

**Ann Arbor City Council Regular Session: May 3, 2021  
Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<u>Sent Time</u>	<u>Received Time</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>Redactions</u>	<u>Reason for Redaction</u>
2	7:05 PM		Jen Eyer	Jessica Alexander		email address, phone number	Privacy
3	7:21 PM		Elizabeth Nelson	Kate Murphy		Email address	Privacy
4	7:28 PM		Christopher Taylor	Willie Powell		Email address	Privacy
5	8:06 PM		City Council	Tom Weeks		Email address	Privacy
6	8:12 PM		City Council	Susan Baskett		email address, phone number	Privacy
7	8:33 PM		Linh Song, Christopher Taylor	Rajiv Saxena		Email addresses	Privacy
8	8:35 PM		Elizabeth Nelson	Donnell Wyche		Email address	Privacy
9	8:41 PM		Elizabeth Nelson	Scott Franz		Email address	Privacy
10	9:35 PM		City Council	Lauretta Flowers		Email address	Privacy
11	9:47 PM		City Council	Usha Jindal	Jane Killington, Josephine Walcutt, Sheyrl Prince, Sebastain Osterfeld	Email addresses	Privacy
12	9:50 PM		Ali Ramlawi	Nate Phipps		Email address	Privacy
13	10:33 PM		Jen Eyer	Kurt Sonen	Lisa Disch	Email address	Privacy
14	12:26 AM		City Council	Eileen Freed		email address, phone number	Privacy
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Jessica Alexander [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 7:05 PM  
**To:** Eyer, Jen  
**Subject:** Fw: Thoughts on the Resolution Being Proposed by K Griswold  
**Attachments:** K Griswold Letter..pdf

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

### Jessica"Decky" Alexander

Director & Professor, Academic Engagement Programs

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Eastern Michigan University

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Office Phone: (734) 487-6570

email: [REDACTED]

personal email: [REDACTED]

when I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid.-  
Audre Lorde

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Jessica Alexander <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** Kathy Griswold <kgriswold@a2gov.org>  
**Cc:** Elizabeth Nelson <enelson@a2gov.org>; jhayner@a2gov.org <jhayner@a2gov.org>; "ldisch@a2gov.org" <ldisch@a2gov.org>; ctaylor@a2gov.org <ctaylor@a2gov.org>; TRadina@a2gov.org <tradina@a2gov.org>; "lsong@a2gov.org" <lsong@a2gov.org>; EBriggs@a2gov.org <ebriggs@a2gov.org>; ARamlawi@a2gov.org <aramlawi@a2gov.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021, 5:45:13 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Thoughts on the Resolution Being Proposed by K Griswold

Dear CM Griswold:

**There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives-Audre Lorde**

May 3, 2021

Dear CM Griswold,

I have started this letter to you several times this past week in response to your resolution (and subsequent Mlive article) to host a City Council driven Palestine/Palestine American forum. My friends and colleagues of various colors, faiths, civic roles and ideologies have (I'm quite sure) shared their thoughts regarding: the forum's community harm and divisiveness; the Anti-Semitic/anti-Jewish sentiment that frames such a forum, and the recklessness that this geopolitical focused forum might have on the purpose of a city council moving forward.

Thus, as a neighbor, and someone whose own professional /artistic work has not exclusively focused on my own American Jewish community, but has often been directed to fostering a space for various peoples whose voices have been suppressed/repressed and oppressed, I wanted to talk to you about privilege.

Privilege, as I strive to understand and recognize it, is assuming that someone wants one to speak for them and about them or create a space to speak for them and about them. Given this definition, your resolution (forum) smacks of upper-middle class white privilege. Aside from the protestors/Anti-Semites who frequent the city council (*just because hate shows up for a decade doesn't mean you have to give it a platform*) it does not appear that any organization, collective, mosque, human rights coalition, or your constituents, asked you to push forth this resolution. This resolution is just white privilege wielding its wand, and it's dangerous and offensive. You shared in the newspaper that your rationale for supporting this resolution was the persistence of the Anti-Semitic individuals who have shown up at city council for years.

Kathy, if you want to foster awareness or facilitate social change, don't use your power and platform, outside of its intended use, to do so. For example, in the near future, several members of various racial, cultural and ethnic groups are working together on by-stander training. It asks, "How can we better understand what is known as the 'spectrum of disrespect?' (Hollaback Training), and thus be better neighbors and advocates for each other. Perhaps, this is the type of effort that may be of interest to you.

I walk by your house daily, and you have the '*Humankind. Be Both*' sign on your lawn, and I keep thinking you might want to take it down. This resolution does not feel to many people human nor kind.

