

Resolution Calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza

Whereas, Palestine has been occupied by Israel since 1948, and, as November 18th, 2023, Israel has been bombing Gaza for 42 days; and

Whereas, the Gaza Strip is home to more than two million people who have endured decades of militarized violence and extreme resource scarcity; and

Whereas, since October 7th, 2023, this violence has intensified, leading to more than eleven thousand additional deaths with thousands more deaths to come due to the lack of medical treatments, food, and water; and

Whereas, the current violence is a symptom of Israel's much larger territorial goal of dominating the entirety of Palestine which includes the Occupied Palestinian Territories and East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; and

Whereas, the United States has provided almost \$4 billion in military aid to the state of Israel over the past year; and

Whereas, defense contractors with a large local presence, including the Boeing Company, stand to profit from the increased sales of weapons that lead to more civilian deaths in Gaza; and

Whereas, hundreds of thousands of people around the world, tens of thousands in Washington State, and hundreds of individuals in Bellingham have participated in rallies and actions calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza; and

Whereas, the relatives of a number of Bellingham's Palestinian community members have been killed by the Israeli bombardment since October 7th, 2023; and

Whereas, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an immediate and sustained humanitarian truce on October 26th, 2023; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Bellingham, Washington:

We proclaim that the City of Bellingham stands in solidarity with civilians suffering from war violence around the world and particularly in the occupied territories of Palestine.

We proclaim our support for an immediate ceasefire in the occupied territories of Palestine, in which civilians are being disproportionately and unnecessarily harmed.

We proclaim that we condemn all forms of racism, xenophobia, profiling, anti-Arab sentiment, anti-Jewish sentiment, Islamophobia, and antisemitism that arise in response to the situation.



Submitted November 19th, 2023 on behalf of the Whatcom Peace and Justice Center, Veterans for Peace Chapter 111, and Whatcom Families for Peace and Justice in Palestine.