

**From:** [Miranda Alksnis](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Wednesday morning  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 10:13:11 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from miranda.alksnis@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear alders,

I was there Wednesday morning; I saw the whole situation with police. The students were standing and chanting in front of dozens of police. They were very peaceful. There was no reason to use riot shields. Many students were, in fact, hurt by what the police claims was for their own "protection."

For our student community, you must pass the resolution condemning police violence.

Sincerely,  
Miranda Alksnis

**From:** [Elena Aydarova](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Wednesday UWPD Update on Library Mall Protest - UW-Madison Police Department  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 11:00:24 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from dr.aydarova@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

I am writing to submit a news article that clearly shows that Madison city police was involved in the violent attack on peaceful protestors:

<https://uwpd.wisc.edu/wednesday-uwpd-update-on-library-mall-protest/>

There are numerous photos and videos corroborating this fact.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Elena Aydarova

**From:** [Sarah](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of Agenda Item 38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:58:58 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [sjbetzler@gmail.com](mailto:sjbetzler@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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To the Common Council,

Please vote in support of Agenda Item 38.

As a graduate of UW Madison and as a current staff member, I could not be more proud of the students peacefully protesting against UW-Madison's connections to the atrocities in Gaza, which can be plausibly called a genocide and a war crime.

These protests have done an enormous amount of good by bringing attention to the current and long-term human rights abuses in Palestine; but this movement has also been mischaracterized - sometimes through honest misunderstandings, but also by bad actors attempting to delegitimize this cause for political reasons. You may be told by some citizens that the UW-Madison protesters are anti-Semitic and hateful; but from my experiences with them this could not be more false. It is incomprehensible to me that anyone who actually listens to them in good faith could take away that message.

I urge the Common Council to see through the misdirection - in doing so, you will be using your platform and leadership to help others to do the same. Please reaffirm your support for a ceasefire, and stand in support of the students peacefully protesting for a better future.

Thank you,  
Sarah Betzler

**From:** [Books24u](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item # 38 - Support  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 7:15:55 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from books24u@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello City of Madison Alders and Mayor,

I support continued support for more peaceful actions as far as what it is happening for Gaza and Palestine. I support item # 38 on the agenda.

A cease fire must prevail to end more killing of Palestinians in Gaza, specifically in the City of Rafah now, today, May 7, 2024 and in the future. The genocide must end.

Also, local action of citizens who are paying attention against the genocide in Gaza must be allow to the fullest extent of the First Amendment.

Sincerely,

Steve Books  
625 Spruce St.  
Madison, WI 53715  
[Books24u@aol.com](mailto:Books24u@aol.com)

**From:** [Jalessa Bryant](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** In support of the Popular University for Gaza at UW Madison  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:53:55 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jalessanoel@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

My name is Jalessa Bryant and I am a Dane County Resident & UW Student. I have been closely following the news of the UW-Madison student encampment. I strongly support the student's right to protest, and I am outraged by the charges levied against four of the protestors.

Please allow the encampment, discontinue any disciplinary actions against students, & call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in occupied Palestine!

—  
Jalessa Noel Bryant  
Please excuse typos  
Sent from iPhone

**From:** [Lisa Charron](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support for resolution 83214  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:29:10 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from lisamcharron@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Madison alders,

I am emailing in support of Resolution 83214, item 38 on the agenda for the Common Council meeting tonight, May 7, 2024, Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors. I thank and support my own alder, Marsha Rummel, for cosponsoring this resolution.

I am a resident of ten years of Madison, first as a renter and now as a homeowner at 1317 E Wilson St. I am also a PhD candidate (and an alum of two masters programs) at UW-Madison. While I have not been able to support the Popular University for Gaza on Library Mall in person, I have been following and supporting the students from afar where and how I can. I am very much inspired by their tenacity, their organization, and the example of community care and action that they are setting.

The message of the student protesters is incredibly important, and I hope that UW-Madison and the City of Madison will do all they can to support a permanent ceasefire, drastically increased humanitarian aid to Gaza, and the end to the violent apartheid regime perpetuated against Palestinians by the state of Israel.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Charron

1317 E Wilson St, Madison, WI 53703  
[lisamcharron@gmail.com](mailto:lisamcharron@gmail.com)

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**From:** [Liz Conn](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** I support Resolution 83214  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:37:06 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from elconn11@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear Madison Alders,

As a Jew and a resident of Madison, I strongly urge you to support resolution 83214. Students should have the right to protest, have the encampment and not be subjected to disciplinary action. The police acted with unnecessary violence. I strongly support a permanent and lasting ceasefire. Please support resolution 83214.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Conn

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [City of Madison](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** [All Alders] the useless resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:37:12 PM

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Recipient: All Alders:

Tue, 05/07/2024 - 18:36

Jerry Darda

15 Sturbridge circle

Madison, Wisconsin. 53717 Yes, by email. [jerryxdaeda@gmail.com](mailto:jerryxdaeda@gmail.com) All Alders the useless resolution Obviously you have decided to waste valuable time on this resolution but with all you whereases you forgot:

Whereas a police officer was injured by a skateboard wielded  
by a PEACEFUL protestor.....

While most reasonable people in Madison support peaceful protests--Illegal tents, violence against our good police who are doing their job simply destroys any credibility of the protesters. The view in our neighborhood is that these demonstrators are a small elitist group of privileged youngsters whose wealthy parents pay for their education and like a number of our city council members, hate the police , and never had a real job.



**From:** [Alex Dudek](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support Resolution 83214  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:06:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from alexdudek10@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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*Dear Madison Alders:*

*As a UW-Madison alum (BSN '19, MPH '23), former student employee, and current resident of Madison, I urge you to support Madison Common Council resolution 83214, “Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors.”*

First, as a nurse and public health professional, I want to make clear that police violence and repression of collective peaceful demonstrations is a public health issue. Please see the American Public Health Association's [2018 statement](#) and [2020 statement](#) for more information.

I stand with the Students for Justice in Palestine at UW-Madison, which stands in full support of the Madison Common Council resolution 83214, “Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors.” We applaud the Common Council’s call for a permanent ceasefire, and are encouraged by this response to support and affirm the rights of student activists to demand transparency and divestment from the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s administration. The Gaza Solidarity Encampment is made up of students, faculty, staff, and community members of all backgrounds and faiths, and we are appreciative of the broader Madison community’s support. It is evident that solidarity with Palestine is popular, and given the imminent and ongoing invasion of Rafah, concrete action towards ending the genocide and occupation of Palestine is necessary at all levels of our community.

We also call on this Common Council to specifically affirm the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment. We demand that the University of Wisconsin-Madison:

1. Divest from occupation, borders, and prisons from Palestine to Teejop.
2. Disclose all of the University of Wisconsin Foundation’s investments.
3. Cut all ties with Israeli institutions.
4. Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire to end the ongoing genocide, and an end to the siege on Gaza.
5. Get cops off campus.
6. Stop the land grabs and cease expansion in order to house our community.

While we are heartened by the Common Council’s broader support for students’ right to protest, we also call on this body to affirm these demands and recenter the reasons for which we have gathered: UW’s complicity in the continuing devastation of Gaza and the genocide of the Palestinian people. **As of May 6th, more than 34,750 people have been killed in Israel’s ongoing genocide in Gaza.** Support for students’ right to protest on campus without retaliation or police action is

inextricably linked to the complicity of our own administration in these deaths. We urge the Common Council to support student demands for divestment from and disclosure of the University's investments in this ongoing genocide.

In addition, we also call for the demilitarization of our campus community. On May 1st, 2024, UW Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin ordered the use of force by UWPD, MPD, the Dane County Sheriff's Office, and State Patrol against students, faculty, staff, and community members gathered at the Gaza Solidarity Encampment on Library Mall. Countless students and faculty were assaulted by these forces and forcibly detained. Four of those arrested were booked into the Dane County Jail and are facing charges. In addition to denouncing this use of force by the University, we also urge the Common Council to call for these charges to be dropped. The call for charges to be dropped goes hand in hand with the reduction of funding for police on campus and the increase in funding for community social services—from UHS to affordable housing and tuition remission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alex Dudek, RN, BSN, MPH

**From:** [Gregory Gelembiuk](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Regarding agenda item 38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:24:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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Dear Alders,

I have just discovered, upon checking legistar, that a substitute is being introduced. I would ask that you vote for the substitute resolution. My earlier email is thus irrelevant.

Thank you,

Dr. Gregory Gelembiuk

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**From:** Gregory Gelembiuk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** Madison Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Regarding agenda item 38

Dear Alders,

I am writing in support of agenda item 38, "Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors." Watching the ongoing genocide in Gaza is excruciating. I am affiliated with the UW and have spent a considerable amount of time at the UW encampment. I have found it to be an exceptionally inclusive and peaceful environment. I particularly appreciated the student-led Shabbat service I attended at the encampment last Friday.

I will also note the strong statement of support for the encampment from South Central Federation of Labor.

Regarding the proposed resolution, I will note that the Madison City Council has, at points throughout its history, issued orders to the Chief of MPD. For example, in May, 2017, the Council issued an extensive set of orders developed by the President's Work Group on Police and Community Relations (e.g., an order establishing a duty to preserve life, including the lives of those being placed into police custody, etc.). In another example, from November, 1968, the Council issued orders regulating MPD use of mace (e.g., specifying that it could not be sprayed in someone's face, etc.). Municipalities throughout Wisconsin regularly issue such orders. If you wish to better understand the powers of the Council and Mayor in this regard, and how municipal elected officials in Wisconsin often fail to recognize and utilize their power to issue

orders to police departments, please see [this key Wisconsin Law Review article](#) by Matthew Flynn.

I wish to address a few passages in the recent memo by City Attorney Haas on this matter, where I feel additional information is required.

**1. Haas states:**

Peaceful protesters may also be trespassing on public or private property or as widely reported in the case of the current demonstrations, establishing encampments in violation of state law.

From this language, one may have the mistaken impression that the encampment is a violation of state statute, but that is incorrect. The violation is actually of a University of Wisconsin administrative rule – specifically UWS 18.07(4), which states:

Picnicking and camping. No person may picnic or camp on university lands, except in those areas specifically designated as picnic or camping grounds, or as authorized by the chief administrative officer. No person may violate any rules and regulations for picnicking or camping established and posted by the chief administrative officer. For purposes of this subsection, camping shall include the pitching of tents or the overnight use of sleeping bags, blankets, makeshift shelters, motor homes, campers or camp trailers.

