



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION
April 21, 2026

For: Mayor and City Council

From: Amber Fellows, Council Member, Desirae Simmons, Council Member

Subject: Resolution No. 2026-096, A Resolution to Defund ICE and CBP, Halt Deportation Operations, and Protect Ypsilanti Residents

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No 2026-095 ICE
2. Resolution No 2026-038 Ypsi Protection Resolution AMENDED
3. Rutherford Pool MOU Executed_Redacted

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: April 21, 2026

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL:



RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

A Resolution to Defund ICE and CBP, Halt Deportation Operations, and Protect Ypsilanti Residents

WHEREAS, ICE and CBP agents have violently arrested civilians—including U.S. citizens—deployed chemical weapons in residential areas, and shot at least nine individuals since September 2025, three fatally: Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and Silverio Villegas González; and

WHEREAS, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act gave ICE and CBP \$170 billion at the expense of housing, healthcare, and education, while detention conditions have led to 37 deaths in ICE custody since January 2025; and

WHEREAS, “border czar” Tom Homan has refused to rule out deploying ICE at polling places, threatening voter intimidation; and

WHEREAS, Ypsilanti protects residents through Ordinance No. 1281 (2017) and Resolution No. 2026-038, barring city resources for civil immigration enforcement and restricting federal entry to city facilities without a judicial warrant; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2026, ICE detained Ypsilanti parents at a school bus stop, and on March 10, 2026, abducted small business owner and father Miguel Rosas Ruiz; and

WHEREAS, at least 15 people have been abducted by ICE in and around Ypsilanti since 2025; and

WHEREAS, more than 165 ICE deportation flights departed Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti in 2025, yet the Wayne County Airport Authority refuses to halt them; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan and City of Romulus are suing to block a proposed 500-person ICE detention facility near an elementary school;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF YPSILANTI:

A. The Council calls on Congress to immediately cease all funding for ICE and CBP, redirecting those resources to housing, healthcare, and education.

B. The Council directs the City Clerk and City Manager to coordinate with MIRA, MIRC, and ACLU of Michigan within 60 days to:

- Distribute Know Your Rights literature in multiple languages to all Ypsilanti households;
- Partner with AAATA to promote Know Your Rights on public transit and in public spaces;
- Develop an outreach and polling place operations plan to ensure residents can vote without fear of voter intimidation;
- Make city spaces free for related community trainings.

C. The Council supports the lawsuit against the proposed Romulus ICE detention facility and calls on the city attorney to explore amicus options in support of the plaintiffs.

D. The Council urges the Wayne County Airport Authority Board to exercise its authority over airport facilities by reviewing and, where legally permissible, limiting their use for ICE deportation flights.

E. The Council urges Attorney General Dana Nessel to investigate the abduction of Miguel Rosas Ruiz, pursue legal action against unlawful federal enforcement, and calls on Michigan's congressional delegation to advocate for his release.

F. The City Clerk shall send this resolution to: Ypsilanti's state and federal delegation; Attorney General Nessel; Wayne County Airport Authority Board; MIRC; MIRA; ACLU of Michigan; AAATA; Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners; Washtenaw County Sheriff; Romulus Mayor and Council; and Governor Whitmer.

G. The City Manager shall commit necessary budgetary resources to support the Clerk's office in carrying out this resolution, including printing, translation, mailing, polling place operations, and staffing. The Council authorizes up to \$10,000 from the general fund for immediate expenses pending budget adoption.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:



YPSILANTI PROTECTION RESOLUTION

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, The City of Ypsilanti is committed to ensuring the safety, dignity, and human rights of all residents, regardless of race, religion, immigration status, national origin, and other protected traits; and

Whereas, Increased civil immigration enforcement activities as well as activities using civil immigration enforcement as a pretense, across the country, including in Michigan, are negatively impacting communities by undermining community trust, spreading fear, and creating barriers to accessing essential City services; and

Whereas, The fear of civil immigration enforcement can deter immigrants from sending their children to school, supporting their families through work, participating in community life, and accessing essential City services; and

Whereas, the residents of Ypsilanti believe that public safety is best achieved through trust and collaboration between residents and local government, not through the militarization or deputization of City resources in service of civil immigration enforcement; and

Whereas, The Ypsilanti City Council reaffirmed its position on immigration enforcement in the City of Ypsilanti through the passage and continued support of Ordinance 1281, which, among other things, prohibits city officials from requesting immigration status unless required by law; and

Whereas, Civil immigration enforcement operations utilizing municipal property as staging sites has occurred in other jurisdictions raising concerns about potential use of the City of Ypsilanti's properties for similar purposes; and

