

Resolution Calling for an Immediate, Durable, and Sustained Ceasefire in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel to Protect and Save Human Lives.

WHEREAS, Since the latest uprising on October 7, 2023, Gaza has been largely cut off from humanitarian aid. According to the United Nations Human Rights Council, nearly 2 million Palestinians, almost the entire population, have been internally displaced in Gaza, and the lack of safe drinking water, food, fuel, electricity, and medical care has created a humanitarian disaster, and

WHEREAS, As of January 3, the war has destroyed much of the civilian infrastructure within Gaza, including private homes, apartment blocks, hospitals, schools, mosques, and churches, and resulted in the deaths of more than 22,313 Palestinians and injured at least 57,296 people and caused more than 7,000 missing Palestinians, with no end to the casualties in sight, and roughly 68% of the casualties being women and children, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; and resulted in the deaths of 1,382 Israelis and injured at least 7,878 people and caused 15 missing Israelis, and 250 captured or abducted Israelis, and

WHEREAS, The Peoria, Illinois City Council wishes to affirm this resolution in adherence to the UN General Assembly, which has overwhelmingly passed its own measure calling for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire and the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages, by a membership vote of 183 to 10.

WHEREAS, The current war between Israel and Hamas, and Israeli and Palestinian residents in the West Bank, marks the most significant escalation in decades, and continued escalation could result in a larger regional conflict with devastating consequences; and

WHEREAS, The Peoria, Illinois City Council agrees that no human should be deprived of water, food, healthcare and medical supplies, energy (e.g. fuel and electricity), and other basic needs, and decries the deprivation thereof, and

WHEREAS, The Peoria, Illinois City Council condemns all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, and mourns the loss of all civilian lives and hostages; and

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WHEREAS, The Peoria, Illinois City Council is concerned and recognizes that a lasting resolution can only be achieved by peaceful means and diplomacy, and

WHEREAS, The Peoria, Illinois City Council believes all sovereign nations in pursuit of self-defense must comply with international humanitarian law regardless of geographic context; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Peoria, Illinois City Council calls for an immediate, durable, and sustained ceasefire to protect and save human lives, which allows for humanitarian aid and the unhindered provision of goods to civilians throughout Gaza, which are indispensable to their survival as required by international humanitarian law;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, As part of the ceasefire, the Peoria, Illinois City Council also calls for the unconditional release of all civilians who are being held hostage, demanding their safety, well-being, and humane treatment in compliance with international law;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That passage of this resolution by the Peoria, Illinois City Council be added to similar resolutions for ceasefire in Gaza in other US cities including Detroit, Seattle, Atlanta, Akron, Ohio; Wilmington, Delaware; Providence, Rhode Island, and others to convince President Joe Biden and the US Congress to urgently pass legislation such as H. Resolution 786 to demand a true and lasting humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza.

NOW, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Peoria, Illinois City Clerk's Office provide a copy of this resolution to the Mayor, all delegations in the Illinois legislature, and the United States Congressional delegation the State of Illinois.

PASSED BY THE City of Peoria, Illinois on this ____ day of _____, 2024.

AYES:

NAYS: