

**From:** [robin ziler](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bill Kennedy comments on Monday  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 9:45:10 PM

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Yes bill your 100% correct everything you said on WHERE DID THE MILL LEVY GO..ON EVERYTHING YOU SAID

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Anne KM Ross](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment regarding ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:57:29 PM

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Dear City Counselors and Mayor Nelson,

My name is Anne Ross and I reside in the Southwest Corridor of Billings and was born and raised in this city.

It is devastating to watch the chaos and brutality unfolding in the US right now in regards to the activities of ICE agents in Minneapolis and elsewhere. ICE is NOT law enforcement and they show that by disregarding all rules and standards that our police force follows in their interactions with the public. It is unlawful to shoot into a car, even when there's a chance that an officer may be hit by that car. It is unlawful to use deadly force to shoot people when they are fleeing from agents, but we see that ICE is employing these tactics. They are breaking car windows without any cause and violently pulling people from them. They are arresting people without warrants or just cause, many for simply being present at the scene of an ICE operation. ICE is preventing the service of people's rights to due process and forcefully preventing injured people from receiving emergency and potentially life saving medical care. All of this is meant to terrorize residents and prevent them from exercising their 1st ammendment rights to free speech. They are abusing, arresting and threatening people by arriving at their homes and threatening their families via running license plates when citizens lawfully follow ICE and record their actions as non-obstructive observers.

All of this is to say that not only am I asking you to forbid any partnership with ICE, the masked secret police demanding to see people's papers and murdering them if they try to escape a gun pointed in their face; I am also asking that you publicly, and through any possible policy actions commit to directing our city police officers to immediately apprehend and arrest any ICE agents who violate the rights of people in our Billings community. I encourage our police force to approach the ICE forces with safety in mind, utilizing any safety equipment necessary to preserve the lives of our officers in the event one of these erratic and unhinged ICE agents might turn their guns on police. The police have signed on to serve and protect the citizens and residents of Billings, and I fully expect that our tax dollars and city resources are used to do just that and mitigate the horrific violence that will inevitably come for our town when they have finished in other places.

The Gestappo is coming, and we desperately need you to hold the line, even if that brings fear to your heart. We need the love in our hearts for our shared humanity and committment to democracy to prevail over all things. They will not stop at people with brown skin, the LGBTQ+ community, Jews, Muslims and people with disabilities. They will come for each and every one of us.

I will mention that I have heard rumors of certain members laughing or smirking when being pressed on this issue. I expect that it is deeply uncomfortable to govern in this time, and sometimes these types of reactions are not intentional, but people are dying and we need to hold onto reverence for life, and respect the calls for true law and order, true public safety and the relentless protection of our human rights.

Kind regards,

Anne Ross

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for Android.

**From:** [Rae Piwarski](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Concerned Mom and Neighbor: No ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:35:43 PM

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Hello,

My name is Rae. I love this city. My husband loves this city. Our children love this city.

My family believes that ICE has no place here and that our police budget is more than adequate to address crime here. Please discourage ICE from coming here at all costs.

We are a place that has advocated Not in Our Town for decades. Let's keep up this principled energy in 2026.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Rae Piwarski and Adam Sletten

**From:** [Vicki Nelson](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] De-ICE please !  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 8:28:25 PM

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To the City Council in Billings - I've been told you're wanting opinions if ICE were to come to Billings. I feel we have a civil police force here. ICE is anything but civil! Please don't let the Billings Police Department cooperate with ICE - it would destroy the trust our city has for our local police.  
Thank you for wanting public input.  
Vicki Nelson  
Billings MT  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [lindalee hickey](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ice activities and Billings police  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 10:48:20 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

I do not condone our city police involved in any Ice activities in Billings. I am concerned for the safety of the Billings police and the Billings community.

**From:** [Bobby Anner-Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE cooperation no  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 6:54:20 PM

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Ice has shown they have little training or restraint. Please don't agree to help. Not until they are properly trained and can demonstrate they have reasonable restraint. Aliens with a criminal record need to be deported. Others - who do nothing other than provide taxes and services to the rest of us- should be allowed to proceed with the path of citizenship.

Currently the temperatures are too high and need to come down. Until that happens, we need to step back and away from the chaos caused by ICE and the political climate.

Thank you for asking for input!

**From:** [Sharon R.](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE IN BILLINGS  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 6:20:33 PM

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Councilmembers,

Apparently ICE was at westend Walmart today. They were sighted at Target in Billings Heights about a month ago and I'm sure they have been in other areas in Billings. What is your policy regarding ICE? Do you understand if you do NOT let them know they are not welcome in Billings and push that narrative from the beginning, we will end up like Minneapolis? There is always push back from the regime in the beginning but if they see early on we will fight back, they back off. You have a choice to make here and I'm hoping you make the right one. You need to do the right thing to protect your citizens which is stop this before it gains hold.

I spoke with City-County Dispatch today asking what is the BPD's jurisdiction regarding this situation. I was told it is situational. If they are just sitting, the BPD will not do anything. If they start aggressive behavior, we should call it in.

Govern yourselves accordingly. This is not going away anytime soon.

Thanks for listening.

Shar Rose



**From:** [April Moffet](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49:00 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

As a constituent and taxpayer in **Billings**, I am writing to ask that the City Council formally decline to participate in federal immigration enforcement activities with ICE.

I believe our local tax dollars and police resources should stay focused on local priorities—such as education, infrastructure, and community programs—rather than doing the work of a federal agency. Diverting our city's limited resources to assist ICE is not only a fiscal burden but also runs contrary to the welcoming values of our community.

Please take steps to ensure that **Billings** remains a place where all residents can live and work without fear of unnecessary surveillance or detention.

Best regards,

**April Burnham**

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Shelly Stanley-Lehman](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE terrorizing Montana  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:33:02 PM

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Attention council members:

Please stand up for ALL of Billings residents. We are counting on you all to do the right thing.

Creating a false enemy in human beings is not American. Can't you SEE history repeating itself. Shame on US.

If you have not listened to the Sascha Riley interviews YOU are choosing to be ignorant and support the behavior of the sickest monster on earth .

Billings does not need these ICE created deaths and anti-American (Israel's IDF) tactics killing and terrifying human beings!

I pray you all find humanity in your hearts and do the right thing. Not politically motivated or racists, just human decency.

Look deeper inside yourselves to be better than accepting this regime.

SLSL

**From:** [shelly theroux](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:25:05 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Billings and Yellowstone county. Please I beg of you to not get involved with ICE! The way they are conducting themselves is absolutely abhorrent, unethical and unconstitutional! Our city is better than this, and we have an amazing immigrant community! It is our duty as human beings to make sure the things that are happening in our cities do not happen in ours!

Thank you,

Shelly Theroux

**From:** [Christine Stovall](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 10:51:07 AM

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Dear Esteemed Officials,

My name is Christine Stovall, and a native Montanan. I am writing to convey my profound concern regarding the enforcement of immigration laws within our state and its potential implications for our communities.

I believe it is paramount that all individuals residing within Montana have undergone the necessary legal vetting processes as prescribed by federal immigration statutes. There is a growing apprehension among many citizens, myself included, that the presence of individuals whose immigration status has not been formally verified through established legal channels could pose challenges to public safety and place undue strain on our state's resources and social services.

I advocate for robust collaboration between state and federal authorities, including agencies such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), to uphold and consistently enforce national immigration policies within Montana. It is my firm conviction that a rigorous and transparent verification process is essential to safeguard the security and well-being of all Montanans.

Our nation's immigration framework is designed to provide structured and orderly pathways for those seeking to enter and reside in the United States. When these established procedures are bypassed, it creates vulnerabilities within our system and can undermine the rule of law. It is crucial that all entries into our state and country adhere strictly to these legal frameworks to ensure accountability and national integrity.

I respectfully request that immediate and decisive measures be taken to address these pressing concerns. By reinforcing the legal framework of our immigration system, we can better protect Montana's communities, its future, and the safety of its citizens.

Sincerely,  
Christine Stovall

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Breeze Moore](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:25:05 PM

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Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a concerned resident to express my opposition to any request or action that would invite Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to operate within the City of Billings beyond what is already required by federal law.

Local government exists to serve and protect the people who live, work, and raise families here. Involving ICE in city matters undermines public safety by discouraging members of our community from reporting crimes, cooperating with law enforcement, or seeking emergency assistance out of fear. When trust between residents and local institutions is weakened, everyone is less safe.

I urge the City Council to reject any request to bring ICE into Billings city operations and to publicly affirm a commitment to policies that protect the rights, safety, and dignity of all residents.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Breeze Uzelac

Billings Resident

**From:** [Breann Castro](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Immigration and custom enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:49:56 PM

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ATTENTION: Council members

As a proud community member of Billings Mt I believe that is a duty of each and every one of us to stand up and say that ICE is not welcome In our city to abduct our neighbors and fellow community members and if that sort of behavior from so called agents in America today, or maybe it's not the America I taught as growing up. ICE has absolutely no business on the reservations of The indigenous- American Indian.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [anthony saur](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep ICE out of Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:39:35 PM

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Hello billing city Council,

I am writing to express interest in letting my opinion be known to you. We need to keep ice out of billings as it only tracks and separates the people of billings rather than bringing them together for a common goal.

Ice will not help the people of billings with anything. They were only cut unrest as they spread prejudice throughout our small town.

If billing city council decides to support ice coming into my town. I will be paying attention to those that vote to support them and use that information to keep you from reelection next cycle.

Stay strong, stand with the people and stand for what's right by keeping ice out of our city.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Blair Koch](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep our community safe  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 6:10:32 PM

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Good evening. I am writing regarding the inevitability to ICE descending on Billings and ripping the community and families apart. I cannot stress enough how important it is that Billings not offer support of this and provide police, fire department or other resources in assistance.