Another administrative rule, for example, prohibits ticket scalping. But as with picnicking and camping, someone who sells a ticket to a UW event for more than they paid for it is not violating state law – just a UW administrative rule.

I will also note that the Chancellor has the power to authorize the encampment. And, moreover, the rule prohibiting picnicking and camping is enforced in an entirely selective manner. When UW athletic events occur (e.g. football games), tons of people picnic on UW grounds, and the rule is not enforced. Departments across campus, including a few that I've worked in, also regularly engage in picnics on UW grounds, with no enforcement of this rule. Here is another example – a WKOW news story "[Badger fans camp outside Kohl Center ahead of game](#)". A picture of people camping (without any UW enforcement of its rule):



The UW enforces this rule only in cases such as disfavored speech.

**2.** Haas states:

If the Council issues a directive to the Police Chief, the Chief can then decide whether they will follow the directive and if not, any action that is taken in response to a complaint being filed is a determination for the Police and Fire Commission.

I would like to add – if the Chief refuses to follow an order, the city can also obtain enforcement of its order by seeking and obtaining a writ of mandamus from a judge. It is not the case that the only recourse is a complaint to the PFC.

**3.** Haas:

but there is no legal right of elected officials to receive communications from the Police Department while an incident or enforcement action is ongoing, particularly regarding its plans or tactics.

This is confusing. Just because elected officials have no pre-existing legal right to receive such communications (codified at this point in statute) does not mean that an order can't be issued to effectively create such a right. To the best of my knowledge, no state statute prohibits this. This case seems similar to a point of confusion in a statement I witnessed from City Attorney Haas a few years ago, when civilian oversight of police was being set up in Madison. The ordinances that were being drafted established that the Independent Monitor would have unfettered access to all MPD records, computer databases, etc. City Attorney Haas raised an objection that open records law didn't provide a right to the records. But as Attorney Keith

Findley pointed out in response – the establishment of the Independent Monitor’s right of access to the records is not based on open records laws. It’s creating a new mechanism and, essentially, a new right. Which is permissible unless it’s prohibited in state statute.

I wish to add here – I appreciate that Michael Haas has been a very professional and thoughtful City Attorney. I am not seeking to, in any way, disparage his work. I am just writing to provide some additional relevant information here.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory Gelembiuk

**From:** [Gregory Gelembiuk](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding agenda item 38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:12:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from gwgelemb@wisc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

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I wish to add here – I appreciate that Michael Haas has been a very professional and thoughtful City Attorney. I am not seeking to, in any way, disparage his work. I am just writing to provide some additional relevant information here.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory Gelembiuk

**From:** [CLAIRE HOPPE](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Student support for item #38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:24:21 PM

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Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear , Common Council Members

I am a student and a constituent here in Madison. I am writing today about Item #38 to both state my support for the solidarity with student protestors expressed in this resolution, and strongly encourage the Common Council to stand with the demands of the Popular University for Gaza at UW-Madison.

These demands are:

- Divest from occupation, borders, and prisons.
- Disclose all of the UW foundation's investments.
- Cut all ties with Israeli institutions.
- Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.
- Get cops off campus.
- And stop the land grabs and cease expansion.

I deeply want the University to Disclose and Divest, I cannot stand the thought that the money I pay for my education could be going to violence against civilians, especially children. This morning I read a news story as I got ready for my last final, it was about a little girl who was celebrating what she and her family thought was a ceasefire. They found her with a bullet in her head.

I started to cry and writing this I think I am about to cry again. I cannot image the pain the family must feel, I cannot imagine how anyone would be ok with a child being shot. I imagined my own niece, the grief and the anger I would feel if that was her is unimaginable. But I can imagine my grief and anger for the child shot and the many other who have been killed, because I feel it in this moment. So please, in your position of power, do what you can to help stop this needless violence and protect the students that are peacefully trying to stop this senseless killing.

I applaud the strong stance this Council has taken in the past in favor of a ceasefire, and urge the Council to stand with the concrete demands of its constituents. Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [Ceri](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support students and ceasefire now!  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:34:19 PM

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Hello:

I'm writing to voice my support for supporting students and youth in their protest and call for divestment of UW Madison resources related to Israel.

And also voicing strong support for a vote for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

Thank you,  
Ceri Jenkins

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [jo kelley](#)  
**To:** [council](#); [All Alders](#); [Figueroa Cole, Yannette](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:51:20 PM

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Dear Madison Alders and Mayor,

I am contacting you to ask you to support and pass the resolution named, Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestor. I have witnessed the positive, life-affirming and diverse community that makes up and organizes the UW Madison tent encampment. Given the gravity of the Israeli attacks on civilians in Gaza and West Bank and their refusal to allow for sufficient aid to address the widespread famine and disease, the action on UW Madison campus is justifiable, offers needed education and fellowship, and serves as a model for productive dissent.

I would be proud to have our city officials pass this resolution.

Joann Kelley  
4333 Crawford Dr  
Madison

**From:** [Jessica Kennedy](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Agenda item #38 05.07.24  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:33:01 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from jessicar.kennedy10@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

I would like to express my support for agenda item 38. at tonight's common council meeting.  
"Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors"

Thank you,  
Jessica Kennedy

602 E Johnson St. Madison WI 53703

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Jessica Kennedy

**From:** [City of Madison](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** [All Alders] Encampments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:27:10 PM

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Recipient: All Alders:

Tue, 05/07/2024 - 18:26

Brent Kimbel

9606 hill creek dr

Verona, Wisconsin. 53593 Yes, by email. [brent.a.kimbel@gmail.com](mailto:brent.a.kimbel@gmail.com) All Alders

Encampments I just read a headline talking about the council voting as to whether or not to support the encampments on the UW campus.

