

---

## URGENT: Givat Hamatos Tender for 1257 HU Open for Bidding

1 message

Sun, Nov 15, 2020 at 2:32 AM



---

## URGENT: Givat Hamatos Tender for 1257 HU Open for Bidding

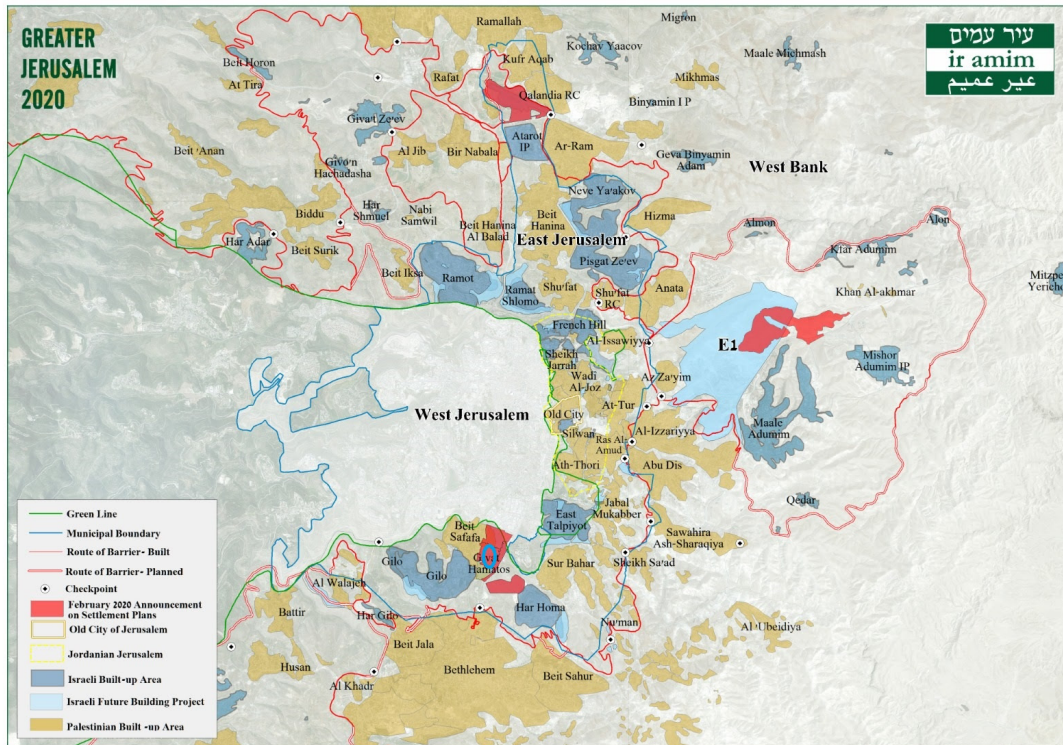
*15 November 2020*

Today, the tender for construction on Givat Hamatos has been opened for bidding and will close on January 18, 2021, two days before the Inauguration of US president-elect Joe Biden. The opening of the bidding has been postponed three times since its publication in February. Originally designated for 1077 housing units, the **current tender is for the construction of 1257 housing units.** While the tender has been opened and its booklet for contractors published, the Israel Land Authority and Ministry of Housing are not yet accepting bids, which is most likely a technical issue and will be accepting them momentarily.

**The opening of the tender significantly decreases the potentiality to effectively block Israeli building in the area. Concerted opposition and pressure to freeze the tender is therefore vital in this limited window of time.**

If carried through, Givat Hamatos would become the first new settlement in East Jerusalem in 20 years. Located in a particularly strategic area, Givat Hamatos (along with Har Homa E and E1) has constituted a longstanding international red line due its impact on the prospects of a viable two-state framework with two capitals in Jerusalem. By creating a contiguous Israeli built-up area between the existing settlements of Gilo and Har Homa, construction in Givat Hamatos will serve to seal off the southern perimeter of East Jerusalem from Bethlehem and the southern part of the West Bank, while isolating the Palestinian neighborhood of Beit Safafa.

The next two months in lead-up to the change in the US Presidential Administration will be a critical period. We believe that Israel will attempt to exploit this time to advance moves that the incoming administration will potentially oppose. It is crucial that the international community remain vigilant.



Givat Hamatos is marked in red with a blue circle in the southern part of this map.

Click [here](#) for higher resolution map.

Please address all inquiries to:

Amy Cohen  
Director of International Relations & Advocacy  
Ir Amim (City of Nations/City of Peoples)  
Jerusalem  
[amy@ir-amim.org.il](mailto:amy@ir-amim.org.il)

*\*As of November 1, I have returned from maternity leave and resumed my position. I look forward to reconnecting with you.*



Share



Tweet



Forward

