



## RESOLUTION NO. 41104

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS DIAZ AND  
2 RUMBAUGH

3 A RESOLUTION relating to equity and human rights; directing the City Manager  
4 to work with the City's Office of Equity and Human Rights to adopt the  
5 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of  
6 "Antisemitism" for the City of Tacoma, to serve as a tool to identify and  
7 combat antisemitism.

8 WHEREAS, on May 26, 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance  
9 Alliance ("IHRA") members adopted the following non-legally binding working  
10 definition of "Antisemitism":

11 Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be  
12 expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical  
13 manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or  
14 non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish  
15 community institutions and religious facilities,

16 and

17 WHEREAS the IHRA working definition of "Antisemitism" ("Working  
18 Definition") is a crucial first step in addressing the horrific rise in antisemitism,  
19 especially in Europe and the United States, and

20 WHEREAS the Working Definition is a clear and compact description of  
21 antisemitism in its various forms, including Holocaust denial, prejudices against  
22 Jews, and the denial of Israel's right to exist, and

23 WHEREAS the Working Definition sends a message that governments  
24 understand the threat, which is the obvious first step in addressing it, and  
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WHEREAS, on January 26, 2021, at the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, 51 major American Jewish organizations across the political and religious spectrum adopted the Working Definition, and

WHEREAS the American Jewish Committee (“AJC”) was involved in the original drafting of the definition 14 years ago, and continues to urge local, state, regional, and national bodies to endorse the use of the Working Definition as a valuable educational tool to identify and combat antisemitism, and

WHEREAS, as of November 2022, 30 states and the District of Columbia, either through proclamation, executive order, or legislation, are using or have recognized the importance of the Working Definition, and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2022, the City of Bellevue officially recognized the definition of antisemitism and is the first city in the Pacific Northwest to adopt this type of proclamation, which is used in many other cities around the globe, and

WHEREAS, at the December 13, 2022, Study Session, Council Member Rumbaugh shared a Council Consideration Request to direct the City Manager to work with the City’s Office of Equity and Human Rights to adopt the Working Definition for the City of Tacoma, to serve as a tool to identify and combat antisemitism; Now, Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:**

That the City Manager, or designee, is hereby directed to work with the Office of Equity and Human Rights for the purpose of adopting the International



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Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of "Antisemitism" for the City of Tacoma, to serve as a tool to identify and combat antisemitism.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Attorney