

Resolution for Local Government to Recognize and Oppose Authoritarian Threats to Constitutional Government

WHEREAS, the United States was founded on the principles of liberty, individual rights, the rule of law, and government by the consent of the governed;

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom of speech, due process, a free press, fair elections, and peaceful transfer of power, cornerstones of a constitutional republic;

WHEREAS, authoritarianism, defined as the concentration of unchecked power in the hands of one individual or party, the erosion of democratic norms, and the undermining of checks and balances—poses a threat to the freedoms and institutions we cherish;

WHEREAS, political violence, the intimidation of public servants, and efforts to delegitimize lawful elections have no place in a free society;

WHEREAS, the strength of American democracy depends on the courage of citizens and elected officials to stand up for constitutional principles regardless of party;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Medina, Ohio City Council affirms its commitment to:

1. Upholding the Constitution of the United States and the Ohio Constitution as the supreme law of the land;
2. Supporting free and fair elections, access to the ballot, and peaceful transitions of power;
3. Supporting the free press and other media;
4. Opposing all forms of authoritarianism, whether foreign or domestic, that threaten the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary, or the integrity of democratic institutions;
5. Encouraging civic education, civil discourse, and lawful participation in government;
6. Condemning political violence, threats against election workers or officials or citizens exercising Constitutional rights or the use of government power to punish dissent.
7. Condemning the use of police or military against law abiding people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Council calls upon all residents of Medina, Ohio, regardless of political affiliation, to remain vigilant in defense of the freedoms we share and the republic we must protect for future generations