Not in our Town, never again.

Sincerely,

Blair Koch  
[blairkoch@gmail.com](mailto:blairkoch@gmail.com)  
(208) 316.2607



**From:** [Marc Stewart](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No coordination with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:45:15 PM

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Greetings, Billings City Council,

Thank you for your service to Billings as council members, and for attending to best practices to safeguard residents/visitors. I appeal to you in matters regarding ICE and CBP coming into Billings to detain and arrest people, as has been seen in other cities. I hope that the City of Billings not coordinate with, nor support the efforts of, ICE and BPC. Their destabilizing of civic order and contempt for common decency is well-documented. Please do not get Billings enmeshed with ICE.

Respectfully,  
Rev. Dr. Marc Stewart  
614 Burlington Ave, Billings, MT 59101

**From:** [Chanel F](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE COOPERATION  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:52:07 PM

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Good afternoon, council. I understand that earlier today 1/16/26, federal agents from ICE came to Walmart and detained someone. As a Billings resident, I am appalled by this display of blatant disregard to the cries for help we've seen from the community over the past few weeks.

We don't need the good people at local PD to get mixed up in the affairs of the federal government. What they are doing is illegal, and Billings PD should be dedicated to upholding the law, not assisting rogue agencies in breaking it. The community is coming together to respond to these concerns appropriately and lawfully. We do not want local PD getting involved and we will stand by all members of our community including the police so long as the community stands up for everyone else.

Thank you,  
Chanel

**From:** [Dar Co](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:37:34 PM

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Dear City council members,

I am writing to let you know my family does not want our city involved in anything to do with ICE. Our community and surrounding areas have our ingenious Native and Hispanic neighbors. Having our brand new city council and a new raise for our city police officers would be a slap in the face to tax payers. We have seen the horror and lawlessness these supposed officers are inflicting on people of color. We know they are just going after anyone at this point. I don't care what side of the political aisle you are on, right and wrong is where we're at here. I don't think Billings Montana is a place where ICE or BP would be welcomed. This is where we need to draw the line, nobody comes after us or our neighbors. The county commission already tried with the Metra last year. I have no respect left for any of them, in these times we need leaders who will stand up for what is right for our community, if you want public safety I suggest kidnappers are not allowed in our city. We will not let our neighbors be kidnapped to appeal to a ruthless regime. Thank you for doing the right thing for our city.

Darci Colbrese  
3105 Ave F  
Billings, MT 59102

**From:** [Bailey Nickoloff](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:16:33 PM

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Good afternoon,

My name is Bailey Nickoloff, and I am a constituent and tax payer of Billings, specifically for Ms. Aguirre's ward.

I'm writing to implore city council to NOT COOPERATE with ICE. They are have consistently fomented chaos, fear, and anger within our communities. This is aptly demonstrated by the shooting of Renee Good and several other individuals fighting to protect their neighbors in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They pose a THREAT to the community, and they do not make us safer.

I want to be a city that is welcoming, loving, and peaceful to ALL of our neighbors, and I hope city council would want the same. No Montanan in their right mind would disagree with that statement or support ICE terrorizing our neighbors or continue to let the federal government exercise its overreach of power. Thank you for your time.

**Bailey Nickoloff**

[nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com](mailto:nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com) | (406) 478-3205

Pronouns: they/them

**From:** [Megan Foote](#)  
**To:** [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49:00 PM

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I'm very, very concerned that undertrained ICE officers will come to Billings and create havoc here. They have sprayed tear gas on the street in other cities, with no plan on ways to clean it up. We already have too many superfund sites that we are not able to clean up.

Do you have a plan for how to clean up tear gas before it becomes a permanent part of our city? I'm concerned that we will all have nerve damage and endocrine disruptions along with many stillbirths and miscarriages.

Thank you,

Megan Foote  
406-898-7359

**From:** [Jessica Addair](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in our town  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:28:46 PM

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Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to express my deep concern and disappointment at the possibility that our town may choose to stand with those who act as oppressors rather than with those seeking fairness, dignity, and justice. This is not who we are, and it is not who we have ever been.

Our community has a long history of standing up for what is right—even when the choices were difficult, even when doing so meant facing criticism, and even when it would have been easier to remain silent. That legacy is something many of us are proud of. It has shaped our identity and strengthened our sense of shared responsibility.

I urge you to remember that the loudest voices are not always the most representative. A small group with strong opinions does not outweigh the collective values, hopes, and beliefs of the majority who want to see our town continue to uphold fairness and compassion. Leadership means listening beyond volume; it means choosing what is just, not simply what is convenient. At a time when people are watching to see which communities will stand on the right side of history, I ask you to lead with courage, integrity, and respect for all residents. Please do not let our town be remembered for siding with those who harm rather than those who seek healing and equity.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jessica Addair

**From:** [Marianne Smith](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:56:31 PM

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My name is Marianne Smith. I have lived in Billings for over 30yrs. I distinctly remember the not in our town episode with the menorahs in Windows back in 1993. I've lived in a lot of places but never felt so connected to a cause and proud of a community as I did back then.

I was born in America, but my family came to the States from Canada in the 1960's. My parents were Green Card carriers who became citizens legally. We understand the importance of going through the proper channels. That said, we all strongly believe that ICE has no place in Montana! We really don't want to see barely trained ICE agents out there randomly rounding up people based on their skin color etc. That is not who we are as a city and never has been!

We are a place that once believed that these things should not happen in our town. I would like to think that most of us still feel strongly that that kind of aggression or violence does not belong here. Please do not allow ICE to move into our state!

Sincerely,

M Smith

**From:** [B Harrington](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No thanks on ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:01:45 PM

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Hi, my name is Rebecca Harrington and I'm a Billings resident. I have heard that city Council has been receiving emails encouraging cooperation with ICE, and I am very concerned about this issue. Even if I were too set aside my beliefs about ICE as a general tool of propaganda, there are issues going on with ICE That go beyond what is political and enter into the realm of irresponsibility and civil rights violations.

The irresponsibility and civil rights violations of ICE are bipartisan concerns. Firstly, several unnecessary deaths have taken place as a result of this federal enforcement agency, and it seems that our federal government is trying to sweep these under the rug as unpreventable and appropriate, and if we have the opportunity on a city or state level to deny this lie and egregious use of force, we should.

I think so much of the problem with ICE going way outside the bounds of the law is because there is VERY little accountability or opportunity for recourse in the case that they break laws and violate civil rights. I also find their recruiting strategies appalling as they market the opportunity wield a gun and "play cops" while making great money and simultaneously not undergoing the training to be a cop or anything remotely close to law enforcement before they are put on the job. Their training is between four and eight weeks, and those who are put on the job are not properly vetted. These are not the right people and they are not trained appropriately to do their job safely. That is the best case scenario. The best case scenario is if I trust their intentions and believe they just want to make money at a government job, and generally speaking I do not trust their intentions because of the beliefs being dispersed among this agency via Kristy Noem. I do not trust an agency that does public facing work, but refuses to show their faces in public so that they can avoid accountability. I do not trust an agency that does not have a structure to hold its agents accountable via badge numbers and body cams. I do not trust an agency that is willing to put failed cops and power hungry men on the street and risk harming US citizens. I do not want to be shot or assaulted in my own town and have my parents hear about it on the news well our head of homeland security says that it was necessary. I do not want to live in a town like this.

Even if you are concerned about the illegal immigrants, please hear my concerns about the quality and validity of this agency and the problematic potential of cooperative work with them. This is a risk to billing citizens.

—Rebecca Harrington



**From:** [Jean Braden](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Non cooperation with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 6:10:49 PM

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To our Mayor and Council Members,

As a long time resident and Health Care Provider in this beautiful city of ours, I am requesting that we not get our professional police force involved with any aspect of ICE. They should not be subjected to the hoodlums they have recruited for ICE. They are a danger to any community they enter and are an embarrassment and shameful face to this country.

Respectfully yours,

Jean Braden

1809 Kamton Court

Billings MT 59106

406-591-5816

**From:** [Sarah Cox](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Federal Immigration Enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:29:24 PM

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To whom it may concern,

As a Billings resident, active community member, and mother, I am writing to formally express my strong dissent to ICE operations in Billings.

ICE has caused chaos and violence in every city they've stepped foot in, and it's only seeming to progress. Following the deaths of Keith Porter and Renee Nicole Good, as well as the multitude of deaths, injuries, and violations of civil and human rights that have occurred during detainments and within ICE custody, it is blatantly obvious that ICE is undertrained and will cause disruption and destruction if they come to our city.

The fear they cause is palpable. As a mother, I'm scared. My son does not deserve to witness the atrocities that are being committed by this lawless group of agents.

I recently saw this report: a family was in their car trying to get away from the violence of the raids going on. There was 6 children inside including a 6mo baby. ICE threw tear gas into & underneath of their car, sending 3 of the 6 children to the hospital and causing the 6mo baby to stop breathing. I have not seen an update on whether or not the baby survived. There have also been reports of animal neglect by agents. I read about a dog adoption that took place, unfortunately the location went unmentioned, but agents left behind the pets of a family they'd taken. They left behind nursing dog and its litter of puppies. Nobody knew what happened until neighbors heard the screams of the dogs and finally broke into the house to free them.

There are an innumerable amount of cases like this... people being hurt, lives being endangered, rights being ignored. ICE's violence does not only affect criminals and immigrants. Women, children, men, infants, animals, disabled folks, citizens and noncitizens alike... every single demographic of people has been targeted by ICE. They instill fear, cause harm and destruction, and kill.

I urge you to decline any cooperation or compliance with federal immigration enforcement, and I urge you to prohibit the use of city resources to aid in their efforts.

