

## No cease fire resolution, instead pass an anti-hate and anti-discrimination resolution

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

Antisemitism and Islamophobia are rampant in the community and the proposed ceasefire resolution has just increased this. If you listened to the pro-ceasefire side at the rally, you will have noticed that often it was the kids using the megaphones shouting phrases that they likely don't know the meaning of, but mean the genocide of all Jews in the middle east. This is especially ironic considering they are also claiming that the destruction of Hamas is genocide (which could only be true if every man, woman and child in Gaza was part of Hamas). This kind of talk, including the general jeers and glares, increases fear in those of us who hear and see it and as a result increases fear of those who are saying it, namely the Muslims in the community. They are speaking out of fear, but their words come out as words of hate. A ceasefire resolution is entirely out of the sphere of a city council and persisting in attempting to pass such a resolution is hurting the community.

Rather, the city council should focus on building the community and passing resolutions condemning Antisemitism and Islamophobia and finding ways to help these groups under attack globally and nationally to feel safer in our community. Please leave alone international politics that you have no effect upon and focus on policies with which you can have an impact and which are desperately needed.

Thank you,  
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