

SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
7 PM-9 PM, Regular Meeting, South Bay Labor Council, 2302 Zanker Rd, San Jose

(Our meeting is open to the public, but we reserve the right to remove guests who disrupt the meeting. Video and audio recording is not permitted without prior approval)

AGENDA FOR Thursday, October 9, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

Land Acknowledgement

2. ROLL CALL

3. WELCOMING OF VISITORS

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Thursday, September 4, 2025

6. OLD BUSINESS

7a. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Resolution on U.S. Policy and the Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine
- b. Resolution on Human Rights in Gaza
- c. Resolution Decrying Trump Administration Requirements that Religious Institutions Cooperate with ICE
- d. Resolution Supporting the Right of Legislative Staff to Organize
- e. Resolution to Ban Face Masks and Require Identification

7b. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Election to Fill Vacancy (AD 26)
- b. Organizing Update: Measure A and Proposition 50
- c. Items Pulled from Consent

8. REPORTS

- a. Executive Board/Chair: Bill James
- b. Vice Chair: Jean Cohen
- c. Treasurer: Angelica Ramos
- d. Secretary: Helen Chapman

e. Political Director: James Kim

f. Issues: Daniel Cao

g. Outreach: Clarence Madrilejos

h. Finance: James Kim

i. Communications: John Comiskey

j. Gender Equity and the Status of Women: Tomara Hall

k. Diversity & Inclusion: Rebeca Armendariz

l. Youth Representative: VACANT

m. Clubs: Buu Thai

n. Regional Directors

o. DNC: Otto Lee and Jason Park

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

10. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

October 15, 2025, at 6pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution on U.S. Policy and the Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine

WHEREAS the US-funded Israeli genocide and ethnic cleansing in Gaza with the forced displacement of the indigenous population and the occupation in the West Bank and East Jerusalem where Palestinians experience constant dehumanization, land theft, home demolitions, apartheid, escalation of illegal Israeli settler violence, destruction of resources, attempts to erase Palestine history, and killing of Palestinians and Americans is in violation of international humanitarian laws; genocide is not a democratic value; and our American tax dollars should instead be invested in helping American citizens, residents, immigrants and the most vulnerable among us; and

WHEREAS Israel's 18-year blockade of Gaza and the current military campaign have created catastrophic humanitarian conditions described by international experts as collective punishment, including the targeted killing of possibly hundreds of thousands of civilians, over 250 journalists, killing or kidnapping and torturing over 1,400 healthcare workers and humanitarian aid workers, mass forced displacement, purposeful and repeated attacks on and destruction of universities, hospitals, schools, libraries, agriculture, historical and cultural sites, churches and mosques, and other civilian infrastructure; weaponization of starvation through deliberate throttling of aid including live fire on aid seekers by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation has been widely condemned; and 80% of Israelis support the forced expulsion of Palestinians; and

WHEREAS prolonging this crisis not only risks mass civilian death and the collapse of fragile health and social systems for Palestinians, it also undermines Israel's global legitimacy and security while threatening broader regional stability and the credibility of international humanitarian norms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the SCCDP condemns Israel's intentional starvation and forced displacement and expulsion of Palestinians and calls on Israel to end the genocide immediately and attacks on hospitals, schools, civilian sites, journalists, medical personnel, and humanitarian workers and the use of starvation and deprivation as weapons of war; and to expedite safe passage of humanitarian aid in Gaza; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED while long-term political solutions remain essential, the immediate priority must be to prevent further humanitarian catastrophe and regional destabilization; the SCCDP urges an end to U.S. military assistance enabling violations of international and US laws, redirect resources toward humanitarian relief, diplomacy, healthcare, and education, and support initiatives that prioritize protection of civilians, accountability, and a just peace based on equality, human rights, and self-determination.

Co-Sponsored by: Democrats for Palestinian Rights – Bay Area, Muslims Democrats and Friends of Santa Clara County, Afro Umoja Political Representation in Silicon Valley (Afro UPRIS)

Resolution on Human Rights in Gaza

WHEREAS, the horrific humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza caused by the conflict between Israel and Hamas has resulted in the documented loss of over 60,000 lives and the displacement of 1,700,000 Palestinians, and widespread destruction, prompting calls for immediate action for a cease-fire, humanitarian aid, and relief; and Hamas and allied fighters killed approximately 1,200 people in Israel, and kidnaped roughly 251 hostages during the horrific October 7 terror attacks; roughly 50 hostages remain living under dire conditions in Gaza; and

WHEREAS, many food security experts have confirmed famine conditions in Gaza with significant risk of starvation and with more than 50,000 people facing devastating conditions and millions more in emergency or crisis food insecurity; and

WHEREAS international humanitarian law prohibits removal of ethnic groups from their homelands, collective punishment, the use of civilians as human shields, and indiscriminate attacks that kill civilians, and United Nations bodies and the International Committee of the Red Cross have repeatedly reminded all parties including both the Israeli government and Hamas of these obligations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party (SCCDP) calls for an end to the conflict between Israel and Hamas; and calls for immediate steps to end the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza, including famine conditions, civilian casualties and injuries, destruction of homes and infrastructure, and the collapse of health and education systems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SCCDP demands that Hamas and other terror groups in Gaza holding hostages immediately release those hostages, including those who are dead for families to bury and have closure; and that the SCCDP calls on all parties, including Hamas and Israel, to comply with international humanitarian and human rights law; and encourages renewed diplomatic engagement, supported by international mediators, to lay the groundwork for a just and lasting peace that recognizes the dignity, rights, and security of both Palestinians and Israelis; and that the SCCDP reaffirms solidarity with all Santa Clara county resident impacted by rising antisemitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian hate stemming from the conflict.

