



Community Services Committee

Town of Brighton, Monroe County, New York

Councilmember Robin Wilt, Chairperson
Councilmember Christine Corrado, Co-Chairperson

AGENDA

February 16, 2022

Location: Brookside Recreation Center, 220 Idlewood Road

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

PRESENT:

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

OPEN FORUM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 19, 2022

COMMUNICATIONS

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Park Issues: Matt Beeman

Recreation Programs: Rebecca Cotter

Winter Farmers' Market Update

Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Advisory Board Update

Community Choice/Community Solar Aggregation Update

CEC Community Priority Actions/Sustainability Funds Update

Urban League of Rochester/ESL/Town of Brighton First-time Homebuyer's Program Update

Adopt-A-Site Program Update

Clean Sweep 2022 Update

NEW BUSINESS

2300 Elmwood Avenue Rochester, New York 14618 www.townofbrighton.org

Phone: 585-784-5250/Fax: 585-784-5368

IDEA Board Presentation on Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Action Plan

United Nations' Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons – David Kramer

National Trails Day – June 4, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DEA National Pharmaceutical take Back

Brighton Town Hall Public Safety Wing, 2300 Elmwood Avenue
Saturday, April 30th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Brighton Clean Sweep

Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Avenue
Saturday, May 7th, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Semi-Annual Electronics Recycling and Secure Document Shredding Event

Brighton Highway Department Parking Lot, 1940 Elmwood Avenue
Sunday, May 15th, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday

March 16th, 2022
9:30 am: Brookside Recreation Center

Options for a Town or City wanting to help eliminate all nuclear weapons:

1. Non-binding Resolution calling on the federal government ***and the nation*** to join the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. *See [Northampton City Council resolution](#).*
2. Non-binding Resolution committing the town or city, ***as part of the nation***, to Align itself with the Treaty by proclaiming that nuclear weapons and companies involved in the production or maintenance of nuclear weapons are 'not welcome' in that town or city.
3. Taking the next logical step, as a City Council or at the initiative of the Mayor, of setting up, or assigning, a committee or citizen's commission ***to explore how that town or city could become 'Treaty Aligned'***, with a mandate to bring a proposal for Treaty Alignment back to the town or city for final adoption. *See [South Burlington resolution](#).*
4. A legally-binding ordinance, by-law or Executive Order that ***brings the town or city into Alignment*** with the Treaty as far as it is able, by:
 - a. prohibiting nuclear weapons companies from operating within the limits of their jurisdiction or control,
 - b. committing the town or city to divest any funds they may have in those companies, and
 - c. barring those companies from contracting for business with the town or city so long as they continue to be involved in the nuclear weapons business. *See [Ojai Nuclear Free Zone ordinance](#).*

In the case where a town or city is **already a Nuclear Free Zone** and has a legally-binding statute still in place which is fully 'Treaty Aligned' already, there are two further options:

1. Pass a non-binding resolution which affirms that their existing NFZ status means they are already in alignment with the Treaty.
See [Takoma Park resolution](#).
2. Receive an official delegation from ICAN/NuclearBan.US and accept their external 'certification' that the town or city is indeed 'Treaty Aligned'.

HOW TOWNS AND CITIES CAN HELP GET RID OF ALL* NUCLEAR WEAPONS



*not “some,” not “theirs,” but every single one

Good news!

You can help to implement the
Nobel Peace Prize-winning international
Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
even if the U.S. government isn't ready yet

Join the campaign!

www.NuclearBan.US

The Treaty

There is now an international Treaty making nuclear weapons **illegal**. It's known as the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Nuclear Ban Treaty).

Biological Weapons BANNED 1972	Chemical Weapons BANNED 1993	Land Mines BANNED 1997	Cluster Munitions BANNED 2008	Nuclear Weapons BANNED 2017
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It has the support of over 120 countries, the international Red Cross & Red Crescent movement, the Pope, the Dalai Lama, and millions of ordinary people across the globe.

The International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) won the **2017 Nobel Peace Prize** for their part in making this Treaty possible.



The Problem

The US government is currently unwilling to sign the Treaty, and, in fact, boycotted the negotiations.

They are trying to prevent NATO, other allies, and other countries from signing it – even those whose people strongly favor it.

And the other 8 nuclear nations won't sign it either:
Russia, UK, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, N. Korea.



The Solution

The US government will sign this Treaty once there is sufficient pressure on them to do so. Towns and cities can play an important role in this.

There are **26 highly profitable companies** that make nuclear weapons for the US. They have significant control over the re-election budgets of most legislators. That's why the federal government has utterly failed to protect us from nuclear danger.

But these companies exist to make money, not just to make nuclear weapons. Boycotts, divestment campaigns, and public shaming can persuade them to focus on other products.

For example, General Electric was forced out of the nuclear weapons business in 1993 by a national consumer boycott campaign.

Towns and cities can help these companies to start making the inevitable shift of jobs and factories toward legal, globally acceptable activities.

Towns and cities can especially encourage them to explore the highly profitable potential of becoming leaders in sustainable technologies that address **climate change**.



Once these 26 companies get the message, they will be the ones to pressure the US government. They will demand a shift in **federal funding** away from nuclear weapons in order to maintain corporate profits.

In the meantime, towns and cities in the US will encourage other countries to take the Treaty more seriously, and that will **build momentum toward global abolition of nuclear weapons**.

How your town or city can be part of the solution

Remember when the federal government announced their intention to withdraw from the **Paris Climate Accords**? Cities, states, businesses, colleges and faith communities defiantly committed themselves to complying with the Accords anyway. Towns and cities can also **comply with the Nuclear Ban Treaty** and play a crucial role in ridding the world of nuclear weapons.

Many towns and cities have **investments** that support the companies that make nuclear weapons. Many have **contracts for products or services** made by these companies. And some have these companies actually **operating or transporting** nuclear weapons through their jurisdiction.

Boycotting, divesting and prohibiting these activities can affect those companies directly, and it can also be a strong encouragement to other cities - and states - to do the same.

Step 1: Engaging Your City/Town



Some **Nuclear Free Zones** already have local ordinances and city codes that prohibit all nuclear weapons-related activities and are thus in compliance with the Nuclear Ban Treaty. Others will want to review their existing legislation in order to comply.

If your town/city has signed the **Mayors for Peace** covenant, they have already committed to the elimination of all nuclear weapons and are thus positioned to take the next step, Treaty Compliance.

Other towns and cities may require a presentation, a public forum, or a full-blown campaign before committing themselves to this campaign. Sign up at NuclearBan.US and we'll provide everything you need online or in the mail to help your town or city decide if they want to commit to Step 2, becoming "Treaty Compliant."

Step 2: Becoming Treaty Compliant

In order to be Treaty Compliant, a town or city will need to appoint a citizens' committee of some kind to look into the investments, contracts and other issues. This committee will need to come up with a *plan* for becoming Treaty Compliant before the town/city can decide whether to participate.

A Treaty Compliant town or city:

Has no public investments in any of the 26 companies that make nuclear weapons.

Does not purchase products or services from any of these companies.

Prohibits all other nuclear weapons-related activities, so far as they are able, within their jurisdiction or control.



Once your town or city has taken the steps needed to be in compliance with the Nuclear Ban Treaty, **it is important make that public** by posting it on www.NuclearBan.US and informing the local community through local newspapers, social media, mass media, public announcements, etc.

Step 3: Making It Official

Treaty Compliance for towns and cities is **not** about passing a non-binding resolution that calls on higher levels of government to do something about the nuclear threat we all face.

It is about **taking responsibility in our own communities** for implementing a Treaty that has the force of international law for those countries that sign it, and will sooner or later have the force of law throughout the whole of the United States.

This means that local ordinances, city codes and other forms of legally-binding legislation should be **enforceable** and include penalties for violations, as do many of the existing Nuclear Free Zone ordinances.



Countries that sign the Treaty are expected to encourage other countries to sign it too. Likewise, we hope you'll encourage other towns and cities -- and also your state -- to become Treaty Compliant.

Towns and cities can play a crucial role in the unstoppable movement worldwide to make the nuclear nations sign, ratify, implement and enforce the Treaty, before the earth's civilization is destroyed in a war, or by accident.

The 26 companies who make nuclear weapons

AECOM
Aerojet Rocketdyne
Airbus
BAE Systems
Bechtel
Boeing
BWX Technology
Charles Stark Draper Lab
Engility Holdings
Fluor
General Dynamics
Honeywell International
Huntington Ingalls Industries

Jacobs Engineering
Larsen & Toubro
Leonardo Finmeccanica
Lockheed Martin
Moog
Northrop Grumman
Orbital ATK
Raytheon
Safran
Serco
Textron
Thales
Walchandnagar Industries

Source: DontBankOnTheBomb.com (subject to change)



This is an example of a city ordinance that complies with the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons:

Jersey City, NJ Ordinance No. C-30, 9/12/85

- A. No nuclear weapons, delivery systems for such weapons or components expressly intended to contribute to the operation, guidance or delivery of a nuclear weapon shall be produced or stored within the city or its port.
- B. No waste from the production of nuclear weapons...shall be stored within the city or its port.
- C. No research furthering nuclear weapons development shall be conducted within the city, subject to rights guaranteed under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- D. The Mayor and Council of the City of Jersey City shall request the United States Department of Transportation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation to provide the city with advance notification of any radioactive waste shipment through the city limits. Upon such notification, the Mayor and Council shall act to prevent transportation of radioactive waste through the city by seeking an exemption from preemption by Department of Transportation regulations or using other legal means at their disposal.
- E. The Mayor and Council of the City of Jersey City shall not do business with or award any municipal contract to any person, firm or organization engaged in the production of nuclear weapons.
- F. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit or regulate in any manner the research, development and application of nuclear medicine or the use of fissionable materials for smoke detectors, light-emitting timepieces and other applications, the principal purposes of which are unrelated to the development or fabrication of nuclear weapons.



www.NuclearBan.US

c/o TRC, 2 Conz Street, Suite 2B, Northampton MA 01060 USA
(413) 584-8975 info@nuclearban.us



In the City Council, November 16th, in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen

Upon the recommendation of Councilor William H. Dwight and Councilor Alisa F. Klein

R-17.425

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the United States to “Pull Back from the Brink” and Prevent Nuclear War

WHEREAS, since the height of the Cold War, the United States and Russia have dismantled more than 50,000 nuclear warheads, but 15,000 of these weapons still exist and pose an intolerable risk to human survival; and

WHEREAS, 95 percent of these weapons are in the hands of the United States and Russia and the rest are held by seven other countries: China, France, Israel, India, North Korea, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom¹; and

WHEREAS, the use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons would cause worldwide climate disruption and global famine; to wit, as few as 100 Hiroshima sized bombs, small by modern standards, would put at least 5 million tons of soot into the upper atmosphere and cause climate disruption across the planet, cutting food production and putting 2 billion people at risk of starvation²; and

WHEREAS, a large scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental damage³ and catastrophic climate disruption dropping temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last ice age; under these conditions the vast majority of the human race would starve and it is possible we would become extinct as a species⁴; and

WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been many occasions when nuclear armed states have prepared to use these weapons, and war has been averted only at the last minute⁵; and

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons do not possess some magical quality that prevents their use; and

WHEREAS, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said, speaking about the Cuban Missile Crisis, “It was luck that prevented nuclear war,” yet our nuclear policy cannot be the hope that our luck will continue; and

