

MADISON HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
CONDEMNING HAMAS FOR INTENTIONALLY KILLING CIVILIANS,
RAPING WOMEN, AND HOSTAGE TAKING

WHEREAS, Hamas has been designated as a terrorist organization by the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the European Union, Australia, Japan, and other countries; and,

WHEREAS, Hamas overthrew the Palestinian Authority in a violent coup d'état, in 2007, in order to take control of the Gaza Strip; and,

WHEREAS, Hamas seeks an Islamic Palestinian state over the combined territory of Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and rejects a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli Conflict; and,

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas carried out an unprecedented, heinous, and barbaric attack on the State of Israel; and,

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists invaded Israel, by land, sea, and air, and intentionally slaughtered over 1,400 Israeli civilians, including 30 American citizens, 260 young people attending a music festival, raped women and children, murdered families in their homes, including infants and the elderly, set people and homes on fire, beheaded children, and took at least 199 men, women, and children (including 20 American citizens) as hostages; and,

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023 and continuing through the date of this Resolution, Hamas has indiscriminately fired thousands of rockets toward Israeli cities, causing Israeli civilians to seek cover in bomb shelters; and,

WHEREAS, the foregoing attacks resulted in the largest number of Jews killed in a single day since the Holocaust; and,

WHEREAS, even though evidence of the atrocities has been presented and widely disseminated, in the form of videos, photographs, news reports from reporters on the ground, testimony from survivors, and announcements by U.S. government officials, among other sources, some people deny the authenticity of this evidence or justify these acts of terrorism; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes and categorically states that the intentional targeting and killing of civilians, the raping of women and children, and the taking of civilian hostages, is never justified and is never to be celebrated under any circumstances, including the promotion of political aims and goals; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council further recognizes and categorically acknowledges that Hamas does not represent all Palestinians and that many Palestinians, and other people in the Arab world, have condemned this terrorist attack, called for the release of the hostages, and seek peace with Israel; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council stands with Israel and supports its right to defend itself from acts of war and terrorism in conformity with international law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Madison Heights City Council condemns Hamas' intentional attack on civilians; sends our condolences to the families of those murdered; conveys our wishes for a full and speedy recovery to those wounded; demands the release of the hostages; denounces anyone who celebrates atrocities perpetrated on civilians, including innocent children; rejects anyone who denies the authenticity of the evidence of these crimes, or anyone who justifies these acts of terrorism; implores Egypt and other countries to open its borders to allow foreign nationals (including Palestinian-Americans) to leave Gaza and to provide humanitarian assistance to Palestinian civilians fleeing the fighting as Israel works to heal its wounded and to search and free the hostages; condemns anti-Semitism and Islamophobia; and supports Israel's right to defend itself from acts of war and terrorism in conformity with international law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to President, Joseph R. Biden, U.S. Senator, Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator, Gary Peters, U.S. Representative, Haley Stevens, Michigan Governor, Gretchen Whitmer, Attorney General, Dana Nessel, Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, State Senator, Stephanie Chang, State Representative Mike McFall, State Representative, Tom Kuhn, Oakland County Chief Executive, David Coulter, and Oakland County Commissioner Gary McGillivray.

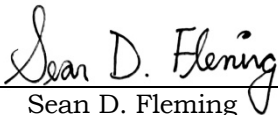
APPROVED BY THE MADISON HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL OF THIS 23rd DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.



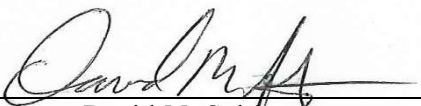
Roslyn Grafstein
Mayor



Toya D. Aaron
Councilwoman



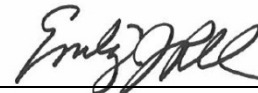
Sean D. Fleming
Councilman



David M. Soltis
Councilor



Mark A. Bliss
Mayor Pro Tem



Emily J. Rohrbach
Councilor



Quinn J. Wright
Councilor