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For Immediate Release
October 31, 2016
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Beverly Hills City Council Votes to Condemn UNESCO Resolution

Beverly Hills, CA – The Beverly Hills City Council has passed a resolution condemning a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) resolution that denies the historic Jewish connection to holy sites in Jerusalem such as Temple Mount and the Western Wall. At the Oct. 18 Study Session, the City Council voted to denounce the resolution from UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee on the status of conservation of the Old City of Jerusalem.

“I am very proud that our City Council is condemning the UNESCO resolution and supporting the Jewish people’s historical and spiritual claim to the sacred sites in Jerusalem,” said Mayor John Mirisch. “Beverly Hills has a strong Jewish heritage and unique bond with the State of Israel. However, the UNESCO resolution is offensive to our Christian as well as our Jewish residents and I believe that it is extremely important that we, as a City, speak up when we see an injustice being done.”

Below is the text of the City of Beverly Hills resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS OPPOSING UNESCO RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2016, a Palestinian-initiated resolution, known as “Occupied Palestine” was adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (“UNESCO”).

WHEREAS, the UNESCO resolution denies the deep historic Jewish connection to holy sites in Jerusalem such as Temple Mount and the Western Wall.

WHEREAS, although the resolution does acknowledge that Jerusalem is important to “the three monotheistic religions,” Judaism, Christianity and Islam, it claims the Temple Mount is sacred only to Muslims and refers to the holy site using its Muslim names, Al-Aqsa or al-Haram al-Sharif.

WHEREAS, the holy site is known to Jews as the Temple Mount and is considered the holiest site in Judaism. The Western Wall is the holiest site where Jews can pray and is situated at the bottom of Temple Mount.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Beverly Hills hereby opposes the UNESCO resolution because it willfully ignores the historical Jewish presence in the Land of Israel and the Jewish connection to its holy sites. In its attempt to deny Jewish history, UNESCO foments the hatred of Jews and of the Jewish people, thereby calling into question the legitimacy of UNESCO and the United Nations. The City of Beverly Hills hereby calls upon UNESCO to rescind the resolution in question and to acknowledge the deep historic Jewish connection to holy sites in Jerusalem, including the Temple Mount and the Western Wall.

Section 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and shall cause this resolution and his certification to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Council of this City.

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