We must ensure the safety and wellbeing of all of our residents, and keeping ICE off of our streets is a vital part of doing so.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**From:** [Luke Goodwin](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Cc:** [goodwinluke87@gmail.com](mailto:goodwinluke87@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Actions and the Erosion of Civil Liberties  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:25:08 PM

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Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a Billings resident to formally oppose any cooperation, endorsement, or facilitation of current ICE actions occurring at the local, state, or federal level.

Recent ICE operations have gone far beyond reasonable or humane enforcement of immigration law. These actions increasingly resemble mass surveillance, intimidation, and punishment without due process—hallmarks of authoritarian governance, not a constitutional democracy. When federal agencies operate with minimal transparency, limited accountability, and expanding discretionary power, the result is a dangerous erosion of civil liberties for everyone, not just immigrants.

History shows that democracies do not collapse overnight. They decline gradually through the normalization of excessive enforcement, the weakening of judicial oversight, and the quiet expansion of executive power. What we are witnessing now is a slow but unmistakable shift away from constitutional norms under the Trump administration—one that has already caused lasting damage to America's moral standing and international credibility.

The United States has long claimed leadership through adherence to the rule of law, due process, and human rights. Aggressive ICE actions—particularly those involving family separation, detention without adequate legal access, workplace raids, and cooperation pressure placed on local governments—directly contradict those principles. They also undermine community trust, making cities less safe by discouraging residents from reporting crimes or seeking emergency services.

Local governments are not powerless in this moment. Cities and counties across the country have chosen to:

- Refuse voluntary cooperation with ICE beyond what is legally required
- Decline participation in detention or transfer agreements
- Prioritize community safety and constitutional protections over political pressure

I urge Billings officials to take a clear and public stand against ICE overreach and to affirm that our city will not be complicit in actions that undermine due process, civil liberties, or human dignity.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a constitutional one. Silence or neutrality in the face of authoritarian drift is itself a choice—and history is not kind to those who stood by while democratic norms were dismantled.

I ask you to publicly clarify Billings' position, limit cooperation with ICE to what is strictly required by law, and affirm your commitment to protecting the rights and safety of all residents.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Luke Goodwin

Billings, Montana

**From:** [Jay Liudahl](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Enforcement in Billings – Ward 1 Property Owner, To the Honorable Members of the Billings City Council  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:20:31 PM

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As a property owner of two locations within **Ward 1**, I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to ICE enforcement and operations within our city limits.

The recent tragic death of Renee Good has made it devastatingly clear that ICE personnel are insufficiently trained to operate safely within our community. Their presence currently poses an imminent threat to public safety and the well-being of all Billings residents.

I am asking the City Council to:

- **Formally decline** any voluntary cooperation or compliance with ICE operations.
- **Prohibit** the use of city resources or law enforcement personnel to assist in federal immigration enforcement.

Our city's priority must be the safety of its people. Ensuring that federal agencies with inadequate training do not operate within our city is a necessary step toward that goal.

Respectfully,

Jonathan D. Liudahl, Ward 1 Constituent 935 N 25th St. & 2024 11th Ave. N.

(406)534-9164

**From:** [Walter Koch](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billibgsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billibgsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please do not support I.C.E.  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:46:52 PM

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Good afternoon,

I am writing in hopes that Billings will stand with its entire community and not provide support for I.C.E's harassment of the city.

Remember the spirit of Not in our Town. We are better than the destruction and hate I.C.E brings.

Thank you,

**From:** [Corinne Day](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please keep the Energy and Conservation Commission  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 6:29:49 PM

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Dear Council Members,

I urge you to continue the work of the Energy and Conservation Commission that has helped Billings to achieve LEED certification and generate savings for the city by investing in sustainable infrastructure that is good for the whole community. As a resident of Billings who enjoys spending time outdoors - and with children who will grow up to inherit the city we leave for them - it is of utmost importance to me to ensure that Billings is a place that takes energy conservation, waste management, and water treatment seriously. Being conscious of these imperatives means we will have cleaner air to breathe when we go for walks and hit the trails and that our city will save money that it can invest back into our community.

Regards,  
Corinne Day  
1631 Cook Avenue, 59102

"Let your food be your medicine and your medicine be your food." ~Hippocrates

**From:** [Margo Puma](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public safety concerns  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:22:58 PM

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Billings City Council,

Thank you for your service to Billings as council members, and for attending to best practices to safeguard residents/visitors. I am writing to you regarding ICE and CBP coming into Billings to detain and arrest people, as has been seen in other cities. I hope that the City of Billings not coordinate with, nor support the efforts of, ICE and BPC. Their blatant disregard for public safety, due process, laws, and contempt for common decency is well-documented. Please do not get Billings enmeshed with ICE.

Respectfully,  
Margo Puma  
Concerned citizen



**From:** [Juanita R](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request That Billings Not Cooperate With ICE Enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:54:11 PM

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Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a Billings resident to respectfully urge the City Council to ensure that the City of Billings and the Billings Police Department do not cooperate with ICE enforcement activities.

Over many years, the Billings Police Department has worked to build positive, trust-based relationships with the people it serves. That trust is essential to public safety. When community members feel safe interacting with local law enforcement—reporting crimes, serving as witnesses, and seeking help—our entire city is safer. Cooperation with ICE risks undermining that trust and undoing years of progress.

In addition, city and police resources are already stretched to the limit. Our officers and municipal services should be focused on addressing local public safety needs, responding to emergencies, and serving the community—not diverting limited time, staffing, and funding to federal immigration enforcement. Such diversion would place unnecessary strain on an already overburdened system and reduce the effectiveness of local services.

I am deeply concerned about the social disruption and community harm we are seeing in other cities, including Minneapolis. The chaos, fear, and damage that follow aggressive immigration enforcement are not outcomes Billings should invite. Our city has worked hard to foster stability and cooperation, and those efforts should be protected.

I am also particularly troubled by the targeting of Native American citizens in immigration enforcement actions. Billings has a large Native population, and any policies or practices that result in racial profiling or the harassment of Indigenous people are unacceptable. No resident should be made to feel unsafe or questioned about their right to be here based on appearance or heritage.

Local law enforcement exists to serve and protect the community—not to carry out federal immigration enforcement. I urge the City Council to take a clear stand in support of community trust, public safety, responsible use of resources, and the rights and dignity of all Billings residents by refusing cooperation with ICE.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our city.

Sincerely,

Juanita Rathbun  
Billings Resident and taxpayer

**From:** [Charlotte Hamilton](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Strongly Against Cooperation with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:01:14 PM

---



Good afternoon City Council Members,

I am a resident of Billings and a homeowner here since 2020, and I helped canvas for you during last year's election.

I am writing you to urge you to please, please do what you can to keep Billings residents safe from ICE and any organizations like it. Please don't cooperate with them willingly.

I was born in Billings in 1991 and one of the points of pride that I have about my home town is that we are the "Not In Our Town" town. I'm begging you to please do everything in your power to maintain that legacy and show the minorities in our city that we are one community that is stronger together because of our diversity of perspectives.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter,  
Lyndsey Blohm

**From:** [Shannon Reiser](#)  
**To:** [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] We DO NOT support ICE activities in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:41:07 PM

---



Dear Mayor Nelson and Billings City Council members,

I am writing to implore you to NOT SUPPORT the presence of ICE agents in our community. While I understand the primary purpose of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and their intended job duties, this new "breed" of ICE agents are being hired without vetting; are untrained and are now listed as "immune" from the consequences of their extremely violent actions.

We have seen again and again how much violence and havoc they are bringing down on ANYONE who even appears to be in their path. Citizens, children, elderly people, being kicked in the face, beaten, pepper sprayed, shot with rubber bullets and killed with actual firearms. Many people are being torn from their homes, schools, and jobs, and kidnapped/disappeared at alarming rates.

We have already had cases here in Montana of legal citizens being detained without due process, and without any communication with family members. Detainees are being held in inhumane conditions, at for profit facilities and being harmed or even unalived with no consequences to the aggressors.

Do not place yourselves on the WRONG side of history. Do not support the violation of individuals' Federal Constitutional rights, or their Montana Constitutional rights. Do not become part of the support for these horrific CRIMES against humans.

We have heard again and again how our local law enforcement is understaffed and underfunded. Our jails are FAR over capacity and those corrections officers tapped thin. Billings should not SEEK to invite this type of violence to our community members.

Say NO to these illegal activities in our community and no to violent crimes against our community members. ALL OF our community members.

Thank you,  
Shay Reiser  
Billings Resident

**From:** [Keehner, Toni](#)  
**To:** [.MayorAndCouncil](#)  
**Subject:** 1/20/2026 Work Session Packet  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 11:13:51 AM

---

Good morning,

The City Council Agenda Packet for the upcoming Work Session has been published and posted to the City's website at the link below:

[January 20, 2026 Work Session](#)

Please note the meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, January 20, 2026** due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

Thank you,



Toni Keehner  
Deputy City Clerk  
[keehnert@billingsmt.gov](mailto:keehnert@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

**316 North 26<sup>th</sup> Street**  
P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.247.8605 F 406.657.8390

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**From:** [Bohlman, Denise](#)  
**To:** [Council](#)  
**Cc:** [R. Rogers](#); [Yellowstone County News](#); [Lindsey Nun](#); [Tim Harrington \(timh@comm7tv.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Packet for Regular Business Meeting - January 26, 2026  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 11:08:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

Good morning, Mayor and Council,

The Agenda Packet for the January 26, 2026 Regular Business Meeting has been posted and published and is available for your review at the link below:

[January 26, 2026 Agenda Packet](#)

As a reminder, Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> City Offices will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) day.



Enjoy your weekend!



**Denise R. Bohlman**  
City Clerk, CMC  
[bohlmand@billingsmt.gov](mailto:bohlmand@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

316 N. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103  
P 406.657.8210 F 406.657.8390

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**From:** [Maddox, Wynnette](#)  
**To:** [.MayorAndCouncil](#); [.Leadership Team](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Burns](#)  
**Subject:** CA Weekly Report  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:10:35 PM

---

Good evening.

