#5500
03/17/2026

(R-2026-356 REV.)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 316685

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE MAR 27 2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO RECOGNIZING THE RISE OF ANTISEMITISM, AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO COMBATING HATE AND DISCRIMINATION, AND ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE'S WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM.

RECITALS

The Council of the City of San Diego (Council) adopts this Resolution based on the following:

A. Antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identity, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive, and disturbing problem in the United States and around the world.

B. Jewish individuals, persons perceived to be Jewish, and Jewish institutions continue to experience disproportionately high rates of hate incidents compared to other groups, and recent years have seen a documented rise in antisemitic rhetoric, threats, vandalism, and violence targeting synagogues, schools, community centers, and individuals. These incidents undermine public safety, threaten civil rights, and erode social cohesion.

C. Antisemitism can manifest in many forms, including negative stereotypes, conspiracy theories, Holocaust denial or distortion, dehumanizing language, and efforts to hold Jewish people collectively responsible for the actions of others. Such expressions, whether subtle or overt, contribute to an environment of fear and exclusion and can escalate into acts of intimidation or violence if left unaddressed.

D. Government officials and institutions play an important role in addressing and preventing acts of hate and bigotry, including antisemitism, and should be equipped with appropriate resources.

E. Accurate and uniform definitions can support monitoring, analysis, and policy discussions in addressing and preventing acts of hate and bigotry.

F. The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to strengthening, advancing, and promoting Holocaust education, research, and remembrance worldwide, while also combating contemporary antisemitism and the genocide of the Roma. IHRA serves as an international forum for experts and policymakers to share knowledge and develop best practices in these areas. A key output is the IHRA's Working Definition of Antisemitism to help identify and combat antisemitism globally.

G. In May 2016, the IHRA, by consensus vote of its member states, adopted a Working Definition of Antisemitism which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition for use by governments and international organizations.

H. The IHRA definition is: Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

I. The IHRA also included 11 contemporary examples to further illustrate the definition. The 11 examples are:

1. calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion;
2. making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially

but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government, or other societal institutions;

3. accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews;
4. denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers), or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust);
5. accusing Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust;
6. accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations;
7. denying Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor;
8. applying double standards by requiring a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation;
9. using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis;
10. drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; and
11. holding Jews collectively responsible for the actions of the state of Israel.

J. The IHRA definition is used by various agencies of the federal government and adopted, endorsed, or used by the vast majority of state governments throughout the United States, recommended for use by the European Council and the European Parliament, endorsed by

the United Nations' Secretary General and the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, included in policy guides prepared by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and formally adopted by the Global Council of Imams.

K. The IHRA Working Definition has proven to be an essential tool used to determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism. The definition is non-legally binding and is intended to serve as an educational and analytical framework to help governments, institutions, and communities better identify, understand, and address antisemitism.

L. Given the alarming rise in antisemitic incidents and extremist threats, adopting this definition aligns with the City of San Diego's (City) commitment to combat all forms of hate and discrimination. By embracing this definition, the City will not only protect the Jewish community but also promote human rights for all groups, reinforcing the democratic values that the City stands for. Adoption further ensures the safety and well-being of Jewish students, families, and communities in San Diego.

M. Nothing in this resolution is intended to, nor shall it be construed to, limit or infringe upon rights protected by the United States Constitution or the California Constitution, including the right to free speech and expression.

N. The Office of the City Attorney prepared this Resolution based on the information provided by City staff, including information provided by affected third parties and verified by City staff, with the understanding that this information is complete and accurate.

ACTION ITEMS

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of San Diego:

1. The City recognizes the rise of antisemitism and reaffirms its commitment to opposing hate and discrimination in all forms.

2. The City hereby adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism, including the 11 contemporary examples, as adopted by the IHRA on May 26, 2016.

3. Council requests that the City Clerk and Mayor make the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism and 11 contemporary examples available to all City departments, including the San Diego Police Department, as an educational resource to support efforts to address antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.

4. Council requests the Human Relations Commission equally address and define additional forms of racial discrimination and hate, ensuring we continue to engage a broad range of perspectives in order to support all marginalized communities.

APPROVED: HEATHER FERBERT, City Attorney

By

Kathy J. Steinman
Chief Deputy City Attorney

KJS:jvg
December 22, 2025
March 18, 2026 REV.
Or.Dept: City Council District 3
Doc. No. 4285124_2

I certify that the Council of the City of San Diego adopted this Resolution at a meeting held on MAR 17 2026.

DIANA J.S. FUENTES
City Clerk

By Connie Patterson
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 3/27/26
(date)

TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Passed by the Council of The City of San Diego on MAR 17 2026, by the following vote:

Councilmembers	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused
Joe LaCava	☒	☐	☐	☐
Jennifer Campbell	☒	☐	☐	☐
Stephen Whitburn	☒	☐	☐	☐
Henry L. Foster III	☒	☐	☐	☐
Marni von Wilpert	☒	☐	☐	☐
Kent Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐
Raul A. Campillo	☒	☐	☐	☐
Vivian Moreno	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sean Elo-Rivera	☐	☒	☐	☐

Date of final passage MAR 27 2026.

(Please note: When a resolution is approved by the Mayor, the date of final passage is the date the approved resolution was returned to the Office of the City Clerk.)

AUTHENTICATED BY:

TODD GLORIA
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

DIANA J.S. FUENTES
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By Connie Patterson, Deputy

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

Resolution Number R- 316685