

A RESOLUTION GENUINELY CALLING FOR A CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBER TASHA DIAZ

WHEREAS, the City Council of Yonkers believes that all human life precious; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yonkers is home to a diverse population representing many races, ethnicities, religions and nationalities, including Arabs, Jews, Muslims and Christians, who, like many Americans, wish for an immediate end to the deadly Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the prompt and safe return of all remaining hostages of this conflict, the prompt end to the displacement of, injury to and loss of life of innocent men, women and children, and the establishment of a just and enduring peace for all in the region; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the immediate need for a ceasefire in the Gaza conflict, to facilitate the entry and delivery of necessary humanitarian aid in all forms to the innocent men, women, and children of Gaza; and

WHEREAS, military activities in Gaza have failed to adhere to basic principles of International Humanitarian Law; and

WHEREAS, our City mourns the killing of thousands of people, Israelis and Palestinians, the unjust captivity and imprisonment of both innocent Palestinians and Israelis, and the subsequent disproportionate and indiscriminate devastation of Gaza by Israel, including the killing of over thirty-three thousand Palestinians, including innocent women and children, the displacement of over one million Gazans, countless injuries to, and the continued starvation of hundreds of thousands; and

WHEREAS, we unite in calling upon our elected officials to raise—together, as one, and with all conviction—our voices to the administration of United States President Joseph R. Biden, a recognition that it is the United States that holds the decisive diplomatic influence to save Palestinian and Israeli lives; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that it is the right of all Palestinians and Israelis to live with respect, dignity, freedom, and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, we recognize and pray for the release of all Israeli and Palestinian hostages and that they be freed immediately; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT BE RESOLVED THAT this City Council urges our all of our elected officials, at every level, to demand an immediate ceasefire, rigorously pursue an end to this unceasing state violence, to effectuate the prompt and safe return of all hostages and prisoners—from both sides, to provide for the prompt entry and delivery of all critical humanitarian aid to Gaza, and to prevent the continued displacement of, and/or injury and death to, innocent men, women, and children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, we, the members of the City Council, condemn all forms of hate and discrimination, including islamophobia and antisemitism in the City of Yonkers.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.