The January 16, 2026, Weekly Report is available at the following link:

<https://www.billingsmt.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/19236>

Thanks.

	<i>wynnette Maddox</i> Executive Secretary <a href="mailto:maddoxw@billingsmt.gov">maddoxw@billingsmt.gov</a>
<a href="http://billingsmt.gov">billingsmt.gov</a>	P.O. Box 1178 • Billings, MT 59103 P 406.657.8433 F 406.657.8390

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*My hours are Monday – Thursday 7 AM – 5 PM*

**From:** [Biggins, Becky](#)  
**To:** [Aguirre, Amy](#); [McLain, Andrew](#); [arcmtdutyList@redcross.org](mailto:arcmtdutyList@redcross.org); [Aspenlieder, Scott](#); [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Boyett, Mike](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Dan Paris - SO \(dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov\)](mailto:dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov); [Dennler, Jeremy](#); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1](#); [Fire2](#); [Fire3](#); [Fire4](#); [Fire5](#); [Fire6](#); [Fire7](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Gary Burke](#); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Gudmundson, Clayton](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoeger, Tina](#); [Hofer, Mary](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Jagers, Justin](#); [Kennedy, Bill](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVO \(Jay, David\) \(djay@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVO \(news@ktvq.com\)](mailto:news@ktvq.com); [KUJL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](mailto:newsradio970@yahoo.com); [Kukulski, Chris \(KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)\)](mailto:news@kulr.com); [Lennick, Matthew](#); [Lindley, Andrew](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lowe, Chris](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [Michael](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\) \(montananews@journalist.com\)](#); [Neese, Roy](#); [Nicholson, Mark](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#); [Pitman, Denis](#); [Rob Rogers](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Shaw, Kendra](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [Topete, Cheryl](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn \(turnerfitz@aol.com\)](#); [Valdez, Pepper](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATE](#); [Yeager, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** Structure Fire at 13 1/2 Monroe St.  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 12:31:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE 13.5 Monroe St.pdf](#)

---

All,

Please see the attached media release for the structure fire this evening at 13 ½ Monroe St.



**Becky Biggins**  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[bigginsb@billingsmt.gov](mailto:bigginsb@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
**P** 406.657.8429

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**BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/16/2026	TIME	0156 Hours
LOCATION	13 ½ Monroe St.	SUITE / APT / UNIT	A
BUSINESS	N/A		
INCIDENT TYPE	BUILDING FIRE	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026 - 00710

**INCIDENT DESCRIPTION**

A fire incident occurred in an outbuilding at this address. It was reported by an occupant of the complex. The building contained a water heater which was malfunctioning and overheating. Upon arrival, the fire department found a water heater with an orange glow at the access door located at the bottom of the unit, and discoloration to the exterior of the water heater up the side. The building sustained minor smoke damage.

The incident was dispatched as a building investigation. Engine 2 and Engine 4 were dispatched to the scene, but Engine 2 cancelled Engine 4 after they had assessed and handled the situation.

**COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED**

*Please keep in mind that a presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL BECKY BIGGINS	
PHONE	406-657-8429	EMAIL	bigginsb@billingsmt.gov



**From:** [Biggins, Becky](#)  
**To:** [Aguirre, Amy](#); [McLain, Andrew](#); [arcmdutyList@redcross.org](#); [Aspenlieder, Scott](#); [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Boyett, Mike](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Dan Paris - SO \(dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov\)](#); [Dennler, Jeremy](#); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1](#); [Fire2](#); [Fire3](#); [Fire4](#); [Fire5](#); [Fire6](#); [Fire7](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Gary Burke](#); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Gudmundson, Clayton](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoeger, Tina](#); [Hofer, Mary](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Jagers, Justin](#); [Kennedy, Bill](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVO \(Jay, David\) \(djay@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVO \(news@ktvq.com\)](#); [KUJL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kukulski, Chris](#); [KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)](#); [Lennick, Matthew](#); [Lindley, Andrew](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lowe, Chris](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [Michael](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\) \(montananews@journalist.com\)](#); [Neese, Roy](#); [Nicholson, Mark](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#); [Pitman, Denis](#); [Rob Rogers](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Shaw, Kendra](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [Topete, Cheryl](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn \(turnerfitz@aol.com\)](#); [Valdez, Pepper](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATE](#); [Yeager, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** Structure fire located at 708 12th St. W.  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 12:42:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE 708 12th St. W.pdf](#)

---

All,

Please see the attached media release for the structure fire this morning at 708 12<sup>th</sup> St. W.



**Becky Biggins**  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[bigginsb@billingsmt.gov](mailto:bigginsb@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
P 406.657.8429

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BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
**FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/16/2026	TIME	0606 Hours
LOCATION	708 12 <sup>th</sup> St. W.	SUITE / APT / UNIT	8
BUSINESS	N/A		
INCIDENT TYPE	BUILDING FIRE	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026 - 00713

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

A fire occurred in the bathroom of this apartment. The fire was caused by combustible materials coming into contact with a wall-mounted heating unit. No injuries were reported. The fire was discovered by the occupant and extinguished with an ABC fire extinguisher located in the hallway outside of the apartment. The structure sustained minor fire damage in the bathroom and some minor smoke damage throughout. A full structure fire response was dispatched, consisting of four engine companies, one truck company, one Battalion Chief, a Safety Officer and an ambulance. Engine 4, Engine 3, and AMR made it on scene before cancelling the rest of the incoming units.

COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED

*Please keep in mind that a presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

This fire serves as a reminder of the importance of Fire Extinguishers. All commercial buildings, including apartment complexes are required to have mounted and inspected fire extinguishers available within 75 feet of travel from anywhere within the structure. The presence of a working and accessible extinguisher in the hallway of this residence along with the quick action of the occupant likely significantly reduced the amount of damage that this fire would have otherwise caused.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL BECKY BIGGINS	
PHONE	406-657-8429	EMAIL	bigginsb@billingsmt.gov

**From:** [Ekblad, Andy](#)  
**To:** [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Cole, Bill](#); [Dan Paris - SO \(dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov\)](#); [Dennler, Jeremy](#); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Ekblad, Andy](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1](#); [Fire2](#); [Fire3](#); [Fire4](#); [Fire5](#); [Fire6](#); [Fire7](#); [Fire8](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Gudmundson, Clayton](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Harper, R D](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoeger, Tina](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Jagers, Justin](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVQ \(Jay, David\) \(djay@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVQ \(news@ktvq.com\)](#); [KUBL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kukulski, Chris](#); [KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lowe, Chris](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [McLain, Andrew](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\) \(montananews@journalist.com\)](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn \(turnerfitz@aol.com\)](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATE](#); [Yeager, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** Media Release 2026-0731  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:09:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE -2026-0731.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-A picture .png](#)

---

Good Evening,

Please review the attached media release for the fire that occurred at 12 Riverside Road. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,



Andy Ekblad M.S., NRP  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[ekblada@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ekblada@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
P 406.237.6193

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**BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/16/2026	TIME	1344 HOURS
LOCATION	12 RIVERSIDE ROAD	SUITE / APT / UNIT	N/A
BUSINESS	WESTERN SUGAR, BTC TRUCKING		
INCIDENT TYPE	BUILDING FIRE	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026-0731

**INCIDENT DESCRIPTION**

A small fire occurred in the boiler room of this shop. Fire damage was limited to the boiler, and smoke damage was limited to the boiler room. Engine 2 responded and assisted in ventilating the structure. Two occupants of the shop were evaluated for smoke inhalation and refused transport to the hospital. The two occupants extinguished the fire with fire extinguishers on site. The cause of this fire is under investigation.

**COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED**

*Please keep in mind that the presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

N/A

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL ANDY EKBLAD	
PHONE	406-237-6193	EMAIL	ekblada@billingsmt.gov

**From:** [Ekblad, Andy](#)  
**To:** [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Cole, Bill](#); [Dan Paris - SO \(dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov\)](#); [Dennler, Jeremy](#); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Ekblad, Andy](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1.](#); [Fire2.](#); [Fire3.](#); [Fire4.](#); [Fire5.](#); [Fire6.](#); [Fire7.](#); [Fire8.](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Gudmundson, Clayton](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Harper, R.D.](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoeger, Tina](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Jagers, Justin](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVO \(Jay, David\) \(djay@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVO \(news@ktvq.com\)](#); [KUBL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kukulski, Chris](#); [KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lowe, Chris](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [McLain, Andrew](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\) \(montananews@journalist.com\)](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn \(turnerfitz@aol.com\)](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATE](#); [Yeager, Derek](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#)  
**Subject:** Media Release 2026-0742  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 10:43:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE -2026- 0742.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-A picture .png](#)

---

Good Evening,

Please review the attached media release for the tractor-trailer fire that occurred on I-90. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,



Andy Ekblad M.S., NRP  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[ekblada@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ekblada@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
P 406.237.6193

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**BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/16/2026	TIME	1929 HOURS
LOCATION	MM 447 I-90	SUITE / APT / UNIT	N/A
BUSINESS	EXPEDITE TRUCKING		
INCIDENT TYPE	VEHICLE FIRE	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026-0742

**INCIDENT DESCRIPTION**

A fire occurred in the trailer portion of a tractor-trailer. The semi was not involved in the fire. The fire started outside the cargo compartment in the wheel assembly and extended into the cargo compartment while this truck was traveling west on I-90. Engine 4, Engine 5, a Battalion Chief, Truck 1, and Tender 1 were initially dispatched. E4 extinguished most of the fire from the exterior before opening the trailer and extinguishing fire that extended inside. No injuries were reported from this fire. The cause is under investigation.

**COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED**

*Please keep in mind that the presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

N/A

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL ANDY EKBLAD	
PHONE	406-237-6193	EMAIL	ekblada@billingsmt.gov

**From:** [Ekblad, Andy](#)  
**To:** [Bentz, Kevin](#); [Biggins, Becky](#); [Council](#); [Cole, Bill](#); [Dan Paris - SO \(dparis@yellowstonecountymt.gov\)](#); [Dennler, Jeremy](#); [Desroches, Kayla](#); [Ekblad, Andy](#); [Fender, Jaime](#); [Fire1.](#); [Fire2.](#); [Fire3.](#); [Fire4.](#); [Fire5.](#); [Fire6.](#); [Fire7.](#); [Fire8.](#); [Frank Fritz](#); [Gazette, Billings \(E-mail\)](#); [Green, Dave](#); [Gudmundson, Clayton](#); [Hallam, Steven](#); [Harper, R.D.](#); [Haynie, Jessica](#); [Hoeger, Tina](#); [Hoiness, Cassie](#); [Hoppel, Matt](#); [Hunt, Travis](#); [Iffland, Kevin](#); [Jagers, Justin](#); [Kent, Jay](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); [KTVO \(Jay, David\) \(djay@ktvq.com\)](#); [KTVO \(news@ktvq.com\)](#); [KUBL-970 \(newsradio970@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kukulski, Chris](#); [KULR8 \(news@kulr.com\)](#); [Love, Jeff](#); [Lowe, Chris](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Martinez, Priscilla](#); [McLain, Andrew](#); [Mitchell, Darrek](#); [Morgan, Tyrone](#); [MT News \(Cyphers, Donald\) \(montananews@journalist.com\)](#); [Card, Tanya](#); [Robertus, Justin](#); [Swing, BC](#); [Tate, John](#); [Turner Fitzgerald, Lynn \(turnerfitz@aol.com\)](#); [Wakeupmt](#); [Williams, Stephen ATE](#); [Yeager, Derek](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [O'Donnell, Tony](#)  
**Subject:** Media Release 2026-0747  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 11:01:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [MEDIA RELEASE -2026-0747.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-A picture .png](#)

---

Good Evening,

Please review the attached media release for the trash fire that occurred at 1601 Central Avenue. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,



Andy Ekblad M.S., NRP  
Deputy Fire Marshal  
[ekblada@billingsmt.gov](mailto:ekblada@billingsmt.gov)

[billingsmt.gov](http://billingsmt.gov)

2305 8th Ave N.  
Billings, MT 59101  
P 406.237.6193

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City of Billings email messages and attachments are subject to the Right to Know provisions of Montana's Constitution (Art. II, Sec. 9) and may be considered a "public record" pursuant to Title 2, Chapter 6, Montana Code Annotated. As such, this email, its sender and receiver, and the contents may be available for public disclosure and will be retained pursuant to the City's record retention policies. Emails that contain confidential information such as information related to individual privacy may be protected from disclosure under law. This message is intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient of this transmission, please notify the sender immediately, do not forward the message to anyone, and delete all copies. Thank you.



**BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL  
FIRE INVESTIGATION MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE	1/16/2026	TIME	2004 HOURS
LOCATION	1601 CENTRAL AVENUE	SUITE / APT / UNIT	N/A
BUSINESS	SUNSET BOWL		
INCIDENT TYPE	OTHER - SEE INCIDENT DESCRIPTION	INCIDENT NUMBER	2026-0747

**INCIDENT DESCRIPTION**

A fire occurred in the dumpster of this business. The fire did not extend beyond the dumpster but destroyed the plastic lid for the container. Engine 2 responded and extinguished this fire. No injuries were reported. This fire is under investigation.

**COMMENTS, OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED**

*Please keep in mind that the presence of law enforcement doesn't always mean an incident is criminal. Unless advised otherwise in these comments, any questions concerning this investigation should first go through the Fire Prevention Bureau contact listed at the bottom of this form.*

N/A

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU INVESTIGATOR		DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL ANDY EKBLAD	
PHONE	406-237-6193	EMAIL	ekblada@billingsmt.gov



**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Anne KM Ross](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Comment regarding ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:50:40 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Anne KM Ross <[annekmross@pm.me](mailto:annekmross@pm.me)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:56 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment regarding ICE

Dear City Counselors and Mayor Nelson,

My name is Anne Ross and I reside in the Southwest Corridor of Billings and was born and raised in this city.

It is devastating to watch the chaos and brutality unfolding in the US right now in regards to the activities of ICE agents in Minneapolis and elsewhere. ICE is NOT law enforcement and they show that by disregarding all rules and standards that our police force follows in their interactions with the public. It is unlawful to shoot into a car, even when there's a chance that an officer may be hit by that car. It is unlawful to use deadly force to shoot people when they are fleeing from agents, but we see that ICE is employing these tactics. They are breaking car windows without any cause and violently pulling people from them. They are arresting people without warrants or just cause, many for simply being present at the scene of an ICE operation. ICE

is preventing the service of people's rights to due process and forcefully preventing injured people from receiving emergency and potentially life saving medical care. All of this is meant to terrorize residents and prevent them from exercising their 1st ammendment rights to free speech. They are abusing, arresting and threatening people by arriving at their homes and threatening their families via running license plates when citizens lawfully follow ICE and record their actions as non-obstructive observers.

All of this is to say that not only am I asking you to forbid any partnership with ICE, the masked secret police demanding to see people's papers and murdering them if they try to escape a gun pointed in their face; I am also asking that you publicly, and through any possible policy actions commit to directing our city police officers to immediately apprehend and arrest any ICE agents who violate the rights of people in our Billings community. I encourage our police force to approach the ICE forces with safety in mind, utilizing any safety equipment necessary to preserve the lives of our officers in the event one of these erratic and unhinged ICE agents might turn their guns on police. The police have signed on to serve and protect the citizens and residents of Billings, and I fully expect that our tax dollars and city resources are used to do just that and mitigate the horrific violence that will inevitably come for our town when they have finished in other places.

The Gestappo is coming, and we desperately need you to hold the line, even if that brings fear to your heart. We need the love in our hearts for our shared humanity and committment to democracy to prevail over all things. They will not stop at people with brown skin, the LGBTQ+ community, Jews, Muslims and people with disabilities. They will come for each and every one of us.

I will mention that I have heard rumors of certain members laughing or smirking when being pressed on this issue. I expect that it is deeply uncomfortable to govern in this time, and sometimes these types of reactions are not intentional, but people are dying and we need to hold onto reverence for life, and respect the calls for true law and order, true public safety and the relentless protection of our human rights.

Kind regards,

Anne Ross

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for Android.

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Rae Piwarski](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Concerned Mom and Neighbor: No ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:50:02 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Rae Piwarski <piwarskirae@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:35 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Concerned Mom and Neighbor: No ICE in Billings



Hello,

My name is Rae. I love this city. My husband loves this city. Our children love this city.

My family believes that ICE has no place here and that our police budget is more than adequate to address crime here. Please discourage ICE from coming here at all costs.

We are a place that has advocated Not in Our Town for decades. Let's keep up this principled energy in 2026.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Rae Piwarski and Adam Sletten

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Candace Forrette](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Do not cooperate with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:05:48 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.


In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Candace Forrette <candaceforretteart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 9, 2026 10:21 AM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Do not cooperate with ICE

  
Dear BPD, Mayor Nelson, and Billings City Council:

Please do not agree to cooperate with ICE in any way.

BPD has worked hard for many years to build and maintain the community's trust and it has not been easy. I don't believe they can be effective if they do not maintain a certain level of trust. This can not be done if the City and the BPD are working with ICE, These folks have proven themselves to be out of control and have destabilized many communities. A case in point is in Minneapolis with the killing of Renee Good.

I am horrified at what I am seeing taking place. The additional gas lighting and makes it even worse. My friends and family in Minneapolis are horrified and frightened. Is this what we want for Billings? I think not.

I do not want local law enforcement put in the position of helping with violent and

probably unlawful tactics. Why would we want to task our public servants to be put in that position? I don't think we do.

This whole thing is going to get worse before it gets better and many innocent people are in danger. I pray for peaceful resolutions. Please do all you can to ensure the safety of the public. This includes everyone in our community.

Thank you.

Candace Forrette

Billings

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [April Moffet](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:07:24 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** April Moffet <[april.moffet@yahoo.com](mailto:april.moffet@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings

To Whom it May Concern,

As a constituent and taxpayer in **Billings**, I am writing to ask that the City Council formally decline to participate in federal immigration enforcement activities with ICE.

I believe our local tax dollars and police resources should stay focused on local priorities—such as education, infrastructure, and community programs—rather than doing the work of a federal agency. Diverting our city's limited resources to assist ICE is not only a fiscal burden but also runs contrary to the welcoming values of our community.

Please take steps to ensure that **Billings** remains a place where all residents can live and work without fear of unnecessary surveillance or detention.

Best regards,

**April Burnham**

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)



**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [John Andre](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [BPD](#); [Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Vicki Andre](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:04:08 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

-----Original Message-----

From: John Andre <johncandre@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 11:10 AM  
To: Nelson, Mike <NelsonM@billingsmt.gov>; BPD, <bpd@billingsmt.gov>; Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
Cc: Vicki Andre <vickilandre59@gmail.com>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings

Dear Mayor Nelson, Chief St. John, and members of the Billings City Council.