I sure hope common sense kicks in and you vote NOT to support them. They are breaking the law and are supporting a terrorist organization.

Yes they have the right to be heard, but they don't have the right to break the law.

Please vote NOT to support them in any way.

Thank you!

**From:** [Bob Klebba](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** item 38 tonight  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:02:44 PM

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I strongly support this resolution. Students have a right to protest the indiscriminate slaughter of over 30,000 Gazans, mostly women and children, and the resulting economic, medical and social chaos. In order to stay on the right side of history, we need to demonstrate as a community that we are advocates for free speech and this resolution does that.

Please endeavor to pass this resolution. thank you

best, Bob

Bob Klebba he him  
704 E Gorham St  
Madison WI 53703-1522  
608-209-8100  
[www.governorsmansioninn.com](http://www.governorsmansioninn.com)  
[www.mendotalakehouse.com](http://www.mendotalakehouse.com)

**From:** [Efrat Koppel](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:16:09 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from helloefrat@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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The current version of the resolution would: 1. Commend student organizers for exercising their First Amendment rights, 2. Urge Chancellor Mnookin to “prioritize protecting free speech”, and 3. Reaffirm the Common Council’s prior commitment to a ceasefire.

Our demand is that **the Common Council approve a strengthened version of this resolution, urging UW-Madison to agree to student demands.**

TODAY, May 7th at 6:30pm. We’re asking that Madison community members tell the Common Council to stand against UW Madison’s investment in apartheid.

Students for Justice in Palestine at UW-Madison appreciate several of the principles this resolution would uphold—however, ***we ask the Common Council to specifically urge UW-Madison to agree to the demands put forth by the students of the UW-Madison Popular University for Gaza.*** We demand UW-Madison:

1. **Divest** from occupation, borders, and prisons from Palestine to Teejop, by divesting from all companies on the AFSC list.
2. **Disclose** all of UW foundation’s investments.
3. **Cut all ties** with Israeli institutions, including the Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund, Mosse Graduate Exchange Fellowship, and study abroad programs in Israel.
4. **Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire** to end the ongoing genocide, and an end to the siege on Gaza.
5. **Get cops off campus.**
6. **Stop the land grabs and cease expansion, in order to house our community.**



The UW-Madison Popular University for Gaza will not rest in our unwavering push for UW-Madison's divestment from the occupation of Palestine, and we call upon the Madison Common Council to join us in these demands.

All the best,  
Efrat Koppel

**From:** [Julia Nepper](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support Students and Call for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:33:54 PM

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from julianepper94@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am adding my voice to the rest of the UW alumni calling for the university to divest from Israel in the wake of their war crimes against Palestinian civilians.

Julia Nepper, PhD  
@DietDrNepper

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

From: **Nikolai Radzinski** <[nick.radzinski@gmail.com](mailto:nick.radzinski@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, May 7, 2024, 3:54 PM  
Subject: Fwd: CALL TO ACTION, Today, May 7: Tell Common Council to Support Students and Call for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire  
To: Julia Nepper <[julianepper94@gmail.com](mailto:julianepper94@gmail.com)>

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

From: **Badgers Justice** <[freedombadgers@gmail.com](mailto:freedombadgers@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, May 7, 2024 at 3:11 PM  
Subject: CALL TO ACTION, Today, May 7: Tell Common Council to Support Students and Call for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire  
To: Badgers Justice <[freedombadgers@gmail.com](mailto:freedombadgers@gmail.com)>

Thanks to everyone who joined us for a rally and tour of the Popular University for Gaza on Library Mall yesterday! [Over 200 faculty, staff, and students joined us for a march to Bascom Hall](#) to deliver remarks to Chancellor Mnookin over her decision to call the police on her students, staff, and faculty on Wednesday, May 1 for protesting for disclosure and divestment from the ongoing genocide in Palestine via encampments.

- A faculty senator announced his intention to yield his time to Dr. Samer Alatout, who centered Palestine and Gaza, spoke of the love and discourse student protestors have modeled in the encampment, and reminded the Chancellor that faculty of color were especially targeted with police violence and arrests.
- A UFAS representative shared the union's [statement against police violence](#)
- A Jewish staff member shared a [statement](#) signed by over 100 Jewish faculty and

staff

- For more information about the above bullets please see: [WORT FM](#) and [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)

Thank you to all those who were present yesterday and supported from afar. Together, we thank you all for being in community with faculty and staff at UW-Madison in a show of support and strong solidarity with the Popular University for Gaza!

**Please see the call to action for today, May 7th. We are trying to get as many calls and emails as possible to the Madison Common Council by 6:30pm CST tonight.**

### **CALL TO ACTION**

The Madison Common Council is voting on a resolution to Support Students and Call for an Immediate and Permanent Ceasefire **TODAY, May 7th at 6:30pm.**

#### **This resolution:**

- Calls on the Chancellor to allow the encampment and discontinue any disciplinary actions against students
- Reaffirms the City of Madison's Support for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

**Let your voice be heard. Tell Common Council to support the resolution.**

- Email and call all alders: [allalders@cityofmadison.com](mailto:allalders@cityofmadison.com), [list of phone numbers](#)
- Speak at the May 7th meeting in person or virtually. Register to speak on [Agenda Item 38](#).