Submitted by Jewish Democratic Coalition of the Bay Area

Co-Sponsored by State Senator Aisha Wahab, Assemblymember Mark Berman, and Assemblymember Patrick Ahrens

**Resolution Decrying Trump Administration Requirements that Religious Institutions
Cooperate with ICE**

WHEREAS the Trump Administration has demanded that religious institutions receiving funds under the NSGP cooperate with ICE raids, that they not engage in any program which assists illegal immigrants, and that they cease operating any programs which involve any aspects of promoting diversity, equity or inclusion, and

WHEREAS the Trump administration has subverted the NSGP (Non-profit Security Grant Program), which funds cameras, reinforced doors, bullet proof glass, and guards at houses of worship and community centers including synagogues, LGBTQ centers, schools, reproductive rights centers, and any non-profit across California at risk of hate-motivated violence, and other religious institutions, by demanding that these institutions, in Santa Clara County and nationally, provide ICE with these tools intended to provide security for religious centers that are under increased hate and attacks such as the recent killings at the Annunciation Catholic school in Minneapolis Minnesota, killing 2 children and wounding 17, including 14 children. Also in 2025, a woman opened fire during Sunday services injuring two people and a man used a semi automatic weapon targeting a Church in Haymarket Virginia, and a shooting that damaged windows at a Catholic Church in San Francisco.

WHEREAS increased targeting of religious institutions which was in part addressed by increased security at religious sites is a fundamental threat to our democracy; with increased targeting of many communities by the Trump administration, security for the most at risk communities will be harmed significantly. With the resultant increase in hate, religious communities who have historically sheltered and currently shelter immigrants, refugees, and other religious and non religious communities in need will be at much higher risk.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara Democratic Party asks Senator Schiff, Senator Padilla, Representative Khanna and Representative Liccardo to use all the tools available to them to oppose this attempt to hijack the NSGP in the service of a partisan ideological crusade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party, in our counties, state, and nationally, object in the strongest of terms the attempted takeover of religious institutions by ICE operatives, and will ask our elected Democratic leaders to submit letters to decry this authoritarian attack.

Submitted by Dorene Kastelman, President, Jewish Democratic Coalition of the Bay Area

Resolution Supporting the Right of Legislative Staff to Organize

WHEREAS, the legislative staff of the San José City Council and Mayor provide essential support to elected officials, helping implement policies and programs that advance the values and priorities of the residents of San José; and

WHEREAS, these legislative staff members are seeking to organize and join together in a union with AFSCME Local 101, in order to secure a voice on the job, fair working conditions, and protections that reflect the dignity and respect owed to public service workers; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Democratic Party affirms that the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively is fundamental to building strong communities and to advancing equity, inclusion, and justice and the Santa Clara County Democratic Party has long stood with organized labor, recognizing that collective bargaining is a cornerstone of democracy in the workplace and a safeguard against unfair treatment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party expresses its full support for the right of the San José City Council and Mayor's legislative staff to organize with AFSCME Local 101 free from interference, intimidation, or retaliation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls upon the San José City Council and Mayor to respect the organizing process, to act in good faith during contract negotiations, and to set a positive example of Democratic values by supporting their staff's right to a fair union contract.

Resolution to Ban Face Masks and Require Identification

WHEREAS the federal government, through the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), has launched broad & cruel immigration enforcement efforts, deploying personnel from various federal agencies, including those within the Department of Justice, as part of the Trump Administration's immigration enforcement operations; and

WHEREAS ICE and other federal officers have conducted operations while wearing face coverings, including gaiter and ski masks; and

WHEREAS several news outlets have reported incidents of individuals impersonating ICE officers to harass or detain others, which undermines public trust in law enforcement, especially among vulnerable individuals, and poses a threat to public safety, resulting in charges being filed against at least some such individuals, including for kidnapping and impersonating a police officer, after allegedly detaining a group of Latino men, impersonating an ICE officer on a university campus, and impersonating an ICE officer in connection with the sexual assault of a woman while threatening her with deportation and we continue to see these attacks geared towards immigrant workers, including persecution in their place of employment, which has in turn hurt many local and big businesses that rely on the immigrant workforce for their success and clientele;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls on the City of San José and other jurisdictions in Santa Clara County to ban the use of face coverings and require identification from federal law enforcement agencies operating within their jurisdiction and urges the Mayor of San José and members of the San José City Council to support the memo introduced to the San José City Council by Councilmember Peter Ortiz asking to develop an ordinance to ban the use of face coverings and require identification from federal law enforcement agencies operating within the boundaries of San José.