

Proposed Draft Resolution to Address Shipment of Military Cargo from OAK Airport

11/19/2025

Whereas Oakland San Francisco Bay Airport (OAK) is the main airport for the greater East Bay, the most populated area in the metropolitan San Francisco Bay area. It is the closest airport to most Bay Area employers. OAK is operated by the Port of Oakland, which also oversees the Oakland seaport and 20 miles of East Bay waterfront. Together with its business partners, the Port supports more than 98,000 jobs in the region with more than a \$174 billion economic impact, making OAK critical infrastructure for Bay Area residents, and the Port Commissioners pivotal leaders in guiding Alameda County politically and economically.

Whereas the Oakland City Council unanimously passed a resolution (File # 230935) on November 27, 2023 which supported (in part) an immediate ceasefire; the unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; the restoration of food, water, electricity, and medical supplies to Gaza; and the respect for international law; and calls for a resolution that protects the security of all innocent civilians;

Whereas the Alameda Labor Council unanimously endorsed the Oakland Peoples Arms Embargo ON 11/10/2025 calling for 1) Demand an Oakland Arms Embargo on Israel. 2) Stop any shipments of military weapons or cargo from ports of Oakland to Israel.

Whereas the Board of Port Commissioners has a history of passing legislation to materially impact the City of Oakland's participation in issues of moral, community, environmental, and social import, such as previous resolutions and ordinances on South African apartheid, use of the former Oakland Army Airforce Base as directed by community input, and opposing coal shipments, and has stated ongoing commitment to non-discrimination, social responsibility, and civil rights;

Whereas Section 706 of the City of Oakland ("City") Charter gives to the Board the complete and exclusive power and duty for and on behalf of the City to exercise various powers and duties relating to the Port's jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, the power and duty to "adopt and enforce such ordinances, orders, regulations and practices as are necessary for the proper administration and discharge of its duties and powers, or for the management and government of the port, and its facilities" (City Charter, Sec. 706(27)); and

Whereas despite a tenuous ceasefire, the people of Gaza continue to face bombardment, including by F35 fighter jets, some crucial mechanical parts of which are reasonably believed to be shipped through OAK on cargo flights, therefore

RESOLVED the board of port commissioners of the city of Oakland hereby declares that it is morally repugnant to facilitate Commercial Operators' business with countries that practice war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of genocide as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 2441(c) and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

RESOLVED that when overwhelmingly called to action by local residents, businesses, unions and labor, and community organizations, the Port of Oakland must take swift and urgent action towards social responsibility and ethical transport and aviation standards, including through material binding ordinances,

RESOLVED that this body expresses its support for the federal Block the Bombs legislation, which would be a primary avenue for ensuring an arms embargo federally, and thus the Port of Oakland holds a responsibility in supporting the implementation and enforcement of the sentiment of this federal legislation.

RESOLVED that the Port of Oakland staff should inquire of all contractors and subcontractors for Commercial Aviation and Maritime Operators to voluntarily provide data and information related to transfer or shipping of military cargo and equipment through the Airport or Seaport. In the spirit of community transparency, Port of Oakland will make aggregate data available to the public, pursuant to privacy and federal laws.

RESOLVED, research and planning will be conducted such that this body will review a draft ordinance or other material action on ethical transport and aviation standards of the San Francisco Bay Area Oakland Airport by _____(date within 2 months).