Thank you,



Jessica 'Decky' Alexander  
Resident - Ward 2  
VP Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor  
Professor, EMU

**Jessica"Decky" Alexander**

when I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid.-  
Audre Lorde

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Kate Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 7:21 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Re: Dear Killing

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Thank you

On Mon, May 3, 2021, 5:00 PM Nelson, Elizabeth <[ENelson@a2gov.org](mailto:ENelson@a2gov.org)> wrote:

The budget will not be voted on tonight—there is a public hearing, but it will be voted on at our next meeting.

(I apologize that this email is short, I still have a few dozen emails to dig through from today, but I wanted to offer that information to clarify timing!)

Elizabeth

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**From:** Kate Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 6:59 AM  
**To:** Disch, Lisa <[LDisch@a2gov.org](mailto:LDisch@a2gov.org)>; Hayner, Jeff <[JHayner@a2gov.org](mailto:JHayner@a2gov.org)>; Song, Linh <[LSong@a2gov.org](mailto:LSong@a2gov.org)>; Radina, Travis <[TRadina@a2gov.org](mailto:TRadina@a2gov.org)>; Grand, Julie <[JGrand@a2gov.org](mailto:JGrand@a2gov.org)>; Eyer, Jen <[JEyer@a2gov.org](mailto:JEyer@a2gov.org)>; Nelson, Elizabeth <[ENelson@a2gov.org](mailto:ENelson@a2gov.org)>; Briggs, Erica <[EBriggs@a2gov.org](mailto:EBriggs@a2gov.org)>; Ramlawi, Ali <[ARamlawi@a2gov.org](mailto:ARamlawi@a2gov.org)>  
**Subject:** Dear Killing

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

I regret that I am unable to attend tonight's meeting during which the budget will be voted upon. I was sad and dismayed to learn that the allocation for the killing of deer in Ann Arbor remains in the current version of the budget. This despite the absence of any evidence that this travesty is needed. I have seen no indication that these animals are a threat to human safety or health, nor is there any data indicating an increase in deer/car crashes. And this clearly is unwarranted given the likely budget shortfall you are dealing with. I implore those of you who understand the value of living in concert with other living creatures to propose that this allocation be removed from the budget. That action would restore my faith in the image of Ann Arbor as a community that believes in the sanctity of all life.

Thanks for considering my request.

M. Kate Murphy

Dexter, Mi.

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Willie Powell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 7:28 PM  
**To:** Taylor, Christopher (Mayor)  
**Subject:** Re: Juneteenth

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Mayor Taylor I support the resolution as drafted.

Thanks

Pastor Powell

On Mon, May 3, 2021 at 12:29 PM Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <[CTaylor@a2gov.org](mailto:CTaylor@a2gov.org)> wrote:

Elder Powell,

I hope all is well with you this beautiful day.

I have been working with a Councilmember or two and with Mr. Hampton to put together a resolution declaring Juneteenth a municipal holiday.

I'm reaching to you and to a few others in the community, without any pride of authorship, to seek feedback on the resolution. We're looking to have it placed on the agenda by the end of the week and so if you could get comments back to me in the unreasonable timeframe of Wednesday by the close of business. If you need more time, as well you may, please just let me know. I'm hoping to have a final version suitable for public distribution by the end of the week.

Thank you for everything you do and please do not hesitate to contact me about this or any other matter, larger or small [REDACTED]

Best,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor  
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor  
[301 East Huron Street](#)  
[Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104](#)  
734-794-6161  
*he/him/his*

***Wear your Mask. That is all.***

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Tom Weeks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 8:06 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** Juneteenth

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Esteemed Council Members,

I fully support Juneteenth being adopted as an Ann Arbor City Holiday. June 19 or Juneteenth celebrates the end of slavery in the United States, as the last enslaved people (in Texas) were freed on that day.

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Sincerely, [Tom Weeks](#)

## Journal Archive

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**From:** susan baskettt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 8:12 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Pls support Juneteenth

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Taylor and City Council members,  
Thank you for your consideration of declaring Juneteenth an official city holiday.  
I urge all of you to support this important celebration in our country's history.

The Ann Arbor Branch of the NAACP has recognized this day with a community celebration for over 20 years. Many of you have joined us. I urge all of you to do so in the future. It's a day long family event that is filled with fun, dancing, eating and networking.

You can also become a member of our Branch. We are pleased to have many of our elected officials as members.

Please show your support by voting affirmatively for Juneteenth as an official city holiday.

All the best,  
Susan Baskettt  
Third Ward  
[REDACTED]



## Journal Archive

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 8:33 PM  
**To:** Song, Linh; Taylor, Christopher (Mayor)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Preserve and care for wildlife in the City of Ann Arbor

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hello Council Lady Song and Mayor Taylor,

Hello, my name is Rajiv Saxena. I live in ward 2.

