

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION ON THE CRISIS IN GAZA**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Salem holds as a key value compassion and is committed to promoting peace, unity, and respect for all its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize and stand in solidarity with our Muslim and Jewish communities, reaffirming our commitment to their safety, security, and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, Israeli and Palestinian citizens deserve to live their lives in peace, free from the threat of violence; and

**WHEREAS**, we condemn Hamas' terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens that took place on October 7, 2023 and tragically took the lives of over 1,200 and resulted in around 250 hostages; and

**WHEREAS**, the ongoing violence in Gaza has resulted in immense human suffering and loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, we share dire concerns with the atrocities in Gaza in which tens of thousands of Palestinians have been killed and several thousand more are reported missing and presumed to be dead; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Gaza face further devastation from displacement, the collapse of the healthcare system, lack of food, water, sanitation, and other basic necessities, with over half a million Gazans reported starving by the United Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of civilian infrastructure by Hamas for military purposes further endangers the lives of innocent Palestinians and exacerbates the humanitarian crisis in Gaza; and

**WHEREAS**, the Israeli government and Israel Defense Forces, through violence and blocking humanitarian aid is acknowledged by the United Nations to be violating international law; and

**WHEREAS**, Salem residents' federal taxpayer dollars have been used to fund military actions in Gaza; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the urgency of the situation and the imperative need for immediate action;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, OREGON RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The City of Salem, Oregon calls for an immediate and permanent ceasefire and end to the hostilities in the region which are causing a catastrophic loss of Palestinian life; and

**Section 2.** We call for no more U.S. aid be directed to Israel or the Israel Defense Forces, for offensive military aid, until a permanent ceasefire is reached; and

**Section 3.** We insist on the immediate and unrestricted proliferation of humanitarian aid commensurate with the multiple levels of socioeconomic collapse in Gaza; and

**Section 4.** We urge leaders to prioritize the safety and well-being of all hostages and detainees, recognizing their right to freedom and immediate and unconditional release; and

**Section 5.** We extend our support to diplomatic efforts and initiatives aimed at facilitating a two-state solution where Palestinians and Israelis can live in peace; and

**Section 6.** The City Council asks all members of Oregon’s Federal Delegation to use the platform provided by their office to end these atrocities and to facilitate immediate and long-term peace here and around the globe; and

**Section 7.** We express our unwavering commitment to fostering peace and unity within the City of Salem and representing the voices and concerns of all its residents; and

**Section 8.** We stand in solidarity with our Palestinian, Muslim, and Jewish communities, affirming our commitment to their safety, security, and inclusion within the fabric of our city; and

**Section 9.** We condemn and will not tolerate antisemitism, anti-Palestinian or anti-Arab bigotry, Islamophobia, or any acts of bias or hate against Jewish, Muslim, or Palestinian residents of the City of Salem; and

**Section 10.** We express our sincere hope that the current conflict will be resolved swiftly and peacefully, leading to a just and lasting peace, and that an immediate and permanent ceasefire is the first step in bringing about that process; and

**Section 11.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Approved by City Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

*Drafted by Councilors Nishioka and Stapleton*