

Katherine Douglas

General Public Comment - Group 1



From: Stephanie <stephanie.hopping@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:27 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Please issue a resolution supporting Israel's right to exist and condemning terrorism

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors:

On October 7, 2023, Israel was invaded by Hamas terrorists who tortured and slaughtered over 1,400 innocent men, women, and children, including infants and the elderly, in unspeakably evil ways that easily rival and exceed the horrors of Hitler's Holocaust, and they took over 200 innocent people as hostages -- including children, the elderly, **and American citizens**. This unprovoked sneak attack also included the firing of thousands of rockets into southern Israel. No words can adequately convey the horror of such utterly barbaric and gruesome crimes against humanity. **No grievances or injustices, whether real or perceived, justify these atrocities. The Board of Supervisors should strongly condemn this horrific attack.**

In the wake of this horror, we have seen further horrors in the form of demonstrations in many countries and in the US, especially on college campuses, that are overtly anti-Semitic, calling for the destruction of Israel. the killing of Jews in general, and supporting Palestinian terrorist organizations. The *Santa Barbara Independent* has reported on recent local demonstrations that included the chant "From the river to the sea, Palestine shall be free" -- which is widely acknowledged as a call for the destruction of Israel as a state and the extermination of all Israelis. **This is an endorsement of genocide, and it should be condemned.** The *Independent* has also reported that, at UCSB, posters showing Hamas' kidnapping victims have been torn down. Just today it has been reported in national news that an elderly Jewish man has died from injuries incurred during a demonstration involving supporters of Israel and pro-Palestinian supporters. (A pro-Palestinian demonstrator hit him on the head with a megaphone, causing him to fall.) This happened in Westlake Village -- next door to us --- in Ventura County.

There have been numerous incidents of violent threats against Jewish people in general, violent attacks on Jewish individuals, attempted attacks on Jewish students on campuses, attempted attacks on Jewish institutions, and just this past weekend, violent pro-Hamas demonstrations in Washington, DC. Overseas Jewish communities have been targeted with yellow stars painted on their places of residence, are being told to stay home and hide for their safety, etc. I never thought that in my lifetime we would be reliving certain aspects of what the 1930s and early 1940s were for the Jewish community in Germany and other parts of Europe during the rise of Hitler's National Socialist Party (Nazism)! Yes, I'm sure there have been some ugly and evil incidents targeting innocent Muslims (such as the horrendous murder of the little Palestinian boy), but the vast majority of hate crimes, threats, and acts of violence seem to be occurring against the Jewish community in our country. **Both anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim actions should be strongly condemned by the Board of Supervisors.**

The Hamas Charter, other Palestinian terrorist groups, Hezbollah, Iran, etc. explicitly call for the destruction of Israel and genocide against the Jewish people. **Any entity, movement, or activity that calls for, or supports, the elimination of Israel or any other form of genocide against the members of a nation; or the members of any political, ethnic, tribal, or religious community should be strongly condemned by the Board of Supervisors.**

Israel is not a "colonizer" or "occupier." There has been a continuous Jewish presence in Israel (formerly called Judea precisely because of the Jewish presence) for thousands of years, long before there was an Arab or Muslim presence there. Israel was actually granted a much larger territory under the earlier British colonial mandate than it currently has. It has had to give up a considerable amount of territory. Upon gaining independence in 1948, it did not "kick out" non-Jews. They were invited to stay, but the surrounding (and at that time, very hostile) Arab nations encouraged non-Jewish Palestinians to leave Israel, promising them that they would destroy Israel (which they have unsuccessfully tried to do a few times), and then they could return. At one point Jordan took in a lot of Palestinian refugees, who soon tried to overthrow the Jordanian government. After that, Lebanon took in a lot of Palestinian refugees, who soon fomented a long and very bloody civil war in Lebanon. Since then, most Palestinian refugees have been consigned to the UN refugee camps in the West Bank region, and no other Arab nation has since offered to take them in, although they pay lip service to their concern for them and exploit them as a convenient political weapon against Israel. **In a bid for peace, Israel gave the Gaza Strip to the Palestinians for self-rule in 2006.** The Palestinians there promptly elected to be ruled by Hamas, which soon turned the Gaza Strip into the impoverished hellhole it currently is (despite receiving lots of humanitarian aid) and have not allowed any further elections. Hamas' priority has been using Gaza as a base for launching numerous violent attacks on Israel.

