

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA
DECLARING SUPPORT FOR IMMEDIATE DE-ESCALATION IN GAZA,
A PERMANENT CEASEFIRE, IMMEDIATE RETURN OF ALL
HOSTAGES; PROMPT ENTRY OF ALL NEEDED HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE INTO GAZA; FEDERAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UN
RESOLUTION 194; AND CONDITIONING OF LETHAL ARMS SALES
TO ISRAEL ON FULL AND OBJECTIVE APPLICATION OF THE
FEDERAL LEAHY LAW.

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023 a horrific attack was carried out against Israel by Hamas, killing 1,143 Israeli civilians, soldiers and foreign nationals, and taking hundreds of civilian hostages; and

WHEREAS, in response Israel launched massive air and ground attacks against Gaza; and

WHEREAS, while the stated targets were Hamas leaders, these attacks have caused over 37,000 Palestinian deaths, many of whom were civilian women and children; and

WHEREAS, the Israeli attacks have caused extensive destruction of infrastructure, of hospitals, and of civilian housing; and

WHEREAS, this destruction has resulted in tens of thousands of injured and sick without adequate care in Gaza, and over a million displaced persons; and

WHEREAS, on October 26th, 2023, the United Nations General Assembly, in a nearly unanimous vote, called for an immediate and sustained humanitarian ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, multiple aid agencies including the International Rescue Committee, Doctors Without Borders, and the World Central Kitchen have urged recognition of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza as an urgent emergency; and

WHEREAS, multiple U.S. government officials have resigned their positions “due to grave concerns with current U.S. policy towards the crisis in Gaza;” and

WHEREAS, as “subject matter experts dedicated to the service of the United States of America, its people, and its values,” they note in a joint statement that current U.S. policy has “failed to contribute to the peace and safety of all in the Middle East, and particularly that of Israel;” and

WHEREAS, they urge us to “use our positions to amplify calls for peace,” noting that “your voices matter.”

WHEREAS, prominent Israelis, including a Nobel Prize winner, a former Prime Minister, a former head of the foreign intelligence agency Mossad and others, have publicly raised concerns that Prime Minister Netanyahu’s ongoing war in Gaza increases the risk of war in northern Israel, and in fact “is driving Israel downhill at an alarming speed, to the extent that we may eventually lose the country we love;” and

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City of Lake Worth Beach supports peace and security for all people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, THAT:

SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this Resolution as true and correct findings of the City.

SECTION 2. It is hereby declared that City of Lake Worth Beach City Commission calls upon the Florida Congressional delegation to join us in urging the Biden administration to:

(A) Use its considerable moral, diplomatic, and financial authority to insist on immediate de-escalation, a permanent ceasefire, and an immediate return of all hostages; and

(B) Promptly provide for entry of all needed humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and

(C) Acknowledge UN Resolution 194; and

(D) To condition lethal arms sales to Israel on full and objective application of the federal Leahy Law.

SECTION 3. It is further declared that the City of Lake Worth Beach City Commission supports all residents and condemns all forms of racism, bigotry, and discrimination.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall be expeditiously forwarded to the President of the United States and to the Florida Congressional Delegation.