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## City Hall Illuminated for Mahsa Amini

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On Sept. 29, City Hall was illuminated with the message “Justice for Mahsa Amini,” in honor of the life and legacy of a 22-year-old Iranian woman who died in police custody in Iran.

On Sept. 13, Amini was with her family at a train station in Tehran when she was approached by the Guidance Patrol, also described as the morality police. That unit is in charge of enforcing a strict Islamic code which prohibits wearing tight clothing and loose headscarves. They detained Amini, accusing her of violating clothing regulations and took her to a detention center. On Sept. 16, Amini later died in the hospital after falling into a coma. The official explanation was that Amini died of a heart attack after collapsing at the detention center, but witnesses and family believe that she was brutally beaten to death by officers. Iran’s President Ebrahim Raisi has vowed to investigate.

In the two weeks following her death, public outrage has spread beyond Amini’s Kurdish hometown of Saez and across the entire world. In Iran, protesters have

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relentlessly demonstrated against the morality police and their policies. Iranian forces have retaliated against demonstrators with gas, pellets and live ammunition. State TV has reported that at least 41 protesters and police have died since the demonstrations began, according to the Associated Press.

Political figures, celebrities and activists have shared their frustration with the wrongful death and problematic policies. Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, Dua Lipa and Justin Bieber are among the few to have commented on the issue.

As of press time, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian is scheduled to participate in a candlelight vigil for Amini in West Hollywood, hosted by the Iranian American Women Foundation. Nazarian is from Iran and looks forward to standing in solidarity with her community against the injustices happening in a place that was once home to her and her family. “As a mother, a daughter, a woman, it’s appalling to me. These are



Photo courtesy peus/depositphotos

Global protests have taken place since Amini’s death.

blatant attacks on women and girls and who is there to protect them? No one,” Nazarian told the Courier. “It’s 2022 and such despicable behavior still exists. We need to stand up as a global society to end these horrific acts.”

“What happened to Mahsa Amini is a disgusting, heinous act that is inhumane and unbearable to comprehend,” said Beverly

Hills Mayor Lili Bosse. “The Beverly Hills City Council strongly condemns this evil, cruel, and barbaric act and strongly supports that all women deserve to live a life without repression, brutal violence and restrictions on their basic human rights.”

Beverly Hills City Hall will be illuminated through Oct. 2. ●