

May 13, 2025

His Excellency Issac Herzog
President of the State of Israel
The President's Residence
Jerusalem, Israel

His Excellency Benjamin Netanyahu
Prime Minister of the State of Israel
Prime Minister's Residence
Jerusalem, Israel

Re: Expression of Solidarity and Continued Support for the State of Israel and the Hostages

Dear President Herzog and Prime Minister Netanyahu,

On behalf of the City of Cooper City, Florida, we write to express our unwavering support for the State of Israel, your people's right to live in peace and security, and the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages still held by Hamas following the brutal terror attacks of October 7, 2023.

Cooper City is home to a vibrant and growing population of Israeli and Jewish residents. Our city has unanimously passed multiple resolutions in solidarity with the people of Israel since the attacks, and our commitment remains steadfast. In our City Commission Chambers, we proudly display the message **"We Stand With Israel"** under each of our names—a visible and enduring symbol of our support.

This expression of solidarity is not limited to government alone. Cooper City's faith-based community, encompassing both Jewish temples and Christian churches, has shown remarkable unity in standing with Israel. One of the leading voices in this effort has been The Pentecostals of Cooper City, led by Reverend Mark Hattabaugh, Executive Pastor, and Reverend Paul Volan, Associate Pastor. Their annual **"Stand With Israel"** event has drawn wide participation and featured esteemed guests, including His Excellency Ambassador Yechiel Leiter, Deputy Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lior Haiat, and Consul General Maor Elbaz-Starinsky. Their leadership and that of many other faith communities in our city underscore the broad-based support for Israel that transcends political and religious lines.



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We remain horrified by the atrocities committed by Hamas and grieve for the innocent lives lost and shattered. At the same time, we stand firm in advocating for the right of Israel to exist peacefully, free from terrorism, antisemitism, and threats to its sovereignty.

Please know that the people of Cooper City are praying for the safe return of all hostages, the safety and security of the Israeli people, and a lasting peace for the region.

With profound respect and solidarity,