I called into May 3, 2021 Ann Arbor City Council Zoom meeting and pressed \*9 to present my concern, but unfortunately i didn't get an opportunity to speak. So, I am writing this email.

In the meeting, there was a lot of air time given to discuss matters of foreign lands, I want to discuss something regarding our backyard, neighborhood, and city.

We are supposed to be a progressive city which needs to promote the environment, the nature, which includes its creatures. Creatures meaning not just humans but also the wildlife, which has been around before we moved in. So, this city government needs to end this business of deer culling in the name of population management.

No deer related fatalities have occurred not only in this city but also in the whole county of Washtenaw in 2019 ([county external \(michigantrafficcrashfacts.org\)](https://www.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org/)), yet this city council is so eager to kill these innocent creatures in the name of population "management." I am glad that you have not been given the authority to "manage" the human population. Managing should not mean killing, but preserving life. The city needs to invest in enforcing speeding and traffic laws which will curb vehicle crashes into deer. Most city streets have speed limits of 25 or 45 MPH - at these speeds, vehicle to wildlife (deer, raccoon, rabbit, geese) crashes are avoidable!

We don't want our tax dollars to go in "killing" of innocent, peaceful living beings. Please end deer culling immediately! We love these animals visiting our backyard, our neighborhood!

Sincerely,  
Rajiv Saxena  
[REDACTED]

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Donnell Wyche [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 8:35 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Please support the Healthy Streets Initiatives

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hi Councilmember Nelson,

Would you please reconsider supporting the Healthy Streets Initiatives? As a cyclist in Ann Arbor anything we can do to calm car traffic is appreciated. My biking and my family's biking last year was greatly improved because of the Healthy Streets Initiatives. Please reconsider supporting Healthy Streets Initiatives if it comes back to Council.

Thanks,  
Donnell  
[REDACTED]

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Scott Franz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 8:41 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Healthy Streets

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hi CM Nelson,

I am pretty disappointed on your vote to not approve the Healthy Streets program. As a person who uses a bike to transport myself around town, I find it pretty hypocritical that you campaigned on a bike but won't vote to provide very basic protection for cyclists and pedestrians from cars.

The problem of cars killing other drivers, bikers, and pedestrians will continue past COVID if we do not continue to improve the design of our streets and roads. The Healthy Streets program should have been a thing way before COVID and just because people are vaccinated does not mean that they will stop walking or biking; or that cars will stop hitting them. This program aligns with our A2Zero goals and our sustainability goals. It is very sad to me that you do not see the benefit of opening streets up to kids/people.

Best,  
Scott

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Laretta Flowers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 9:35 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** Recognizing Juneteenth as a City Holiday in Ann Arbor

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members:

I am a transplant from the city of Detroit and my husband is from Ohio. We are longtime residents of the city of Ann Arbor. As members of the **Ann Arbor branch of the NAACP**, it is our hope that the Ann Arbor City Council approves a proclamation to make **Juneteenth** a city holiday. We have been members of the Ann Arbor branch NAACP for at least forty years. Twenty six of those years, we have been an intricate part of the annual Juneteenth celebrations hosted by our local branch of the NAACP.

**Juneteenth** is a holiday celebrated on June 19, 1865 to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. The first holiday celebration was in Texas.

This holiday has been recognized and celebrated for 26 years at **Wheeler Park** in Ann Arbor hosted by The Ann Arbor Branch of the NAACP.

During several of those celebrations, I have had the esteemed pleasure to serve as the "Mistress of Ceremonies," and my husband took pictures at the event. The event generally falls on the Saturday before Father's Day, as close to the date of the 19th of June; hence the name "**Juneteenth**."

As society is coming to grips with racial justice, celebrating **Juneteenth** as a City Holiday is a way to speak to the people and to answer the call to action. My husband and I are very proud of recognizing this holiday and look forward to the entire city of Ann Arbor to do so too.

Please consider our recommendation and proclaim, "**Juneteenth**" a legal City Holiday in Ann Arbor. Thank You.

Best Regards,

Laretta & Ronald Flowers

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Usha Jindal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 9:47 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; jane kilingston; Josephine Walcutt; [REDACTED]; sheyrl prince; Sebastian Osterfeld  
**Subject:** Fw: please don't kill deer, find a way to preserve and care for wildlife in our city

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear City council members,

I endorse the email of Rajiv Saxena, my neighbor, in Ann Arbor City. Please don't be heartless towards animals, we are smart and we can develop a win-win solution to live together in harmony. Please help me to understand what do you gain by killing them. If you put a fence where deer are allowed to reach the roads and cause a hazard to drivers, then we can solve this problem for both parties. Thanks for caring for our residents' requests, and don't let me lose my faith in your abilities to solve the deer-killing problem a very inhumane manner.

sincerely,  
Usha Jindal

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:33 PM  
**To:** LSong@a2gov.org <LSong@a2gov.org>; CTaylor@a2gov.org <CTaylor@a2gov.org>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Preserve and care for wildlife in the City of Ann Arbor

Hello Council Lady Song and Mayor Taylor,

Hello, my name is Rajiv Saxena. I live in ward 2.

