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PRESS RELEASE

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### **Nashville Metro At-Large Council Member Erica Gilmore Statement On Freedom of Expression**

The fundamental right to join with fellow citizens in protest or peaceful assembly is critical to a functioning democracy and is the very core of the First Amendment. Freedom of expression, as guaranteed under the First Amendment, are central to our constitutional rights and underlie our city and nation's values of inclusivity.

Unfortunately, history has shown that law enforcement officials sometimes violate this right through means intended to prevent free public expression.

In a time of such heightened hatred. It is important that we make room for constructive dialogue especially ones that speak to a language outside of hate -- Simply put all voices matter.

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