



18 January 2011

Councillor Fiona Byrne
Mayor
Marrickville Council
PO Box 14
Petersham NSW 2049

**Australian
Services
Union of
New South Wales**

Secretary
Sally McManus

Deputy Secretary
Michael Flinn

Po Box 1865
Strawberry Hills
NSW 2012

T (02) 9310 4000
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Dear Mayor

I write to congratulate Marrickville Council on its decision to support the Global Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Campaign to end the violation of human rights and to campaign against Israel as a means of peaceful resistance and protest to their ongoing breaches of international law, humanitarian law and UN resolutions.

It is very important, in the face of the failure of Governments worldwide to act, that people at an individual and local level stand up against human rights violations wherever they occur.

The ASU has adopted a position in support of the GBDS to support boycotts and products made in illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory and to divest our funds from any companies participating in profiteering from the occupation.

We have many members who live in the Marrickville area and I am very confident that they would support the actions of the Council as they accord with their views on human rights.

As a resident who lives in the Marrickville local government area, I am proud to live in an area where my Council takes such stands, despite opposition from some in our society. These actions show our sister city, Bethlehem, that we are prepared to do more than just pay lip service to human rights.



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Having visited Bethlehem myself, I can attest to the devastating effect of the occupation and the separation wall on this city.

The ASU stands with you in the fight and congratulations again to all Council members who supported this resolution.

Yours in solidarity

Sally McManus
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cc Anthony Albanese
Federal Member for Grayndler, Minister for Infrastructure and
Transport, Leader of the House

Carmel Tebutt,
Member for Marrickville, Deputy Premier and Minister for Health