Yesterday was a dark day. In Minneapolis, Minnesota, an ICE agent brutally shot and killed an innocent woman. I am sure you all have seen the video of this egregious, horrific event, and I would hope that all of you would agree that this was an excessive, unnecessary act of violence, despite what President Trump and Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristie Noem, would like us to believe. Video reveals this to be a murderous act at the hands of a poorly trained and reckless agent of the federal government. This action is part of a highly disturbing trend of the militarization of our government against both immigrants to, and citizens of our country. Although Immigration and Customs Enforcement does not have a high profile yet here in Billings, it seems only a matter of time before they are present and visible. I strongly implore you all, as representatives of our local government, to take a firm stand for the rule of law here in Billings, and a stand against the disregard of law currently practiced by this agency. We are proud of the work that you all do for us here in Yellowstone County, and believe that your words and actions against this sort of federal government overreach is needed. Thank you all, in advance, for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Andre  
Vicki L. Andre

**From:** [April Moffet](#)  
**To:** [Aguirre, Amy](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:19:08 PM

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Thank you for your reply, Amy. It seems that ICE may already be here as they were supposedly seen at the west end Billings Walmart today. Of course I realize that may just be rumor, but it is deeply concerning. Especially considering how things are escalating in Minnesota.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

On Fri, Jan 16, 2026 at 5:07 PM, Aguirre, Amy  
<[AguirreA@billingsmt.gov](mailto:AguirreA@billingsmt.gov)> wrote:

Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** April Moffet <[aprilm.moffet@yahoo.com](mailto:aprilm.moffet@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE in Billings

To Whom it May Concern,

As a constituent and taxpayer in **Billings**, I am writing to ask that the City Council formally decline to participate in federal immigration enforcement activities with ICE.

I believe our local tax dollars and police resources should stay focused on local priorities—such as education, infrastructure, and community programs—rather than doing the work of a federal agency. Diverting our city's limited resources to assist ICE is not only a fiscal burden but also runs contrary to the welcoming values of our community.

Please take steps to ensure that **Billings** remains a place where all residents can live and

work without fear of unnecessary surveillance or detention.

Best regards,

**April Burnham**

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Shelly Stanley-Lehman](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE terrorizing Montana  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:48:18 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Shelly Stanley-Lehman <slstanleylehman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:33 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE terrorizing Montana

Attention council members:

Please stand up for ALL of Billings residents. We are counting on you all to do the right thing.

Creating a false enemy in human beings is not American. Can't you SEE history repeating itself. Shame on US.

If you have not listened to the Sascha Riley interviews YOU are choosing to be ignorant and support the behavior of the sickest monster on earth .

Billings does not need these ICE created deaths and anti-American (Israel's IDF) tactics killing and terrifying human beings!

I pray you all find humanity in your hearts and do the right thing. Not politically motivated or racists, just human decency.

Look deeper inside yourselves to be better than accepting this regime.

SLSL

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Breeze Moore](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:51:27 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Breeze Moore <breezemore@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:20 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE



Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a concerned resident to express my opposition to any request or action that would invite Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to operate within the City of Billings beyond what is already required by federal law.

Local government exists to serve and protect the people who live, work, and raise families here. Involving ICE in city matters undermines public safety by discouraging members of our community from reporting crimes, cooperating with law enforcement, or seeking emergency

assistance out of fear. When trust between residents and local institutions is weakened, everyone is less safe.

I urge the City Council to reject any request to bring ICE into Billings city operations and to publicly affirm a commitment to policies that protect the rights, safety, and dignity of all residents.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Breeze Uzelac

Billings Resident

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [shelly theroux](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:51:16 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** shelly theroux <therouxshelly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:38 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE



To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Billings and Yellowstone county. Please I beg of you to not get involved with ICE! The way they are conducting themselves is absolutely abhorrent, unethical and unconstitutional! Our city is better than this, and we have an amazing immigrant community! It is our duty as human beings to make sure the things that are happening in our cities do not happen in ours!

Thank you,

Shelly Theroux



**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Christine Stovall](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:33:51 PM

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Hello Christine, thank you for reaching out. I believe that all citizens deserve to practice their freedom of speech and speak their truth to power.

I read your email and while I do not agree with your viewpoint, please know you have been heard.

As a woman of color, I am as worried as any other non-white person about the damage ICE agents can and do bring to a community. They are illegally profiling people and denying them their constitutional rights. People are literally dying by their hands as well as by their neglect.

When I see a citizen being mistreated, abused, or otherwise manhandled this way, no matter what, I will always see them as human beings first. I pray you can see this issue in this way, too.

In Peace,

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Christine Stovall <c2jerm@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 7:12 AM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE

  
Dear Esteemed Officials,

My name is Christine Stovall, and a native Montanan. I am writing to convey my profound concern regarding the enforcement of immigration laws within our state and its potential implications for our communities.

I believe it is paramount that all individuals residing within Montana have undergone the necessary legal vetting processes as prescribed by federal immigration statutes. There is a growing apprehension among many citizens, myself included, that the presence of individuals whose immigration status has not been formally verified

through established legal channels could pose challenges to public safety and place undue strain on our state's resources and social services.

I advocate for robust collaboration between state and federal authorities, including agencies such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), to uphold and consistently enforce national immigration policies within Montana. It is my firm conviction that a rigorous and transparent verification process is essential to safeguard the security and well-being of all Montanans.

Our nation's immigration framework is designed to provide structured and orderly pathways for those seeking to enter and reside in the United States. When these established procedures are bypassed, it creates vulnerabilities within our system and can undermine the rule of law. It is crucial that all entries into our state and country adhere strictly to these legal frameworks to ensure accountability and national integrity.

I respectfully request that immediate and decisive measures be taken to address these pressing concerns. By reinforcing the legal framework of our immigration system, we can better protect Montana's communities, its future, and the safety of its citizens.

Sincerely,  
Christine Stovall

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [shelly theroux](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:51:43 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** shelly theroux <therouxshelly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:38 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ICE



To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Billings and Yellowstone county. Please I beg of you to not get involved with ICE! The way they are conducting themselves is absolutely abhorrent, unethical and unconstitutional! Our city is better than this, and we have an amazing immigrant community! It is our duty as human beings to make sure the things that are happening in our cities do not happen in ours!

Thank you,

Shelly Theroux

**From:** [Aquirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Breann Castro](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Immigration and custom enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:48:44 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Breann Castro <brenutbutter@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 1:50 PM  
To: Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Immigration and custom enforcement

ATTENTION: Council members

As a proud community member of Billings Mt I believe that is a duty of each and every one of us to stand up and say that ICE is not welcome In our city to abduct our neighbors and fellow community members and if that sort of behavior from so called agents in America today, or maybe it's not the America I taught as growing up. ICE has absolutely no business on the reservations of The indigenous- American Indian.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Marc Stewart](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] No coordination with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:48:34 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Marc Stewart <marcianstewart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:45 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No coordination with ICE



Greetings, Billings City Council,

Thank you for your service to Billings as council members, and for attending to best practices to safeguard residents/visitors. I appeal to you in matters regarding ICE and CBP coming into Billings to detain and arrest people, as has been seen in other cities. I hope that the City of Billings not coordinate with, nor support the efforts of, ICE and BPC. Their destabilizing of civic order and contempt for common decency is well-documented. Please do not get Billings enmeshed with ICE.

Respectfully,  
Rev. Dr. Marc Stewart  
614 Burlington Ave, Billings, MT 59101

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Chanel F](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] NO ICE COOPERATION  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:53:09 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Chanel F <caflores.2001@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:52 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE COOPERATION



Good afternoon, council. I understand that earlier today 1/16/26, federal agents from ICE came to Walmart and detained someone. As a Billings resident, I am appalled by this display of blatant disregard to the cries for help we've seen from the community over the past few weeks.

We don't need the good people at local PD to get mixed up in the affairs of the federal government. What they are doing is illegal, and Billings PD should be dedicated to upholding the law, not assisting rogue agencies in breaking it. The community is coming together to respond to these concerns appropriately and lawfully. We do not want local PD getting involved and we will stand by all members of our community including the police so long as the community stands up for everyone else.

Thank you,

Chanel

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Bailey Nickoloff](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] No ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49:18 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

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I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Bailey Nickoloff <[nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com](mailto:nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:16 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No ICE in Billings



Good afternoon,

My name is Bailey Nickoloff, and I am a constituent and tax payer of Billings, specifically for Ms. Aguirre's ward.

I'm writing to implore city council to NOT COOPERATE with ICE. They have consistently fomented chaos, fear, and anger within our communities. This is aptly demonstrated by the shooting of Renee Good and several other individuals fighting to protect their neighbors in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They pose a THREAT to the community, and they do not make us safer.

I want to be a city that is welcoming, loving, and peaceful to ALL of our neighbors, and I hope city council would want the same. No Montanan in their right mind would



disagree with that statement or support ICE terrorizing our neighbors or continue to let the federal government exercise its overreach of power. Thank you for your time.

**Bailey Nickoloff**

[nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com](mailto:nickoloff.bailey@gmail.com) | (406) 478-3205

Pronouns: they/them

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Jessica Addair](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in our town  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:52:16 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

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I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Jessica Addair <jess6711@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:28 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in our town

Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to express my deep concern and disappointment at the possibility that our town may choose to stand with those who act as oppressors rather than with those seeking fairness, dignity, and justice. This is not who we are, and it is not who we have ever been.

Our community has a long history of standing up for what is right—even when the choices were difficult, even when doing so meant facing criticism, and even when it would have been easier to remain silent. That legacy is something many of us are proud of. It has shaped our identity and strengthened our sense of shared responsibility.

I urge you to remember that the loudest voices are not always the most representative. A small group with strong opinions does not outweigh the collective values, hopes, and beliefs of the majority who want to see our town continue to

uphold fairness and compassion. Leadership means listening beyond volume; it means choosing what is just, not simply what is convenient.

At a time when people are watching to see which communities will stand on the right side of history, I ask you to lead with courage, integrity, and respect for all residents. Please do not let our town be remembered for siding with those who harm rather than those who seek healing and equity.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jessica Addair

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Marianne Smith](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] No ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:53:23 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.


