

Digging Deeper: A Detailed Plan for Bringing an Impeachment Resolution to Your City/Town

Based on the experiences of Alameda4Impeachment (Alameda, CA) and West Valley Resistance (Los Angeles, CA)

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- **Get Connected:** Connect with the national ImpeachDonaldTrumpnow.org group
 - They may be able to connect you with other people in your area interested in doing this work.
 - Assemble resources from the impeachdonaldtrumpnow.org website's [Local Resources page](#) to be able to quickly address questions and concerns. They have a [Model Resolution](#) you can use!
- **Form a Team:** Get no more than 10 people together and form a team. Your team might consist of the leaders of a number of Indivisible groups in your area, but make sure that the Steering Committee can work effectively and quickly!
 - Try to make sure more than one generation is represented among you—different generations bring different perspectives and skill sets.
 - Make sure someone is experienced with or willing to learn social media.
- **Commit & Focus:** Agree to focus intensively on impeachment!
 - If we try to work more than this one issue as a team, things can get very scattered and confused. Burnout can happen.
 - Only hold in-person meetings when you need to and start/end on time with a clear agenda in advance. We found that a set meeting time (short and sweet) at a regular time is much better than endless calendaring. Quick huddles and email/phone exchanges can work in between.
 - See our [Tips on Document Sharing](#).
- **Set up Facebook & Twitter**
 - Make your Facebook Group “Closed” to avoid trolls
 - Agree to a “We Go High” tone that allows for humor and creativity but avoids profanity...this is about the Constitution, decorum and all that.
 - See our [Tips for Social Media Sheet](#)
- **Understand your form of government:** Are you a Town or City? Do you have a strong Mayor or strong City Manager form of Government? The answers to these questions may determine to whom you appeal, your strategy, the political considerations for success, etc.

- **Learn how Resolutions get passed:** Determine how your local government takes up citizen resolutions of this sort...if yours recently explored Sanctuary City or Wells Fargo divestment, that's a good place to start. Ideally, identify a Progressive Council Member who can serve as your Sponsor. Here are [some tips for reaching out to a potential Sponsor](#).
 - In Alameda, we determined we'd need to attend an initial meeting and enter remarks into the Public Comment period...if we were lucky, one City Council member would agree to place the matter on the next agenda. That's exactly what happened. Actually, two agreed to co-sponsor. :)
 - In LA, it was important to get Council Member sponsorship first, so West Valley Resistance was "persistent" in approaching their District Council Member (Bob Blumenfield) until he agreed to take up the Resolution. Then, it needed to go to a Committee - and then on to the Full Council.

- **Follow the Calendar:** Identify your next Council Meeting – find out the time of day and format. This is almost always easy to find online. If time allows, plan a rally followed by attendance at the meeting. In many cases, members of your group will have time allotted on the agenda to introduce Public Comments, which are usually 1-3 minute speeches. [Here are tips for hosting a great rally](#).

- **Learn How Your Voice Can be Heard:** In our [Tips on Making Public Comments](#), we'll provide more tips and tricks about this. Key: be brief, and speak clearly into the mic. One thing to definitely understand - what are the mechanics involved in requesting Public Comment time? Your City Clerk may play a key role.

- **Prepare for the Council Meeting:** Here are some no-regrets actions:
 - Send a heads-up email to Council members before each meeting when Impeachment will be discussed. On vote days, be sure to include a packet for each Council Member that includes the latest [FAQs](#).
 - Send a Press Release to your local media. See [Tips for the Media](#).
 - Create "Event" announcements on Facebook, [Our Revolution](#), [MeetUp/#resist](#), Patch, Indivisible/ActionNetwork, the Resistance Calendar...and others. Note: not everyone is on FB!
 - Connect with local ally groups – note that this may include long-standing groups of local Dems and some of these amazing recent #resist or #Indivisible groups. Find them on Facebook and ask them to support you. If you can, go to their meetings in person and hand-out information they can see and touch. It's better if they know you as their neighbors.

- **Rinse-and-Repeat:** It's not unusual to need go to your Council more than once to get this done, but eventually, hopefully you'll receive the all-important approval.

- **Thank You!:** Finally, and not to be forgotten: once you do get your approval, do not forget to thank your City Council members. Sending personal letters,

publishing letters in your local paper, tweeting...it all helps!