise in antisemitic incidents globally, fueled by misinformation and biased narratives that contribute to violence and discrimination against Jewish communities. We ask that city council remove the ceasefire vote and focus on domestic affairs primarily protecting its constituents without bias.

Signed,

Colleen Mitchneck
290 Clifton Street, Malden, MA