Israel is the only parliamentary democracy in the entire region, has been a refuge for persecuted Jews worldwide, and is our best friend and ally in the Middle East. **Please issue a resolution supporting Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation, to coexist peacefully with all other nations, and to defend itself against unprovoked aggression.**

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Stephanie Hopping
Goleta

Katherine Douglas

From: Linda Foster <swanlake805@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 2:32 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Fwd: Please issue a resolution supporting Israel's right to exist and condemning terrorism

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stephanie <stephanie.hopping@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Nov 7, 2023 at 1:27 PM
Subject: Please issue a resolution supporting Israel's right to exist and condemning terrorism
To: <sbcob@countyofsb.org>

Dear Board of Supervisors:

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Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Stephanie Hopping
Goleta

Katherine Douglas

From: Janice Geller (jrzgl@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 6:03 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Deny Exxon trucking project - Upcoming Board of Supervisors Meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to deny this dangerous project as recommended by the Santa Barbara Planning Commission.

In addition to the significant and unavoidable risks of spills from trucking the oil, the purported benefit of producing oil from the offshore platforms and processing it on the Gaviota coast would bring with it unacceptable risks of offshore oil spills, air pollution and toxic fire and smoke risks that were not analyzed in the EIR, which focused narrowly on trucking impacts.

The recent oil spill off of Orange County underlines the severity of these risks. In addition, ExxonMobil's facilities were the largest sources of air pollution in the county and contained dangerous and toxic materials in an area that has burned by wildfire twice in the 6 years since the facilities have been shut down. We were fortunate that oil and dangerous gases were not present at the site during the recent Alisal fire, which burned onto ExxonMobil's property.

It is not just that the trucking routes are along sections of road with above average accident rates, there have been specific and recent instances of oil tankers on this route spilling oil into rivers and starting fires. In fact, on October 11 -- the same day as the Alisal fire -- an oil tanker crash near Orcutt caused a fire in Eucalyptus trees.

Thank you for denying this dangerous and unacceptable oil trucking project.

Sincerely,

Janice Geller
42450 Wilson Valley Rd
Aguanga, CA 92536
jrzgl@gmail.com
(951) 321-0597

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

Katherine Douglas

From: Carolyn Chaney <cchaney@sfsu.edu>
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 8:01 AM
To: sbcob; Supervisor Das Williams; Joan Hartmann
Subject: Re event decision of the Board

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to say that the recent passage of the Resolution in support of Israel was a huge mistake, imho. Dropped in among innocuous resolutions honoring citizens and declaring "Take a Hike Day" the Israel resolution puts our Supervisors squarely on one side of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Instead of declaring support for one of the aggressors, let us take the stance of the SB Green Party, of the SB City Council that states: "We condemn the attacks on civilians, including children, perpetrated by both Hamas and Israel. Both Hamas and Israel are deliberately targeting civilian populations. This is in violation of the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which forbid targeting civilians and civilian areas such as homes, places of worship and medical facilities. It also forbids the taking of hostages. The cutting off of water and supplies to Gaza by Israel is a violation of international humanitarian law prohibiting sieges on civilian populations."

So, tell me, what the heck is my Board of Supervisors doing by proclaiming support for Israel? What are you involving yourselves and our peaceful county in this humanitarian disaster?

I would like a response, please.

Carolyn Chaney

"Tell me, what do you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" Mary Oliver

"Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt." John Muir

SUPERVISOR WILLIAMS, SUPERVISOR HARTMANN 23-01073 Adopt a Resolution in support of Israel's right to security, peace and commitment to combating anti-Semitism and Islamophobia. A motion was made by Supervisor Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Hartmann, that this matter be adopted.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 -

Supervisor Williams, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, Supervisor Nelson, and Supervisor Lavagnino

Katherine Douglas

From: alicia crockett <ajcrockett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2023 11:44 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Agenda Item 5, November 7 meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for approving the plan to improve safety in Isla Vista. Benny Schurmer is my best friend's son and the heartbreak and devastation that his death has caused is indescribable.

I have one request for you to consider... how can we retroactively raise fence heights on properties that are not seeking permits? For example, the property where Benny died will not change within the parameters of the approved plan. Can the county/city somehow require current properties to be changed? Perhaps you can incentivize these changes by providing some financial assistance? I just fear that many property owners won't make the changes unless they are required. The statistic that more deaths have happened at residences vs the public cliffs was shocking. That fact, in it of itself, makes requiring these safety changes at all properties an important and necessary factor to consider.

Thank you, again, for your effort in making changes that, in all honesty, should have been made years ago. I ask that you please consider what I have presented as well.

Sincerely, Alicia Crockett