Whereas, The unauthorized use of City resources, property, or personnel to facilitate civil immigration enforcement actions interferes with the City's authority over, and its use of, its own resources, property, and personnel; and

Whereas, The use of City resources, property, or personnel to facilitate civil immigration enforcement actions is inconsistent with the City's values as a welcoming community; and

Whereas, Across the country, there has been an increased use of face coverings, along with the absence of visible identification (including names and identification numbers) to clearly identify individuals as federal law enforcement personnel; and

Whereas, The use of face coverings and lack of consistent, visible identification are making it difficult for individuals and local law enforcement to distinguish between authorized law enforcement officers and persons with nefarious intent; and

Whereas, Members in communities where these tactics have been used have reported confusion and fear as to whether or not they were witnessing a crime; and

Whereas, The City should have the right to establish identification requirements for law enforcement officers operating within the City so that the Ypsilanti Police Department and members of the public can distinguish between individuals who are authorized law enforcement officers and those who are not; and

Whereas, ~~The legality of whether state and local governments have the authority to ensure all law enforcement in their jurisdiction is identifiable to protect public safety as it pertains to face coverings and identification~~ WAS LITIGATED ~~is currently being litigated~~ in United States v. California, et al., No. 2:25-cv-10999 (C.D. Cal. 2025); and

Whereas, The City has both the authority and responsibility, under its police powers, to maintain order and protect the safety and well-being of all people within its jurisdiction; now therefor be it

RESOLVED, That the Ypsilanti City Council hereby establishes its policy that prohibits the use of City resources, funds, or personnel to assist in civil immigration enforcement, or on entering into any agreement under 8 U.S.C. Section 1357(g);

RESOLVED, That the City prohibits federal immigration officials (including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection personnel) to enter or use private areas (areas marked as private and/or closed to the public) in City facilities, for civil immigration enforcement purposes absent a judicial warrant;

RESOLVED, That the City prohibits the use of any City-owned parking lot or vacant lot for the purpose of aiding civil immigration enforcement and/or for the purpose of staging or establishing an operational base for civil immigration enforcement operations;

RESOLVED, That for purposes of this resolution, "staging area" means an area that is used to assemble, mobilize, and deploy vehicles, equipment, or materials, and related personnel, for the purpose of carrying out civil immigration enforcement operations;

RESOLVED, That the City Manager shall as soon as possible, but no later than 90 days, identify City-owned parking lots and vacant lots and ensure that all such properties have clear signage stating that the property is owned by the City of Ypsilanti and may not be used for civil immigration enforcement, including as a staging area, processing location, or for other civil immigration operations;

RESOLVED, That the City Manager shall as soon as possible, but no later than 90 days, design and make available for public use standardized signage that private landowners and leaseholders, including businesses, medical providers, nonprofit organizations, and places of worship, may print and display at their own discretion to delineate non-public areas of property in which the landowner or leaseholder wishes to restrict activities related to civil immigration enforcement;

RESOLVED, That this resolution shall not apply to property subject to an existing lease or agreement to which the City is a party and shall not be interpreted to interfere with any such lease or agreement to which the City is currently a party;

RESOLVED, That the City Manager shall, as soon as possible, but no later than 90 days, develop a policy whereby City employees, contractors, and agents are prohibited from utilizing any City resource, including without limitation, any information obtained during the course of employment, service, or agency, to assist, facilitate, or cooperate with Federal civil immigration enforcement activities, to the extent permitted by law and exempt where such assistance is required by law;

RESOLVED, That the City formally opposes the use of masks or face coverings by federal immigration officials that conceal their identities during civil immigration enforcement activities occurring within the City of Ypsilanti, except in circumstances where face coverings are required for verified public health or safety reasons;

RESOLVED, The City shall, as soon as practical, create an ordinance prohibiting law enforcement officers operating in the City from using face coverings, subject to limited exceptions, and require that law enforcement officers operating in the City visibly display identification that includes their agency and either a name or badge number, or both name and badge number, when performing enforcement duties;

RESOLVED, That this resolution only pertains to civil immigration enforcement activities, and does not prohibit the lawful use of City-owned and controlled property for other purposes, nor does it restrict any person or entity from carrying out functions unrelated to the prohibited purposes on such property;

RESOLVED, That the Ypsilanti City Council directs the City Manager or his/her designee(s) to immediately design and implement appropriate training processes for City staff to comply with this resolution; and

RESOLVED, That it is not the intention of the City of Ypsilanti to violate 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1373 and nothing in this resolution shall be construed as restricting or interfering with the execution of lawful judicial warrants or enforcement of criminal law, nor as limiting the rights of any person or entity under state or federal law.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE: