

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020

Council President Introduces Resolution Condemning Federal Actions Against Peaceful Protesters

Resolution Affirms City's Authority to Govern San Diego without U.S. Law Enforcement Intervention

SAN DIEGO – During a special City Council meeting on Thursday, Aug. 6, Council President Georgette Gómez will introduce a resolution that denounces unlawful tactics used by the United States government against protestors peacefully engaged in constitutionally protected activities on the streets of America's communities.

The resolution also asserts the City Council's right to protect the peace and preserve the wellbeing of San Diegans without intervention from federal law enforcement officers, especially when their assistance is not requested and their actions may fall outside of their jurisdictional authority.

"People have an absolute right to protest. Watching unidentifiable federal officers in military-style uniforms descend on cities like Portland and Washington, D.C., and violently engage with American residents has been deeply troubling," Gómez said. "San Diego must say loud and clear that this kind of heavy-handed, authoritarian behavior is not welcome here. I thank the San Diego chapter of the Truman National Security Project for its leadership in bringing this resolution forward, and for its fierce resistance to this kind of blatant abuse of executive power."

In addition to condemning the federal government's recent response to protests and asserting San Diego's authority in local matters of public safety, the proposed resolution:

- Affirms the First Amendment rights of American citizens.
- Supports efforts of U.S senators and representatives attempting to hold federal law enforcement agencies accountable.
- Directs the City's Office of Government Affairs to monitor federal legislative efforts.
- And requests that the City Attorney monitor the activities of federal law enforcement agencies on City streets and other City areas and respond to violations of law by the federal law enforcement agencies.

The Aug. 6 Council meeting begins at 1 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only City staff and credentialed members of the press may attend in person. However, those wishing to register their support for the resolution can submit a comment through [this online form](#) or call in to the meeting and make a comment when the extension item is announced by the City Clerk. The call-in number is 619-541-6310, and the access code is 877861, followed by #. [Here](#) are the full call-in instructions. Council meetings are broadcast on Channel 24 through Cox and Time-Warner cable systems and Channel 99 through AT&T. They are also [streamed online](#).

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Council President Gómez represents the Ninth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Alvarado Estates, City Heights, College Area, College View Estates, El Cerrito, Kensington, Mountain View, Mt. Hope, Rolando,

Southcrest, and Talmadge. She chairs the City of San Diego Rules Committee and sits on the Metropolitan Transit System Board of Directors and on the SANDAG Board of Directors and Executive Board.