I called into May 3, 2021 Ann Arbor City Council Zoom meeting and pressed \*9 to present my concern, but unfortunately i didn't get an opportunity to speak. So, I am writing this email.

In the meeting, there was a lot of air time given to discuss matters of foreign lands, I want to discuss something regarding our backyard, neighborhood, and city.

We are supposed to be a progressive city which needs to promote the environment, the nature, which includes its creatures. Creatures meaning not just humans but also the wildlife, which has been around before we moved in. So, this city government needs to end this business of deer culling in the name of population management.

No deer related fatalities have occurred not only in this city but also in the whole county of Washtenaw in 2019 ([county external \(michigantrafficcrashfacts.org\)](https://www.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org/)), yet this city council is so eager to kill these innocent creatures in the name of population "management." I am glad that you have not been given the authority to "manage" the human population. Managing should not mean killing, but preserving life. The city needs to invest in enforcing speeding and traffic laws which will curb vehicle

crashes into deer. Most city streets have speed limits of 25 or 45 MPH - at these speeds, vehicle to wildlife (deer, raccoon, rabbit, geese) crashes are avoidable!

We don't want our tax dollars to go in "killing" of innocent, peaceful living beings. Please end deer culling immediately! We love these animals visiting our backyard, our neighborhood!

Sincerely,  
Rajiv Saxena



## Journal Archive

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**From:** Nate Phipps [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 9:50 PM  
**To:** Ramlawi, Ali  
**Subject:** Disappointed in Healthy Streets vote

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Good evening.

Perhaps I should have actively expressed support for the Healthy Streets funding on tonight's agenda, but instead I will express disappointment that it did not pass.

I hope Council has a chance to reconsider this funding, and I hope you support its passage.

-Nate Phipps  
Ward 5 resident

Please forgive brevity and typos. This message was sent from a phone.

## Journal Archive

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**From:** Kurt Sonen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 10:33 PM  
**To:** Eyer, Jen  
**Cc:** Disch, Lisa  
**Subject:** Deer data & deer tour

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

CM Eyer,

CM Disch suggested I contact you.

As you may have noticed, the City's deer management site is lacking in presentation. The studies that have been commissioned regarding the impact that the deer cull has had on improving forest health and sustainability are there, but mixed in with other documents.

So I took the data from the City's site and made this page, <https://wc4eb.wordpress.com/deer-impacts-on-ann-arbor-natural-areas/>.

This is a summary page, using the City's data, and all the original documents are linked in the page for reference. Let me know if you see something lacking or that needs a better explanation.

I also would like to offer you a tour of the preserve that I steward. I am in a unique position - after removing the invasives, I alone tended and planted all the regenerating trees and plants (in 7 acres). That means I know the individual 'stories' of most of the plants in the preserve and how deer affected them. Several council members have toured the preserve. I can't guarantee that a deer will stand on its rear legs to reach a branch like one did for CM Nelson - but I can show what deer damage looks like on the ground.

My schedule is pretty flexible. My family is vaccinated and, with my 89yo father with us, we take all the Covid precautions seriously. So this would be distanced, masked, and (obviously) outside.

Thanks!

Kurt Sonen (Ward 2)



## Journal Archive

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**From:** Eileen Freed [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 04, 2021 12:26 AM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** Council Meeting Process

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members,

Firstly, I want to say how much in awe I am of your dedication to our city and to your role as a council member. Thank you for your service.

I have just sat through a council meeting which has lasted well over five hours because I had an interest in the final item on your agenda. I understand that the city has a lot of business and that some items, e.g. the budget, attract a lot of community comment which takes time. It seems to me that some attention should be given to how you structure your agenda. Perhaps there should be some guidelines around time allotted to specific agenda items. Additionally, when you know there are going to be agenda items that attract significant public comment and/or significant council discussion (e.g. the rules discussion), you might consider limiting the number of agenda items, particularly when they may be contentious. It seems unfair to you and to citizens who care about specific agenda items to keep people at a meeting until after midnight. I don't fully understand how agenda items are scheduled, but someone should have known this meeting was going to run long, and the resolution re: the community conversation on Palestine should have been considered at a subsequent meeting.

Again, I appreciate all you do, and I hope your next meeting allows you an earlier bedtime.

L'Shalom,

Eileen

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**Eileen Freed**

Executive Director  
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor  
*Pronouns: she/hers ([what's this?](#))*



[www.jewishannarbor.org](http://www.jewishannarbor.org)

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