**You can also support protestors with the following actions:**

- Call the Dane County District Attorney's office and tell them to drop the charges against protestors (608) 266-4211
  - And/or email with the following [script](#)
- Call the Chancellor and other administrators and tell them to cancel charges against individuals and no cops on students
  - Script [here](#)
  - Jennifer Mnookin, Chancellor: (608) 262-9946
  - Christina Olstad, Dean of Students: (608) 263-5700
  - Brent Plisch, Interim Chief UWPD: (608) 890-2730
- Support with resources
  - Venmo: [@Kuffiyeh](#) for food & supplies donations

Even if you could not make it to the rally yesterday, [please fill out this form](#) (you can remain anonymous) to receive future action alerts! If you haven't yet signed the letter in support of

students' right to protest, you can sign that [here](#).

In Solidarity with our Students

--

Nikolai Radzinski, Ph.D.  
(he/him/his)

**From:** [Susan Nossal](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Susan Nossal](#)  
**Subject:** Please support resolution "Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protesters"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 7:19:00 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from smnossal@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Members of the Madison Common Council,

I most strongly urge you to vote for the Madison Common Council resolution "Reaffirming Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors."

I write to you as a Madison resident and Jewish American to express my utmost horror at the atrocities that the Israeli government is committing against Palestinians in Gaza with the military and financial assistance of the United States.

The situation has only gotten more dire since the time of the original ceasefire resolution passed by the Common Council. Today the Nobel Peace Prize winning organization *Doctors without Borders/Médecins sans Frontières* (MSF) implored, "As thousands of [Palestinians](#) are forced to flee eastern [Rafah](#) following Israel's recent evacuation orders, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is warning that an escalation of the ongoing military operations in this southern Gazan city would be catastrophic."

This comes on top of the already harrowing situation recently described by Doctors without Borders. "Medical staff in Gaza have been enduring the unthinkable over the last nearly seven months of war: amputating limbs without anesthesia, treating mass crush and burn injuries with extremely limited supplies, and trying to work as Israeli forces have repeatedly besieged hospitals like Nasser and Al-Shifa. MSF reiterates its call for an immediate and sustained ceasefire to prevent more death and destruction to the lives of people in Gaza."

When I have been at the UW Madison encampment, I have experienced it to be a very welcoming, kind, and diverse community and an opportunity for learning and sharing, as well as advocacy.

The student protest movements at UW–Madison and across the United States are the conscience of our nation. We should heed their calls.

Please pass this resolution and then forward it to our elected federal representatives including President Biden, Sen. Tammy Baldwin, Sen. Ron Johnson and Rep. Mark Pocan.

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Susan Nossal

Madison, WI

**From:** [Judith Rabinowitz](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Reaffirming the ceasefire resolution and supporting the student encampment  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:03:53 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from judyrabinowitz50@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please vote in favor of reaffirming the city council's ceasefire resolution and supporting the student encampment and protests. We must take a stand against genocide. The death toll in Gaza of 35,000, including 15,000 infants and children, is not acceptable.

Thank you!

Judy  
judyrabinowitz50@gmail.com

**From:** [Harry Richardson](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support UW students and staff right to protest and call for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:32:08 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from richardsonharry348@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings,

As a retired UW worker I have spent a number of hours at the peaceful encampment by UW students on the Library Mall. I am deeply disappointed in the action of Chancellor Mnoockin in calling out the Madison Police, the Dane County sheriffs and the Wisconsin State Patrol on May first to forcefully disband the encampment. I am deeply troubled by the actions of law enforcement that disproportionately targeted UW staff and students of color with violence and detention during this action.

I strongly urge you to support Agenda item 38 calling on the Council to support the right of protest for UW students and staff and support a permanent ceasefire to save the lives of people of Gaza. This is a critical time as Israel threatens to invade the southern Gazan city of Rafah, where over 1.1 million civilians have taken refuge. Israel recently called for one hundred thousand civilians to evacuate, but there is no safe place for them to go, either within war torn Gaza or elsewhere as all borders are closed.

Finally, as a long time delegate to the South Central Federation of Labor (SCFL) for my campus union, AFSCME Local 171 I would also like to call your attention to a statement from the SCFL executive committee at their meeting yesterday supporting the students and staff on the UW campus.

<https://www.scfl.org/>

Thank you for taking the time to address this important issue.

Sincerely

Harry Richardson  
456 N Few St.  
Madison



**From:** [Kayla Riley](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Item #38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:12:16 PM

---

Some people who received this message don't often get email from theemoon92@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Common Council Members,

I am an Irish American community member and a constituent here in Madison. I am speaking here today about Item #38 to both state my support for the solidarity with student protestors expressed in this resolution, and strongly encourage the Common Council to stand with the demands of the Popular University for Gaza at UW-Madison.

These beyond REASONABLE demands are:

- Divest from occupation, borders, and prisons.
- Disclose all of the UW foundation's investments.
- Cut all ties with Israeli institutions.
- Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.
- Get cops off campus.
- And stop the land grabs and cease expansion.

