



URGENT ITEM AGENDA MATERIAL

Government Code Section 54954.2(b)
Rules of Procedure Chapter III.C.5

**THIS ITEM IS NOT YET AGENDIZED AND MAY OR MAY NOT BE
ACCEPTED FOR THE AGENDA AS A LATE ITEM, SUBJECT TO THE
CITY COUNCIL'S DISCRETION ACCORDING TO BROWN ACT RULES**

Meeting Date: March 10, 2026

**Item Description: Resolution Condemning the Illegal War on Iran and Expressing
Support for Berkeleyans Impacted by this Crisis**

This item is submitted pursuant to the provision checked below:

- Emergency Situation (54954.2(b)(1) - majority vote required)
Determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.
- Immediate Action Required (54954.2(b)(2) - two-thirds vote required)
There is a need to take immediate action and the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda for this meeting being posted.

Once the item is added to the agenda (Consent or Action) it must be passed by the standard required vote threshold (majority, two-thirds, or 7/9).

Facts supporting the addition of the item to the agenda under Section 54954.2(b) and Chapter III.C.5 of the Rules of Procedure:

On Saturday, February 28th, the United States, in coordination with Israel, launched a large-scale offensive against Iran without Congressional approval. This unilateral action by President Trump is a direct threat to the checks and balances between the three branches of our national government as established by the Constitution. The harmful impacts of this illegal war at home and abroad will only increase the longer this unauthorized military conflict drags on, requiring immediate action by the Berkeley City Council to endorse ongoing Congressional efforts to support peace and the rule of law.



CONSENT CALENDAR

March 10, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Vice Mayor Lunaparra (Author), Mayor Ishii (Co-sponsor), Councilmember Humbert (Co-sponsor), Councilmember Tregub (Co-sponsor)

Subject: Urgent Item: Resolution Condemning the Illegal War on Iran and Expressing Support for Berkeleyans Impacted by this Crisis

RECOMMENDATION

Pass a Resolution Condemning the Illegal War on Iran and Expressing Support for Berkeleyans Impacted by this Crisis

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On Saturday, February 28th, the United States, in coordination with Israel, launched a large-scale offensive against Iran without Congressional approval. This unilateral action by President Trump is a direct threat to the checks and balances between the three branches of our national government as established by the Constitution. This illegal declaration of war has already claimed the lives of Iranian civilians, US servicemembers, and people throughout the Middle East region, injured many others, and degraded the environment. Moreover, military conflicts abroad often exacerbate financial hardship, anxiety, hatred, discrimination, and violence domestically. These harmful impacts on the United States and the world will only increase the longer this unauthorized military conflict drags on.

BACKGROUND

An act of Congress is required for the United States to declare war on another country (Article 2, Section 8 of the US Constitution) and the ongoing bombing of Iran and this declaration of war by President Trump is a direct violation of Article 2, Section 8 of the Constitution.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No anticipated fiscal impacts of this recommendation

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No anticipated environmental impacts of this recommendation. However, the military industrial complex and armed conflict massively contribute to the climate crisis by drastically increasing global greenhouse gas emissions and degrading the environment through the production and deployment of munitions.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Cecilia Lunaparra, 510-981-7170
Jonah Gottlieb, Chief of Staff

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONDEMNING THE ILLEGAL WAR ON IRAN AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR
BERKELEYANS IMPACTED BY THIS CRISIS

WHEREAS on Saturday, February 28th, the United States, in coordination with Israel, launched strikes on Iran without Congressional approval; and

WHEREAS an act of Congress is required for the United States to declare war on another country and the ongoing bombing of Iran and declaration of war by President Trump is a direct violation of Article 2, Section 8 of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS this unilateral action by President Trump is a direct threat to the checks and balances between the three branches of our national government as established by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS this illegal declaration of war has already claimed the lives of Iranian civilians, US servicemembers, and people throughout the Middle East region, injured many others, and degraded the environment; and

WHEREAS military conflicts abroad often exacerbate financial hardship, anxiety, hatred, discrimination, and violence domestically; and

WHEREAS these harmful impacts on the United States and the world will only increase the longer this unauthorized war drags on; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of this war undermines the human rights and democratic aspirations of the Iranian people, strengthens authoritarian repression, and obstructs the possibility of peaceful, just, and democratic change within Iran.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council deems this unauthorized war waged by President Trump on Iran to be a violation of the United States Constitution, thereby requiring immediate cessation of all US military activity in Iran until and unless Congress has acted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council expresses its gratitude to Representative Lateefah Simon and Senators Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff for voting to support the *War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran* introduced by Representatives Thomas Massie and Ro Khanna in the House and Senator Tim Kaine in the Senate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges the President, Congress, and all relevant federal agencies to pursue diplomacy, de-escalation, and multilateral conflict resolution, and to support humanitarian relief efforts for the people of Iran; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council stands with Iranian-American Berkeleyans and everyone in our community with loved ones impacted by this crisis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council expresses its support for freedom, safety, sovereignty, and self-determination for all people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council asks the cities of Alameda County and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to pass similar resolutions that support the efforts of the Bay Area congressional delegation to insist upon the rule of law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk will send copies of this resolution to United States Senators Alex Padilla, Adam Schiff, and Tim Kaine, Representatives Lateefah Simon, Thomas Massie, and Ro Khanna, State Senator Jesse Arreguín, State Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.