

October 21, 2020

### Sunland Tujunga Community Impact Statement

The STNC supports the City Council File 20-0004 and the resolutions stated in its entirety. The STNC understands the urgency of this letter along with its purpose of bringing awareness and a unanimous voice against the atrocities committed by Azerbaijan with the help of Turkey towards the Republic of Artsakh, also known as Nagorno-Karabagh.

STNC stands against the aggression and terrorism of Azerbaijan against the civilians of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh). The STNC recognizes the independent Republic of Artsakh

As several countries within the region were regaining their independence with the collapse of the Soviet Union, disputes were occurring over certain territories/borders that existed prior to the Soviet era. As such, Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh) became a disputed region between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The disputes led to the 1994 Nagorno-Karabakh war which took place shortly after the region held a referendum in 1991 and through the democratic process with the unanimous votes established itself a republic creating an autonomy from Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan refuses to accept the autonomy of Artsakh and on September 27, 2020, the people of Artsakh witnessed and woke up to air strikes and artillery attacks by the Azerbaijani military causing atrocities to the civilians living within the region. The situation is detrimental to the existence of the civilian population as artillery supplied by Turkey, a super power along with the recruitment of ISIS mercenaries from Syria and other Middle Eastern countries have made it impossible for the small population of Artsakh to defend their homeland and avoid eradication.

The STNC board wants to address this matter as soon as possible. We fully support the resolution (City Council File 20-0004). We acknowledge the obligation we have as a community to fight injustice and acts of terrorism, not just in Artsakh (Nagorno Karabagh) but in every corner of the world.



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(STNC member)