Why should local government take a stand against apartheid? A better question would be WHY do we need to fight to divest? WHY are our universities invested in and profit off of war to begin with? WHY is it so hard to envision defunding the police, when we've been defunding public education and Healthcare for decades?!

Personally I was there when the police assault happened. I have bruises all over my body, and I managed to avoid the thick of it and avoided arrest, once it was communicated to me they were singling people out and targeting people. Mostly People of color or queer people. I was warned I was one of the people the police were talking about wanting to get and beat on. I have recordings of the police drinking the encampments supplies (gatorades) and videos of officers laughing and mocking the students, faculty and the movement and cause itself. As if our trust in police hasn't already been misplaced. The police do not keep us safe. We proved that on campus, as community students and faculty came together to do a better job at protecting ourselves and each other than the university, the chancellor or the dean, and especially not the police.

I applaud the strong stance this Council has taken in the past in favor of a ceasefire, and urge the Council to stand with the concrete demands of its constituents. Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [City of Madison](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** [All Alders] Illegal Encampment  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024 6:41:30 AM

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Recipient: All Alders:

Wed, 05/08/2024 - 06:40

Rick Salin  
1210 Drake Street

Madison, Wisconsin. 53715 No, do not contact me. All Alders Illegal Encampment Thank you to those Alders who rejected the illegal encampment on campus. Your common sense, level-headed approach is greatly appreciated. To those Alders who voted in favor of the illegal encampment, your antisemitism has been noted.

**From:** [Sami Schalk](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Item 83214 5/7/24  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:43:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [Video.mov](#)

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [sami.schalk@gmail.com](mailto:sami.schalk@gmail.com). Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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My name is Dr. Sami Schalk. I'm writing this because I do not yet feel able to talk in a public forum about what happened to me. I am an associate professor at UW-Madison. I have been a faculty supporter of the student encampment protest on campus. Early in the morning of Wednesday May 1 I got a message that cops had arrived to take down the tents and get rid of the things students had gathered and crested in the space. I drove to campus and got to Library Mall where a small group of less than 30 students, faculty members, staff and community members had their arms linked around the last standing tent. I joined beside my colleague, Samer. For a while we held ground while the police (MPD, UWPD, Sheriff and State Patrol) surrounded us in riot gear. We even sat for some time to demonstrate our intention to stay peacefully on the space. Eventually the police pushed in and knocked over several people. I helped a few up and then maintained holding the line against the police. At some point, I turned my back to the line of police with shields to help a student who had been knocked over. A police officer grabbed the collar of my dress from behind and pulled so hard that the dress ripped at the shoulder and bust, injuring me. I screamed repeatedly. When ripping my clothing did not get me to the ground, another police officer grabbed my throat from behind and choked me, cutting me off mid-scream, until I went down to the ground. My hands were zip tied behind my back and I was walked to Shannon Hall where police took my ID information and then released me. Afterward, I went to the hospital for my injuries to document the bruising and strangulation. I ultimately had just a sprained shoulder and significant bruising. I am still using pain medication to get through each day. Never in my life did I imagine I would be strangled by police at work in broad daylight while my students and colleagues looked on. I am attaching video of the moment of strangulation that one person sent me. There are other videos as well of other moments but this one is the one I can never unsee or un-experience. I ask that an alder please read all or part of my message here to the larger community. And I urge each of you to support the safety of student protests and continue to call for a permanent ceasefire.

Thank you,  
Sami Schalk

**From:** [Emma Schell](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Item #38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:45:12 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from emmapschell@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Common Council Members,

I am a teacher, a UW-Madison alum, and a constituent here in Madison. I am speaking here today about Item #38 to both state my support for the solidarity with student protestors expressed in this resolution, and strongly encourage the Common Council to stand with the demands of the Popular University for Gaza at UW-Madison.

These demands are:

- Divest from occupation, borders, and prisons.
- Disclose all of the UW foundation's investments.
- Cut all ties with Israeli institutions.
- Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.
- Get cops off campus.
- And stop the land grabs and cease expansion.

Looking back, there has never been a time student protests have been on the wrong side of history. I urge you to learn from history, rather than repeating it, just as I ask my students to every day. Deep down, I know all of you must know that meeting these demands is the right thing to do. Choose empathy. Choose change. Choose liberation. Be the leaders we elected you to be.

I applaud the strong stance this Council has taken in the past in favor of a ceasefire, and urge the Council to stand with the concrete demands of its constituents. Thank you for your consideration.

Emma Schell

**From:** [B.E. Smith](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support resolution to support Student Organizers; Stop Racial Profiling by Police  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:51:13 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from conlonsmithbe@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings,

I support the resolution on the Common Council agenda tonight:

**AGENDA ITEM 38: SUBSTITUTE: Supporting Student Organizers & Reaffirming Commitment to Peace**

Also, it appears the police specifically targeted two professors of color to arrest on May 1st (one of Palestinian heritage, and Sami Schalk who is African American). Both suffered really troubling injuries. This is racial profiling, and something that is a long standing concern with our policing. Nevertheless, this instance has fresh shock value and we must condemn it specifically. Also, MPD or other parties involved must be called to take actions to make amends.