I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Marianne Smith <mtmare17@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:56 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No ICE

  
My name is Marianne Smith. I have lived in Billings for over 30yrs. I distinctly remember the not in our town episode with the menorahs in Windows back in 1993. I've lived in a lot of places but never felt so connected to a cause and proud of a community as I did back then.

I was born in America, but my family came to the States from Canada in the 1960's. My parents were Green Card carriers who became citizens legally. We understand the importance of going through the proper channels. That said, we all strongly believe that ICE has no place in Montana! We really don't want to see barely trained ICE agents out there randomly rounding up people based on their skin color etc. That is not who we are as a city and never has been!

We are a place that once believed that these things should not happen in our town. I

would like to think that most of us still feel strongly that that kind of aggression or violence does not belong here. Please do not allow ICE to move into our state!

Sincerely,

M Smith

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [B Harrington](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] No thanks on ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:08:53 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

-----Original Message-----

From: B Harrington <[becci.harrington@gmail.com](mailto:becci.harrington@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 3:02 PM  
To: Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No thanks on ICE

Hi, my name is Rebecca Harrington and I'm a Billings resident. I have heard that city Council has been receiving emails encouraging cooperation with ICE, and I am very concerned about this issue. Even if I were too set aside my beliefs about ICE as a general tool of propaganda, there are issues going on with ICE That go beyond what is political and enter into the realm of irresponsibility and civil rights violations.

The irresponsibility and civil rights violations of ICE are bipartisan concerns. Firstly, several unnecessary deaths have taken place as a result of this federal enforcement agency, and it seems that our federal government is trying to sweep these under the rug as unpreventable and appropriate, and if we have the opportunity on a city or state level to deny this lie and egregious use of force, we should.

I think so much of the problem with ICE going way outside the bounds of the law is because there is VERY little accountability or opportunity for recourse in the case that they break laws and violate civil rights. I also find their recruiting strategies appalling as they market the opportunity wield a gun and "play cops" while making great money and simultaneously not undergoing the training to be a cop or anything remotely close to law enforcement before they are put on the job. Their training is between four and eight weeks, and those who are put on the job are not properly vetted. These are not the right people and they are not trained appropriately to do their job safely. That is the best case scenario. The best case scenario is if I trust their intentions and believe they just want to make money at a government job, and generally speaking I do not trust their intentions because of the beliefs being dispersed among this agency via Kristy Noem. I do not trust an agency that does public facing work, but refuses to show their faces in public so that they can avoid accountability. I do not trust an agency that does not have a structure to hold its agents accountable via badge numbers and body cams. I do not trust an agency that is willing to put failed cops and power hungry men on the street and risk harming US citizens. I do not want to be shot or assaulted in my own town and have my parents hear about it on the news well our head of homeland security says that it was necessary. I do not want to live in a town like this.

Even if you are concerned about the illegal immigrants, please hear my concerns about the quality and validity of this agency and the problematic potential of cooperative work with them. This is a risk to billing citizens.

—Rebecca Harrington

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Luke Goodwin](#); [Council](#)  
**Cc:** [goodwinluke87@gmail.com](mailto:goodwinluke87@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Actions and the Erosion of Civil Liberties  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:52:00 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Luke Goodwin <mmluke2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:35 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Cc:** [goodwinluke87@gmail.com](mailto:goodwinluke87@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Actions and the Erosion of Civil Liberties



Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a Billings resident to formally oppose any cooperation, endorsement, or facilitation of current ICE actions occurring at the local, state, or federal level.

Recent ICE operations have gone far beyond reasonable or humane enforcement of immigration law. These actions increasingly resemble mass surveillance, intimidation, and punishment without due process—hallmarks of authoritarian governance, not a constitutional democracy. When federal agencies operate with minimal transparency, limited accountability, and expanding discretionary power, the result is a dangerous erosion of civil liberties for everyone, not just immigrants.

History shows that democracies do not collapse overnight. They decline gradually through the normalization of excessive enforcement, the weakening of judicial oversight, and the quiet expansion of executive power. What we are witnessing now is a slow but unmistakable shift away from constitutional norms under the Trump administration—one that has already caused lasting damage to America's moral standing and international credibility.

The United States has long claimed leadership through adherence to the rule of law, due process, and human rights. Aggressive ICE actions—particularly those involving family separation, detention without adequate legal access, workplace raids, and cooperation pressure placed on local governments—directly contradict those principles. They also undermine community trust, making cities less safe by discouraging residents from reporting crimes or seeking emergency services.

Local governments are not powerless in this moment. Cities and counties across the country have chosen to:

- Refuse voluntary cooperation with ICE beyond what is legally required
- Decline participation in detention or transfer agreements
- Prioritize community safety and constitutional protections over political pressure



I urge Billings officials to take a clear and public stand against ICE overreach and to affirm that our city will not be complicit in actions that undermine due process, civil liberties, or human dignity.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a constitutional one. Silence or neutrality in the face of authoritarian drift is itself a choice—and history is not kind to those who stood by while democratic norms were dismantled.

I ask you to publicly clarify Billings' position, limit cooperation with ICE to what is strictly required by law, and affirm your commitment to protecting the rights and safety of all residents.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Luke Goodwin

Billings, Montana

**From:** [Jay Liudahl](#)  
**To:** [Aguirre, Amy](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Enforcement in Billings – Ward 1 Property Owner, To the Honorable Members of the Billings City Council  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:24:59 PM

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Amy,

First off, I want to say thank you for your response to my email. I think it's very telling that you (a council person not from my ward) took the time to answer and respond. That gives me a feeling of hope. I think it's interesting that there seems to be crickets from the representation in my ward. I have felt for quite some time that if we as a community cannot get on the same page with this topic then the only reasonable solution would be for us collectively as property owners would be to deny the city further mill levies for public safety. If you don't want to listen, that is fine. We will provide an environment where we decide to not provide the city funds to have nice things. Again, I am appreciative of your being in my corner. And for the rest of council I look forward to something if ANYTHING from the rest of you. Just a reminder, sometimes the right and correct thing is not always the easy thing that needs to be done.

On 1/16/2026 4:49 PM, Aguirre, Amy wrote:

Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Jay Liudahl [cyberbob2024@gmail.com](mailto:cyberbob2024@gmail.com)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:20 PM  
**To:** Council [council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Enforcement in Billings – Ward 1 Property Owner, To the Honorable Members of the Billings City Council

As a property owner of two locations within **Ward 1**, I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to ICE enforcement and operations within our city limits.

The recent tragic death of Renee Good has made it devastatingly clear that ICE personnel are insufficiently trained to operate safely within our community. Their presence currently poses an imminent threat to public safety and the well-being of all Billings residents.

I am asking the City Council to:

- **Formally decline** any voluntary cooperation or compliance with ICE operations.
- **Prohibit** the use of city resources or law enforcement personnel to assist in federal immigration enforcement.

Our city's priority must be the safety of its people. Ensuring that federal agencies with inadequate training do not operate within our city is a necessary step toward that goal.

Respectfully,

Jonathan D. Liudahl, Ward 1 Constituent 935 N 25th St. & 2024 11th Ave. N.

(406)534-9164

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Regards,  
Jay Liudahl  
Mobile: (406) 208-9165  
Work: (406) 534-9164

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Jay Liudahl](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Enforcement in Billings – Ward 1 Property Owner, To the Honorable Members of the Billings City Council  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49:32 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Jay Liudahl <cyberbob2024@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:20 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE Enforcement in Billings – Ward 1 Property Owner, To the Honorable Members of the Billings City Council



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- **Formally decline** any voluntary cooperation or compliance with ICE operations.
- **Prohibit** the use of city resources or law enforcement personnel to assist in federal

immigration enforcement.

Our city's priority must be the safety of its people. Ensuring that federal agencies with inadequate training do not operate within our city is a necessary step toward that goal.

Respectfully,

Jonathan D. Liudahl, Ward 1 Constituent 935 N 25th St. & 2024 11th Ave. N.

(406)534-9164

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Walter Koch](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billibgsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billibgsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Please do not support I.C.E.  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:50:21 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

-----Original Message-----

From: Walter Koch <[koch.a.walter@gmail.com](mailto:koch.a.walter@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 2:47 PM  
To: Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billibgsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billibgsmt.gov)  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please do not support I.C.E.

Good afternoon,

I am writing in hopes that Billings will stand with its entire community and not provide support for I.C.E's harassment of the city.

Remember the spirit of Not in our Town. We are better than the destruction and hate I.C.E brings.

Thank you,

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Steve and Candace](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Protecting the BPD  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:02:56 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Steve and Candace <hills2prairie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:27 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Protecting the BPD



Dear Council member,

I'm writing with a concern about Billings police officers when ICE comes to town.

What concerns me is that – if the City of Billings facilitates police department cooperation with ICE and Border Patrol – then the reputation of the Billings Police Department will be terribly damaged, probably for a long time to come.

Years of work to make the BPD a respected part of our community could be jeopardized. The price of that diminished reputation will be paid by police officers, every day, as they interact with the public.

For months now, ICE and cooperating agencies have been going to American cities and instigating chaos and unrest.

The "border czar" told us that ICE, [et.al.](#), would only go after "the worst of the worst." But over and over, we have seen them employ hyper-aggressive tactics which absolutely do not make Americans safer.

For the good of our community and the Billings Police Department, I ask that you not put Billings police officers in the position of taking part in ICE operations.

Steve Paulson  
Billings



**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Margo Puma](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Public safety concerns  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:09:17 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.

