

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 060864)

## RESOLUTION

Affirming Council's objection and opposition to the proposed re-opening and re-usage of Holmesburg Prison to house over 250 prisoners due to overcrowding in the Philadelphia Prison Systems.

WHEREAS, Holmesburg Prison, located at 8215 Torresdale Avenue, is proposed to house an additional 250 prisoners from the Philadelphia Prisons Systems, that is now reaching a capacity of over 9,000 inmates; and

WHEREAS, Holmesburg Prison opened in 1896 and served as a key confinement facility for the Philadelphia Prison System until it was closed in 1995 due to not only its below par conditions but also the opening of the newly constructed, state of the art Curran-Frumhold Prison, named after Holmesburg Prison Warden Patrick N. Curran and Deputy Robert F. Fromhold, killed in a 1973 inmate attack; and

WHEREAS, On July 22, 2006, 80 inmates were housed in the Holmesburg Prison gymnasium in efforts to reduce overcrowding in the rest of the Philadelphia Prison System's facilities; and

WHEREAS, These 80 inmates were housed in Holmesburg Prison while they were being processed and were reported by the Philadelphia Prison System not to be under high bail or protective custody, and that the City of Philadelphia was in a settlement deal with other counties to house inmates in their facilities; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Leon King III, quoted in an article in *The Northeast Times* Newspaper on August 3, 2006 stated, "My intentions are to close it (Holmesburg Prison) as soon as possible..." King also promised to cap the prisoner population at Holmesburg at 80 inmates; and

# City of Philadelphia

*RESOLUTION NO. 060864 continued*

WHEREAS, However, against the desperate wishes and alarming concerns of the immediately impacted Holmesburg community, residents, businesses, civic and local organizations and leaders, an additional 250 plus inmates are proposed to be transported to Holmesburg Prison and housed there due to overcrowding numbers in other facilities; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, We call on the Philadelphia Prison System to cease and desist the proposal of holding and housing of inmates at the Holmesburg Prison facility.

# City of Philadelphia

*RESOLUTION NO. 060864 continued*

# City of Philadelphia

*RESOLUTION NO. 060864 continued*

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the sixteenth of November, 2006.

Anna C. Verna  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Patricia Rafferty  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Krajewski

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Krajewski, Rizzo, Goode, Council President Verna, Councilmembers Blackwell, DiCicco, Clarke, Reynolds Brown, O'Neill, Kelly and Miller