Barbara Smith  
456 N. Few St.  
Madison WI 53703

**From:** [Sasha Suarez](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding Resolution Reaffirming a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protestors  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:06:29 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from suarez.sashamaria@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Alderpersons of the Common Council,

My name is Sasha Suarez. As a resident of Madison, I urge you to support the resolution reaffirming a permanent ceasefire and supporting student protestors (agenda item #38, file #83214) at tonight's meeting.

I have been closely following the events unfolding in Gaza and here in Madison on the University of Wisconsin campus as peaceful student protestors exercise their First Amendment rights. The clear and extenuating violation of human rights across Gaza requires an immediate reaffirmation of support for a permanent ceasefire. Such reaffirmation is particularly crucial given the current on-the-ground news coming out of Rafah where displaced Palestinians are experiencing increased military aggression and violence from the state of Israel.

Aggression and violence, too, has taken place here in Madison as students, staff, and faculty of UW-Madison, and the broader Madison community have peacefully assembled to protest not only the war on Palestinian people but also the university's complicity through investment in infrastructure that facilitates such violence. The events of Wednesday, May 1 were overwhelmingly upsetting as we as a community watched friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors face assaults from the UWPD, the MPD, DCSO, and Wisconsin State Police. The testimony from those assaulted and arrested attest to the levels of use of escalation and physical violence to clear the peaceful encampment.

I believe the City of Madison and the University of Wisconsin are better than this and that those with the power to deescalate and maintain peaceful demonstrations and negotiations should do so. The deployment of police forces to quell student protests is unconscionable. To that end, I fully believe this resolution is of the utmost importance and I urge you all to support this resolution tonight.

Sincerely,  
Sasha Suarez



## STATEMENT RELATED TO SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION FOR LEGISTAR ITEM 83214

As Common Council members consider the Substitute Resolution for Legistar Item 83214 (Supporting Student Organizers & Reaffirming Commitment to Peaceful Resolution) the university wants to address several issues that are referenced in the Resolution.

It's important to make clear that the university fully supports students and others in the exercise of their First Amendment rights, and many protests have occurred on campus without incident historically and just this academic year. The campus regularly communicates with students, faculty and staff that we respect the lawful exercise of those rights, and in no way seeks to interfere with them. In the situation that is the subject of this Resolution, our goal was not to stop lawful protest but rather to enforce the state law that prohibits camping on university property. Organizers were asked multiple times to remove the illegal encampment in the days leading up to the law enforcement action to remove the tents on May 1, and UWPD issued multiple reminders that protestors would not face penalty if they peacefully left the encampment with their belongings on that morning.

This is, unfortunately, not what happened. While many protestors chose to leave voluntarily, a set of individuals, including some students, faculty, staff, and others not affiliated with the university obstructed law enforcement efforts to remove the tents and used force against officers who tried to carry out this duty, prompting reaction.

However, implications or allegations that law enforcement personnel used unnecessary force during the events of May 1 are inaccurate. Law enforcement was sent in to clear the illegal encampment – not to stop the protest - and only responded to the use of force by protestors intent on stopping them from doing so. Law enforcement responded proportionally to the resistance they faced and immediately ceased the response once compliance was obtained, although we recognize the unintended impact that often occurs with interactions between underrepresented individuals and law enforcement.

Further, the university recognizes that the student protestors do not intend to create a community safety risk, yet this has been an outcome of the illegal encampment. There have been reports of incendiary rhetoric and antisemitic comments against those walking nearby, reports of Islamophobia, the potential for violent conflict with outside groups, and the risk of seeing this situation spiral out of control. We have seen this occur at universities elsewhere around the country and want to avoid a similar situation happening on our campus and in our community.

Since May 1 the university has in good faith been engaging in ongoing discussions with protest organizers in the hopes of finding a mutually acceptable resolution. We have committed to not asking law enforcement to take further action against the encampment while productive conversations are proceeding (barring an emergency), and hope that we will be able to find a resolution soon.

**From:** [Vanessa Vaughn](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Item #38 5/7/24  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:50:37 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from vanevaughn09@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear Common Council Members,

I am a community member and a constituent here in Madison. I am writing today about Item #38 to both state my support for the solidarity with student protestors expressed in this resolution, and strongly encourage the Common Council to stand with the demands of the Popular University for Gaza at UW-Madison.

These demands are:

- Divest from occupation, borders, and prisons.
- Disclose all of the UW foundation's investments.
- Cut all ties with Israeli institutions.
- Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.
- Get cops off campus.
- And stop the land grabs and cease expansion.

I applaud the strong stance this Council has taken in the past in favor of a ceasefire, and urge the Council to stand with the concrete demands of its constituents. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Vaughn



**From:** [Stepha Velednitsky](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Jewish Madisonian in support of Item 38  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:17:16 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [stephanie.velednitsky@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.velednitsky@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi alders,

Thank you for the important work that you do for our city! And thank you for considering this resolution.

I am writing to share a personal narrative with you about why I, as a Jewish Madisonian, alum and member of UW-Madison's academic staff, support Item 38. I write because I continuously see media outlets and our own chancellor erase the narrative of Jews like myself, who support Palestinian freedom against Israeli genocide and occupation.

When she was a child, my grandmother survived the besiegement of Leningrad - the deadliest siege in modern history - in which the Nazi army starved a third of the city's population to death.

