



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Mayor Victoria Woodards and Bucoda Warren, Chief Policy Analyst
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution –Recognizing our community’s global ties and affirming Tacoma’s commitment to standing together against violence and hate – Requested 4/30/2024
DATE: April 25, 2024

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A Resolution recognizing our community’s global ties and affirming Tacoma’s commitment to standing together against violence and hate.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards

BACKGROUND:

In recent months there has been an increased demands for a ceasefire in Gaza and a recognition of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. In early April 2024, Mayor Woodards made an announcement that she would be working with local leaders to develop a resolution that would be responsive to these calls in the community while respecting that Tacoma is a city of many diverse people and viewpoints.

This resolution would affirm our commitment to build bridges and support all its residents and condemn anti-Arab racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of racism, xenophobia, and discrimination. It would also declare that the City of Tacoma unequivocally condemns all acts of violence and hate targeting people due to their faith, ethnicity, race, or heritage, and we stand against all abuses of human rights no matter where they occur.

The City of Tacoma will always stand in support of peaceful and diplomatic conflict resolution, including President Biden’s call for an immediate ceasefire, the protection of humanitarian aid workers, and the provision of humanitarian aid in Gaza. This resolution would ask that all state and federal leaders to continue their efforts to share and amplify Tacoma’s values of compassion and care to those lacking access to basic human needs. We also ask that they use their diplomatic influence with foreign governments to allow unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into conflict zones, including in Gaza, to ensure that all civilians have access to basic necessities, and do their utmost to protect aid workers. We stand by all our residents who are extending neighborly kindness to one another to build the bonds of peaceful coexistence and engaging in constructive dialogue to build shared understanding.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Mayor Woodards met with leaders in both the Jewish and Muslim communities who represented community members with ties to Israel and Gaza to solicit their feedback and guidance in developing language that represents a broad range of viewpoints to bring together a shared resolution.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The City of Tacoma recognizes and cherishes every one of our community members who is affected by violence in foreign countries, and we reaffirm Tacoma’s dedication peace and solidarity with community members who are



affected by conflicts abroad. Centering the experience of residents facing trauma and fear is important to understanding the impact public declarations can have in supporting them and living our Tacoma’s commitment as a welcoming anti-racist city.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

This resolution is a declaration of Tacoma’s ideals and reiterates the City of Tacoma’s commitment to standing together against violence and hate and ask our state and federal leaders to continue their efforts to share and amplify Tacoma’s values of compassion and care to those lacking access to basic human needs.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Take no action	None.	Community calls for Tacoma to take a stand against violence and hate will not be recognized

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

N/A

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Mayor Woodards recommends approval of the resolution declaring the City of Tacoma’s commitment to stand together against violence and hate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact to this legislation.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft language for resolution