

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2025(COTW), *First Reading*

By President Cuda, Vice President Russell,  
Councilmembers Cobb, Mattox, Larson, and  
Petras

A Resolution condemning antisemitism, reaffirming the City's commitment to tolerance, inclusivity, and respect, and expressing solidarity with Jewish residents; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, Cleveland Heights has long been recognized as a diverse and inclusive community, enriched by people of various backgrounds, races, faiths, and beliefs; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Heights has had to overcome many obstacles during its 100+ year history to become a diverse and inclusive community, as described in Susie Kaiser's book, "Resisting Segregation"; and

WHEREAS, this Council and the City of Cleveland Heights are firmly committed to upholding the values of mutual respect, nondiscrimination, inclusion and equity, and the unequivocal rejection of hatred, bigotry, and discrimination in all forms; and

WHEREAS, our Jewish residents – neighbors, friends and colleagues – are a vital part of the cultural, social, and civic fabric of Cleveland Heights, contributing to its diversity, vibrancy, and history; and

WHEREAS, recent news reports on Cleveland.Com and the Cleveland Jewish News have reported remarks of an antisemitic nature which are alleged to have been made in the presence of an elected public official and an appointed public employee; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism in any form is reprehensible and fundamentally contrary to the values of this community and the principles upon which this country was founded, and must be rejected and combated no matter its form or source; and

WHEREAS, public officials and those closely associated with them are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the integrity, accountability, and ethical standards expected by the people they serve; and

WHEREAS, silence or inaction in the face of prejudice—whether intentional or perceived—can be interpreted as complicity, and it is imperative for public leaders to respond clearly and unequivocally when such concerns arise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, State of Ohio:

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2025(COTW)

SECTION 1. That Council reaffirms its unwavering commitment to combating antisemitism, racism, and all forms of hate speech or discriminatory rhetoric, and reaffirms that this is the position, commitment and official policy of the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 2. That Council encourages all public officials and community leaders to speak out clearly and without hesitation against antisemitism and hate in all its forms, and to affirm the dignity and humanity of all people.

SECTION 3. That this Council and the City of Cleveland Heights stands in solidarity with Jewish residents of this City, and Jewish communities everywhere, who may feel vulnerable, unsafe, or unwelcome due to antisemitic words or actions;

SECTION 4. That Council reaffirms its dedication to promoting inclusion and respect for all communities and encourages residents to unite in building a city where all people can thrive in dignity and peace.

SECTION 5. It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 6. Notice of passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights, or by posting the full text of this Resolution to the City of Cleveland Heights website.

SECTION 7. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such an emergency being the need to take immediate action in opposition of antisemitism and to express solidarity with the Jewish residents of Cleveland Heights. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



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TONY CUDA  
President of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2025(COTW)



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ADDIE BALESTER  
Clerk of Council

PASSED: May 19, 2025

Presented to Mayor: 05/20/2025      Effective date: 05/30/2025\*

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KAHLIL SEREN  
Mayor

\*Effective date per Article IV, Section 5 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights