



CITY of CALABASAS
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: KINDON MEIK, CITY MANAGER
BY: MARICELA HERNANDEZ, MMC, CPMC, CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2022-1828, CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN FOR THE ACTIONS OF ITS MORALITY POLICE

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2022

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed resolution, requested by Mayor Maurer, condemns the government of Iran for the actions of its morality police in the physical beating and death of Mahsa Amini; calls for an impartial investigation into her death and to bring those liable to justice; supports sanctions against the Iranian Government and Iran's morality police; and urges the government of Iran to implement meaningful laws ensuring basic human rights for all its citizen.

DISCUSSION:

On September 13, 2022, Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman from the northwestern City of Saqez, was arrested in Tehran by Iran's morality police who accused her of breaking Iran's strict law requiring women to fully cover their hair with a hijab, or headscarf and their arms and legs with loose clothing. She was reportedly beaten after her arrest by Iran's morality police and transferred to the Vozara Detention Center in Tehran. On September 16, 2022, Mahsa Amini died in a hospital after spending three days in a coma. Since the announcement of Mahsa Amini's death, thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets in many cities,

including Tehran, Ilam, Isfahan, Mahabad, Saqez, Sari, and Tabriz, to demand accountability for her death and calling for an end to violence and discrimination against women and girls in Iran. As part of the demonstrations, women across Iran are burning their hijabs and cutting their hair to protest the lack of women's rights in their country. Due to the demonstrations receiving international attention, on September 19, 2022, the government of Iran began to curb online access and shut down the internet so information about the protests would be limited. On September 21, 2022, the Iranian government blocked access to Instagram and WhatsApp, two of the remaining active social media networks in Iran.

On September 22, 2022, the United States Department of State sanctioned Iran's morality police and seven officials for alleged human rights abuses in Iran. The seven individuals include:

- Haj Ahmad Mirzaei, senior official in Iran's morality police
- Mohammad Rostami Cheshmeh Gachi, senior officials in Iran's morality police
- Ismail Khatib, Iran's Minister of intelligence
- Manouchehr Amanollahi, Iran's Law Enforcement Forces ("LEF") Commander of the Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province
- Qasem Rezaei, Deputy Commander of the LEF
- Kiyumars Heidari, Commander of the Iran army's ground forces
- Salar Abnoush, Deputy Commander of the Basij, a paramilitary militia and a subsidiary force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

At the last two Council meetings, all Councilmembers condemned the actions by the Iranian government.

All of the City Councilmembers then expressed united outrage over this criminal act, This resolution, if passed by the City Council, states: The City of Calabasas strongly condemns the Iranian morality police for the evil, cruel, and barbaric acts that lead to the death of Mahsa Amini and further condemns the regime for its brutality, anti-democratic oppression of its citizens and documented human rights violations, especially against women, students, and minorities.

The resolution further calls for:

- The United States to not negotiate with the regime in Iran and to not release any assets frozen in the United States;
- The City to support the sanctions of the United States Department of State issued for Iran's morality police Iran's morality police and the seven officials listed above;
- The United States to consider further enhanced sanctions against Iran and those individuals involved in the regime while still allowing critical economic and medical aid to reach the citizens of Iran;

- The United States and nations around the world to strongly advocate for Iran to cease further developing nuclear power plants and weapons due to the City's concern for the region;
- An impartial investigation into the events leading to the death of Mahsa Amini and for those found liable for her death to be brought to justice; and
- The Iranian Government to implement meaningful laws ensuring basic human rights for all its citizen as a tribute to Mahsa Amini.
- The resolution closes with the City voicing its strong support for the right of all women to live a life without repression, brutal violence and restrictions on their basic human rights.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no anticipated fiscal impact at this time.

ATTACHMENT:

Resolution No. 2022-1828