

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-XX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA,
SUPPORTING ITS IRANIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND CONDEMNING THE VIOLENCE
PERPETRATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AGAINST ITS PEOPLE**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA HEREBY FINDS,
DETERMINES, AND DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are endowed to all men and women by their Creator; and

WHEREAS, suspicious circumstances surround the September 16, 2022 death of Mahsa Amini who was detained by law enforcement for allegedly failing to adhere to hijab (headscarf) rules and died three days later while in custody; and

WHEREAS, the eruption of nationwide protests in the Islamic Republic of Iran began on September 17, 2022 in response to the death of Ms. Amini, who was 22 years old, and a member of the Kurdish minority; and

WHEREAS, demonstrations have taken place in at least 40 cities throughout Iran, including the capital Tehran, with protesters demanding an end to violence and discrimination against women and an end to the mandatory wearing of the hijab; and

WHEREAS, hijabs are obligatory for women in Iran to wear in public, regardless of religion or nationality. Since the Islamic Revolution of 1979, civil liberties groups continue to spotlight the suppression of women in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Iranian women have since lost many of their rights; and

WHEREAS, the death of Mahsa Amini has inspired numerous and ongoing protests throughout Iran, which the government of Iran has now blamed on the United States; and

WHEREAS, the main slogan of protesters now is “Woman, Life, Freedom,” a call for women’s equality and a stance against religious fundamentalism; and

WHEREAS, as of September 24, 2022, 1,200 protesters have been arrested and dozens of protesters have been reportedly killed; and

WHEREAS, the government of Iran has committed additional acts of violence and numerous human rights violations against its own people, particularly against women, including but not limited to the killing of more than 200 civilians, the gassing of an all-girls elementary school, the shooting and killing of students at Sharif University of Technology, the threatening of sexual violence as a means of silencing opposition, and the burning of Evin Prison that holds political prisoners, intellectuals, reporters, and journalists; and

WHEREAS, the government of Iran has restricted the people's access to internet, phone, and other forms of communication;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa, as follows:

- A. That the City of Costa Mesa stands with its Iranian-American community members, particularly Iranian-American women, as their relatives and associates are suffering through the current injustices in Iran.
- B. That the City of Costa Mesa condemns the violent acts that are being perpetrated against the Iranian people.
- C. That the City of Costa Mesa calls upon the government of Iran to end its systemic human rights violations.
- D. That the City of Costa Mesa calls upon other governments to join in the support of Iranians, in Iran and abroad, and the condemnation of the government of Iran’s violent acts against its own people.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of November, 2022.

John Stephens, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Brenda Green, City Clerk

Kimberly Hall Barlow, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss
CITY OF COSTA MESA)

I, **BRENDA GREEN**, City Clerk of the City of Costa Mesa, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is the original of Resolution No. 2022-XX and was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of November, 2022, by the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereby set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Costa Mesa this 16th day of November, 2022.

Brenda Green, City Clerk

(SEAL)