WHEREAS, as the effects of climate change place increased stress on communities around the world and intensify the likelihood of conflict, the danger of nuclear war will grow⁶; and

¹ <https://fas.org/issues/nuclear-weapons/status-world-nuclear-forces/>

² <http://www.psr.org/assets/pdfs/two-billion-at-risk.pdf>

³ <http://www.psr.org/assets/pdfs/projected-us-casualties-and-destruction.pdf>

⁴ <http://climate.envsci.rutgers.edu/pdf/RobockNW2006JD008235.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/04/Close%20Calls%20with%20Nuclear%20Weapons.pdf>

WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of more than \$1 trillion to enhance our nuclear arsenal will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster but fuel a global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure the well-being of the American people and people all over the world⁷; and

WHEREAS, there is an alternative to this march to nuclear war: in July 2017, 122 nations called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons⁸.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of our national security policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to U.S. Congressman James McGovern, U.S. Senator Elizabeth A. Warren, U.S. Senator Edward J. Markey, and President Donald J. Trump.

⁶ <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/once-again-climate-change-cited-as-trigger-for-war/>

⁷ <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/USNuclearModernization>

⁸ <http://www.icanw.org/treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/>

Whereas:

- On July 7, 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;
- Experts widely believe the world is entering a new period of nuclear danger;
- Both the United States and Russia, possessing over 90% of world nuclear arsenals, are embarking on a costly and dangerous nuclear weapons modernization, including qualitative escalation;
- The United States is building a new generation of “usable” nuclear weapons, although experts warn that nuclear war cannot be limited and would result in planetary catastrophe threatening all life on Earth;
- In 2018, Congress authorized the “low yield” Trident warhead, the W76-2, which will be ready for deployment as early as 2020. Eminent authorities, including former Secretary of State George Shultz, former Secretary of Defense William Perry, and former U.S. Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, strongly oppose the low yield Trident and warn that it will sharply raise the risk of nuclear war;
- Deteriorating relations between the United States and Russia, between the United States and China, and between the United States and Iran, as well as volatile relations with North Korea, create flashpoints where a crisis could rapidly escalate beyond leaders’ expectations;
- The Trump administration withdrew the United States from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, destabilizing nuclear deterrence;
- President Trump has cast doubt on the New START treaty limiting strategic weapons, which must be renewed by 2021 to prevent an all out arms race in strategic weapons;

Experts, including within the Department of Defense, have warned that global climate chaos increases the risk of war;

The Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign in the 1980s demonstrated the essential role of local action in creating a national and global consensus on the urgent need to stop the arms race;

Municipalities across the nation and the world are declaring themselves compliant with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;

Now, therefore, the Common Council of Bloomington, Indiana declares the City of Bloomington in voluntary compliance with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The Common Council:

- Prohibits the manufacture or shipment of nuclear warheads through the City;
- Seeks information about nuclear weapons research conducted by institutions within the City;
- Seeks alternative, useful employment of talented scientists in the City and region who may currently be developing nuclear warheads or delivery systems or their software;
- Urges our Federal Representative and Senators to block the deployment of the “low yield” Trident (W76-2) and cut funds for any element of nuclear modernization that involves qualitative escalation or the myth of “usable” nuclear weapons;
- Urges Congress to restrict the President's ability to engage in the first use of nuclear weapons without specific Congressional authorization;
- Urges Congress to support diplomacy, including U.S. return to the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty and negotiations to secure Russian compliance, and consider cutting military spending to support human needs and shared security, nationally and globally;
- Urges Congress to take urgent action to curb global climate change and help vulnerable nations prepare for climate shocks;
- Supports networking with other municipalities supporting nuclear arms control and disarmament;
- Encourages the Monroe County School Corporation, Indiana University, Ivy Tech, and other institutions of learning to include the concept of “Shared Security” in civics studies;
- Commends local citizens' groups working for peace and justice.