

From: [Lori Aoki](#)
To: [Cathy DeGroot](#) [Susan Collins](#) [Susan Linnegar](#) [Deborah Cook](#) [Cathy Sullivan](#) [Chris Alvarado](#) [Johnston Day](#) [Paul Cavatone](#) [Tom Connor](#) [Bryan O'Neil](#) [Shaneen Hillier](#) [Carol Ann Sullivan](#)
Subject: [Cassidy Resolution](#)
Date: Monday, June 3, 2024 12:02:20 PM

Dear City Councilmembers,

Hi, My name is Lori Aoki of 41 Williams St Malden in ward 6. I do not like the fighting between Israel and Hamas and want it to stop. I want all hostages released, bodies returned, and humanitarian aid to go to all those in need. I also want safety and freedom for people in both Gaza and Israel. For Malden itself, I want us to focus on unity since we seem so divided. It is so sad that in 2024, in Malden, my daughters, who are grandchildren of a Holocaust survivor on one side and a WWII army vet who helped liberate a concentration camp on the other side, have to worry about negative reactions when wearing their Star of David necklaces or talking about having to hide them if they feel unsafe. Prior to October '78 that was not the case.

That said, I am writing to ask you not to accept the proposed ceasefire resolution as written on the agenda. The resolution, as presented, does nothing to show that Hamas recognizes Hamas as a terrorist group. On October 7th Hamas murdered and kidnapped many people including Americans. There are still American hostages. They broke a ceasefire that was in place at the time. By not acknowledging that, it feels like the victims of the attack in being blamed. In addition, when we voted for our local municipal leaders we did not vote for them based on their national or international expertise. Biden's government has been working on pushing for a ceasefire without Malden having passed a resolution. I believe, rather than a cease fire resolution, Malden would benefit from focusing on bringing a sense of community spirit back to the city and a return to where our diversity is respected and celebrated.

Thanks for taking the time to listen to me.

Lori

Lori Aoki
41 Williams St Malden
Ward 6

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