Some of the stories that I have been hearing from Gaza since October 7 are painfully familiar. My family has eaten bread made of sawdust and animal feed, endured medical procedures without anesthesia, seen children starving to death. But over time, I have felt the differences more and more. As a Soviet Jew, my grandmother was a second-class citizen under a dictatorship. But she was not confined to 365 square kilometers of land, living her whole life under a settler colonial apartheid regime.

I brought my family history with me when I went on Birthright - an all-expenses-paid trip to Palestine(/Israel) for young Jews. I was shocked to encounter the depth of propaganda and misinformation when I fact-checked my trip leaders throughout the trip. So I understand that many of my Jewish peers are staunchly opposed to critiques of Israel. But no amount of Jewish anxiety - whatever side we are on - can compare to the absolute horror that Gazans are currently enduring.

My family has had the opportunity to see the violence come to an end, to undertake the important work of healing and recovery. All I want is for Palestinians, both within and beyond Gaza, to have the same opportunity. I desperately want a permanent ceasefire (and a free Palestine!), and this resolution is a very small step in the right direction.

Respectfully yours,  
Stepha

--

[Stepha Velednitsky](#)  
Organizational Learning & Training Specialist  
UW-Madison Extension  
pronouns: she/her/hers and they/them/theirs



**From:** [Joan Vieira](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Vote Yes to Support UW Students  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:47:41 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ameliavieira2001@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear Alderperson Bill Tishler,,

I live in District 11 and I support a Cease Fire in Gaza. I ask you to vote Yes during tonight's vote ( May 7), to support and protect UW students rights to peacefully protest.

I hope the resolution urges UW Madison to negotiate in good faith with the students.

Thank- you for all you do!

Joan Vieira  
5025 Sheboygan Ave  
Madison, WI 53705

**From:** [Kate Vieira](#)  
**To:** [Matthias, Isaac L](#)  
**Subject:** Re: I support the ceasefire resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:05:52 PM

---

You don't often get email from katevieira@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I would like the UW to bargain in good faith with students

Sent from my iPhone

On May 7, 2024, at 4:23 PM, Kate Vieira <katevieira@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you Isaac. I support the resolution!

Sent from my iPhone

On May 7, 2024, at 4:09 PM, Matthias, Isaac L  
<IMatthias@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Thank you for your email. The authors of that resolution have submitted an updated substitute version. You can find the updated text at the link below. The updated text is the portion that is underlined.

<https://madison.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6659491&GUID=BCA3DD9F-1B1E-428A-A808-C5854A3E99E7&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=83214&FullText=1>

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**From:** Kate Vieira <katevieira@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:09 PM  
**To:** All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** I support the ceasefire resolution

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [katevieira@gmail.com](mailto:katevieira@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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and support students. Please vote for the resolution.

Warm regards,  
Kate Vieira  
Madison, WI

**From:** [Kate Vieira](#)  
**To:** [Matthias, Isaac L](#)  
**Subject:** Re: I support the ceasefire resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:04:55 PM

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You don't often get email from [katevieira@gmail.com](mailto:katevieira@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

I approve the strongest possible version.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 7, 2024, at 4:23 PM, Kate Vieira <[katevieira@gmail.com](mailto:katevieira@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thank you Isaac. I support the resolution!

Sent from my iPhone

On May 7, 2024, at 4:09 PM, Matthias, Isaac L  
<[IMatthias@cityofmadison.com](mailto:IMatthias@cityofmadison.com)> wrote:

Thank you for your email. The authors of that resolution have submitted an updated substitute version. You can find the updated text at the link below. The updated text is the portion that is underlined.

<https://madison.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6659491&GUID=BCA3DD9F-1B1E-428A-A808-C5854A3E99E7&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=83214&FullText=1>

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**From:** Kate Vieira <[katevieira@gmail.com](mailto:katevieira@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:09 PM  
**To:** All Alders <[allalders@cityofmadison.com](mailto:allalders@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** I support the ceasefire resolution

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [katevieira@gmail.com](mailto:katevieira@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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and support students. Please vote for the resolution.

Warm regards,  
Kate Vieira  
Madison, WI

**From:** [Caitlin Yunis](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support for 83214  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:57:24 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from caitlin.yunis@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good evening.

I am writing to express my support for the Reaffirmation of Support for a Permanent Ceasefire and Supporting Student Protesters.

I have lived in Madison for over 20 years, am a UW-Madison alumnus, and have been a staff member at UW-Madison for 10 years. I'm here to ask you to use your power to urge UW Madison to agree to the demands put forth by the students of the UW-Madison Popular University for Gaza. This includes Divestment, Disclosure, cutting ties with Israeli institutions, calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, getting cops off of campus, and stopping the land grabs.

On this day, as Israeli forces continue their humanitarian nightmare, bombing and brutalizing the men, women, children, and elders held captive in Rafah, it is hard to imagine a more righteous struggle than what the students of UW Madison have taken on. They have dedicated their entire lives over this past week and more – some risking their grades, graduation standing, their jobs, even some of their relationships – to transform their institution from a war machine to an institution of integrity, an institution that lives into its espoused values and invests in a future for humankind.

This is a struggle to support our students, who have taught us over and over again that justice is worth fighting for, it's worth risking for. The students of the UW-Madison Popular University for Gaza are both patiently and urgently inviting us to join them on the right side of history, and I urge you to accept their invitation.

Sincerely,  
Caitlin Yunis