



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Monday, December 11, 2023

5:00 PM

In-Person

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

PARTICIPATION: Members of the public may participate by being present at the Los Altos Council Chamber at Los Altos City Hall located at 1 N. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA during the meeting. Public comment is accepted in person at the physical meeting location, or via email to PublicComment@losaltosca.gov.

RULES FOR CONDUCT: Pursuant to Los Altos Municipal Code, Section 2.05.010 "Interruptions and rules for conduct": Understanding that the purpose of the city council meetings is to conduct the people's business for the benefit of all the people, in the event that any meeting of the city council is willfully interrupted by a person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting impossible, the mayor, mayor pro tem, or any other member of the city council acting as the chair may order the removal of the person or persons responsible for the disruption and bar them from further attendance at the council meeting, or otherwise proceed pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.0 or any applicable penal statute or city ordinance.

REMOTE MEETING OBSERVATION: Members of the public may view the meeting via the link below, but will not be permitted to provide public comment via Zoom or telephone. Public comment will be taken in-person, and members of the public may provide written public comment by following the instructions below.

<https://losaltosca-gov.zoom.us/j/83401175902?pwd=My63rzw4IJzj31WTD1ySugjC7AFP2k.1>

Telephone: 1-669-444-9171 / Webinar ID: 834 0117 5902 / Passcode: 765352

SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS: Prior to the meeting, comments on matters listed on the agenda may be emailed to PublicComment@losaltosca.gov. Emails sent to this email address are sent to/received immediately by the City Council. Emails sent directly to the City Council as a whole or individually, and not sent to PublicComment@losaltosca.gov will not be included as a public comment in the Council packet.

Please note: Personal information, such as e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, home addresses, and other contact information are not required to be included with your comments. If this information is included in your written comments, they will become part of the public record. Redactions and/or edits will not be made to public comments, and the comments will be posted as they are submitted. Please do not include any information in your communication that you do not want to be made public.

Correspondence submitted in hard copy/paper format must be received by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting to ensure distribution prior to the meeting. Comments provided in hard copy/paper format after 2:00 p.m. will be distributed the following day and included with public comment in the Council packet.

The Mayor will open public comment and will announce the length of time provided for comments during each item.

CALL TO ORDER

CONFIRM QUORUM

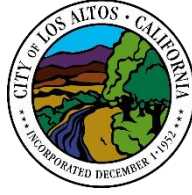
DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. City Council adoption of a resolution denouncing the Hamas attacks against Israel

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL NOTICES TO THE PUBLIC

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Altos will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk 72 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2610.



AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: December 11, 2023

Subject City Council adoption of a resolution denouncing the Hamas attacks against Israel

Prepared by: Melissa Thurman, City Clerk

Approved by: Gabriel Engeland, City Manager

Initiated by:
City Council (J. Weinberg, N. Fligor, and L. Lee Eng)

Background:

At the regular City Council meeting of October 24, 2023, a request was made by Vice Mayor Jonathan Weinberg, seconded by Councilmember Neysa Fligor, with support from Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng to: “Discuss the Council issuing a potential resolution, or any other action, denouncing the Hamas attacks against Israel.”

During the regular City Council meeting of November 14, 2023, the City Council directed Vice Mayor Jonathan Weinberg to draft a resolution denouncing Antisemitism and Islamaphobia and denouncing the Hamas attacks against Israel on October 7, 2023.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Environmental Review:

Not applicable

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS
DENOUNCING ANTISEMITISM, DENOUNCING ISLAMOPHOBIA, DENOUNCING
THE HAMAS TERRORIST ATTACKS OF OCTOBER 7, 2023, AND REAFFIRMING
EVERY PERSON'S RIGHT TO SAFETY AND RIGHT TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR OF
VIOLENCE OR INTIMIDATION REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED, RELIGION,
ETHNICITY, AND PERSONAL EXPRESSION OF BELIEFS.**

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas committed a heinous act of terrorism, whose primary intention was to commit atrocities on noncombatants, and which terrorist acts were motivated by antisemitism;

WHEREAS, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Los Altos held on November 14, 2023, members of the City Council and members of the public who spoke during public comment condemned Hamas' acts of terror and its taking of more than two-hundred hostages;

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of October 7, 2023, the Los Altos City Council recognizes that members of the Los Altos community have experienced acts of anti-Semitism and acts of Islamophobia;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Los Altos recognizes and affirms all of its residents' right to live in safety, without fear of violence, intimidation, or threat, based on their religious beliefs or how they choose to express those beliefs;

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2017-07, the City Council of the City of Los Altos adopted a resolution reaffirming its commitment to a diverse, supportive, and inclusive community by:

1. Rejecting bigotry in all its forms, including antisemitism and Islamophobia;
2. Not tolerating discrimination, hate crimes, harassment or assault;
3. Opposing any attempt to undermine the safety, security, and rights of members of our community;
4. Recognizing, valuing and proactively working to ensure the rights and privileges of everyone in Los Altos regardless of religion; and
5. Obligating the City to promote actual safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights.

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2021-17, the City Council of the City of Los Altos cited resolution 2017-07 in denouncing intimidation, aggression and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Los Altos and the Los Altos City Council:

1. Denounces Hamas as a terrorist organization, as recognized by the federal government of the United States of America, and specifically denounces Hamas' heinous and antisemitic terrorist attack and the taking of hostages on October 7, 2023;
2. Affirms that support for the Palestinian people is not the same as support for Hamas and categorically denounces the notion that anyone supports terrorism because of their faith or the manner in which they choose to express their faith;
3. Recognizes that members of the Los Altos Jewish and Muslim communities are hurt, anxious, and scared;
4. Affirms that the City of Los Altos and the City Council stand united with all its residents to promote unity and to respect the rights of every person in Los Altos to practice and express their faith freely, openly, and without fear of violence, intimidation, or threat.
5. Denounces and condemns antisemitism and Islamophobia;
6. Denounces and condemns all acts of violence, intimidation, and threat against any member of the Jewish or Muslim faiths;
7. Reaffirms that everyone has the right to express their religious beliefs – including but not limited to their manner of dress or the display of religious icons;
8. Promotes the actual safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights for all persons of the Jewish faith and for all persons of the Muslim faith within the City of Los Altos; and
9. Calls upon all members of the Los Altos community to respect and listen to the concerns of others, to seek understanding, and to do their part to protect their neighbors' sense of physical and emotional security, as well as their own.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 11th day of December, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jonathan D. Weinberg
MAYOR

Attest:

Melissa Thurman, MMC
CITY CLERK