

Mayor Office

October 16, 2023

Reference No. 170975



To: Mr. Heiner Pahlman,
Mayor of Bramsche,

Dear Mr. Pahlman,

First of all I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the heartwarming letter of support you sent and for your expression of solidarity with the residents of the City of Raanana and the State of Israel during the terrible security situation we have found ourselves in over the past week.

Since the early hours of Saturday morning, during a Jewish holiday, Israel has been under extensive attack by the terror organization Hamas. A tremendous number of innocent Israeli citizens were slaughtered, injured, kidnapped and harmed by this aggressive and brutal Hamas. Following the attack, a war began against the terrorist organizations in Gaza. Israel operation is fighting back. We have not experienced a tragedy this enormous in the past 75 years.

These are hard days for us all. At least 1300 people have been murdered, more than 3000 people injured and hundreds of people have been kidnapped and taken into Gaza - including women, children and the elderly. Unfortunately, these numbers are not even final.

As Mayor, the most important thing for me is to stand united with my citizens and reach out to families in their hardest times and to our brave soldiers who protect us. Alongside the tremendous challenges and pain, the beautiful character of the City of Raanana and the entire State of Israel is being revealed at this time. We are witnessing City residents' and the country's citizens' total commitment to contributing and participating in numerous volunteer activities to assist the residents of the south who were evacuated from their homes, and to help the City's residents and the weaker populations through emotional and social support in the challenging reality facing us all.

The show of support from our friends overseas, and our friends across the globe, moves and strengthens us as a city and as a country, and I thank you and the residents of your city for your support. In this challenging time for our community, we deeply appreciate any kind of encouraging international support of Israel's right to defend itself, alongside condemnation of terrorism.

May safe and peaceful days come upon us all, and hoping for a quick return to routine for us as well as for our wonderful and productive relationship with you, our dear friends in the world.

Sincerely yours,
Chaim Broyde
Mayor of Raanana