In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Margo Puma <zumbapuma@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 2:23 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public safety concerns



Billings City Council,

Thank you for your service to Billings as council members, and for attending to best practices to safeguard residents/visitors. I am writing to you regarding ICE and CBP coming into Billings to detain and arrest people, as has been seen in other cities. I hope that the City of Billings not coordinate with, nor support the efforts of, ICE and BPC. Their blatant disregard for public safety, due process, laws, and contempt for common decency is well-documented. Please do not get Billings enmeshed with ICE.

Respectfully,  
Margo Puma  
Concerned citizen

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Jessica Plance](#); [Nelson, Mike](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Request for Billings to Remains ICE free  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:03:51 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.


In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Jessica Plance <jessicae.plance@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 12:15 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Mike <NelsonM@billingsmt.gov>; Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request for Billings to Remains ICE free

  
Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a concerned community member to respectfully urge the City of Billings to refrain from collaborating with or hosting Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activities within our community.

Billings has long prided itself on being a place where neighbors look out for one another and where families—regardless of background—can live, work, and contribute without fear. The presence of ICE in local communities has been shown to create widespread fear and mistrust, discouraging people from accessing essential services such as healthcare, education, and even emergency assistance. This undermines public safety rather than strengthening it.

When residents are afraid to report crimes, cooperate with law enforcement, or seek help, the entire community suffers. Local resources and law enforcement are most effective when they are focused on community safety and trust—not on federal immigration enforcement, which is outside the scope of municipal responsibility.

I respectfully ask the City of Billings to affirm its commitment to keeping our city safe, inclusive, and united by declining cooperation with ICE operations and by ensuring city resources are not used for immigration enforcement purposes.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and consideration. I appreciate your service to our community and your commitment to policies that reflect our shared values of dignity, fairness, and safety for all.

Thank you,

Jessica Plance

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Charlotte Hamilton](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Strongly Against Cooperation with ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:49:00 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Charlotte Hamilton <lyndsey.blohm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 1:40 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Strongly Against Cooperation with ICE



Good afternoon City Council Members,

I am a resident of Billings and a homeowner here since 2020, and I helped canvas for you during last year's election.

I am writing you to urge you to please, please do what you can to keep Billings residents safe from ICE and any organizations like it. Please don't cooperate with them willingly.

I was born in Billings in 1991 and one of the points of pride that I have about my home town is that we are the "Not In Our Town" town. I'm begging you to please do everything in your power to maintain that legacy and show the minorities in our city that we are one community that is stronger together because of our diversity of perspectives.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter,  
Lyndsey Blohm

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Shannon Reiser](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] We DO NOT support ICE activities in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:52:55 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

I always have, and continue to stand, with the marginalized folks in our community. I do not support deputizing our local law enforcement to act as federal agents.

I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Shannon Reiser <[shannonreiser15@gmail.com](mailto:shannonreiser15@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:41 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] We DO NOT support ICE activities in Billings



Dear Mayor Nelson and Billings City Council members,

I am writing to implore you to NOT SUPPORT the presence of ICE agents in our community. While I understand the primary purpose of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and their intended job duties, this new "breed" of ICE agents are being hired without vetting; are untrained and are now listed as "immune" from the consequences of their extremely violent actions.

We have seen again and again how much violence and havoc they are bringing down on ANYONE who even appears to be in their path. Citizens, children, elderly people, being kicked in the face, beaten, pepper sprayed, shot with rubber bullets and killed with actual firearms. Many people are being torn from their homes, schools, and jobs, and kidnapped/disappeared at alarming rates.

We have already had cases here in Montana of legal citizens being detained without due process, and without any communication with family members. Detainees are being held in inhumane conditions, at for profit facilities and being harmed or even unalived with no consequences to the aggressors.

Do not place yourselves on the WRONG side of history. Do not support the violation of individuals' Federal Constitutional rights, or their Montana Constitutional rights. Do not become part of the support for these horrific CRIMES against humans.

We have heard again and again how our local law enforcement is understaffed and underfunded. Our jails are FAR over capacity and those corrections officers tapped thin. Billings should not SEEK to invite this type of violence to our community members.

Say NO to these illegal activities in our community and no to violent crimes against our community members. ALL OF our community members.

Thank you,  
Shay Reiser  
Billings Resident

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Dar Co; Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: NO ICE in Billings  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:52:41 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

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I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

-----Original Message-----

From: Dar Co <[ncbreeze13@hotmail.com](mailto:ncbreeze13@hotmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 3:37 PM  
To: Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO ICE in Billings

Dear City council members,

I am writing to let you know my family does not want our city involved in anything to do with ICE. Our community and surrounding areas have our ingenious Native and Hispanic neighbors. Having our brand new city council and a new raise for our city police officers would be a slap in the face to tax payers. We have seen the horror and lawlessness these supposed officers are inflicting on people of color. We know they are just going after anyone at this point. I don't care what side of the political aisle you are on, right and wrong is where we're at here. I don't think Billings Montana is a place where ICE or BP would be welcomed. This is where we need to draw the line, nobody comes after us or our neighbors. The county commission already tried with the Metra last year. I have no respect left for any of them, in these times we need leaders who will stand up for what is right for our community, if you want public safety I suggest kidnappers are not allowed in our city. We will not let our neighbors be kidnapped to appeal to a ruthless regime. Thank you for doing the right thing for our city.

Darci Colbrese  
3105 Ave F  
Billings, MT 59102

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Sarah Cox](#); [Council](#); [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Opposition to Federal Immigration Enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:52:27 PM

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Please know that you have my full support in ensuring our community feels safe. I cannot speak for the rest of council, but as a descendant of farm workers and migrants, my heart goes out to the family of the victim in Minneapolis. My brother works as Vice President of Programming at Neighborhood House in Minneapolis and has literally had to post as ICE Watch since the ICE agents have flooded their community. Neighborhood House is a critical resource for marginalized communities in Minneapolis and if families are being forced to shelter in place, how are their basic needs being met? It is absolutely unconscionable.

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I appreciate your concern and please know I am in your corner.

-Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Sarah Cox <[sarah\\_liz01@hotmail.com](mailto:sarah_liz01@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 3:29 PM  
**To:** Council <[council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:council@billingsmt.gov)>; [mayor@billingsmt.gov](mailto:mayor@billingsmt.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Federal Immigration Enforcement



To whom it may concern,

As a Billings resident, active community member, and mother, I am writing to formally express my strong dissent to ICE operations in Billings.

ICE has caused chaos and violence in every city they've stepped foot in, and it's only seeming to progress. Following the deaths of Keith Porter and Renee Nicole Good, as well as the multitude of deaths, injuries, and violations of civil and human rights that have occurred during detainments and within ICE custody, it is blatantly obvious that ICE is undertrained and will cause disruption and destruction if they come to our city.

The fear they cause is palpable. As a mother, I'm scared. My son does not deserve to witness the atrocities that are being committed by this lawless group of agents.

I recently saw this report: a family was in their car trying to get away from the violence of the



raids going on. There was 6 children inside including a 6mo baby. ICE threw tear gas into & underneath of their car, sending 3 of the 6 children to the hospital and causing the 6mo baby to stop breathing. I have not seen an update on whether or not the baby survived. There have also been reports of animal neglect by agents. I read about a dog adoption that took place, unfortunately the location went unmentioned, but agents left behind the pets of a family they'd taken. They left behind nursing dog and its litter of puppies. Nobody knew what happened until neighbors heard the screams of the dogs and finally broke into the house to free them.

There are an innumerable amount of cases like this... people being hurt, lives being endangered, rights being ignored. ICE's violence does not only affect criminals and immigrants. Women, children, men, infants, animals, disabled folks, citizens and noncitizens alike... every single demographic of people has been targeted by ICE. They instill fear, cause harm and destruction, and kill.

I urge you to decline any cooperation or compliance with federal immigration enforcement, and I urge you to prohibit the use of city resources to aid in their efforts.

We must ensure the safety and wellbeing of all of our residents, and keeping ICE off of our streets is a vital part of doing so.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Jim Thomas-DeJongh](#); [Council](#); [BPD](#).  
**Subject:** RE: Protection from those foreign and domestic  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 5:06:19 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.


In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** Jim Thomas-DeJongh <jtd@montanatd.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 9, 2026 12:05 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>; BPD, <bpd@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Protection from those foreign and domestic

  
Billings City Council and Billings Police,

Welcome to a new year. A year ago, I wrote to our congressional delegation. "Show courage and protect the future of every Montanan" was my message to our Montana congressional representatives on January 31, 2025. Their response in words and in deed has been at best disappointing and at worst complicity in an authoritarian power grab. Our congressional leaders have abdicated their responsibility to contain executive overreach and protect "We the People". That leaves our local city leaders as our last and best bulwark against federal bad behavior. We can expect complicity from county officials who offered the First Interstate Arena as an ICE detention facility. The current environment leaves an important role of the Billings City Council and Billings Police Department to keep all Montanans and visitors safe from displays of authoritarian power. When a secretive police force descends on Montana, we expect our local leaders and police to keep all people safe and reject masked, heavily armed, military style, untrained agents. Local

protests have been peaceful and were done in cooperation with Billings' law and police, but this could be tested if secretive police are on the scene baiting concerned citizens with armed bravado. We trust our local city officials, we are wary of our county officials and we have a strong distrust of the current federal regime.

Please continue to support freedom of speech, civil rights, safety and health of all people, rule of law and democracy. We may be spared armed domination displays unlike our good neighbors because our congressional leaders are complicit and our population mostly white, but we should be supporting our neighboring cities and states and preparing for demands of obedience and more federal dysfunction.

Sincerely,

Jim and April Thomas-DeJongh

910 Nutter Blvd

Billings, Montana

January 31, 2025 to: Daines, Sheehy, Downing

Show courage and protect the future of every Montanan

As a member of the Montana delegation, you represent the people of Montana and our future in a distorted democracy. The unlawful purge at the Justice Department and FBI, and the takeover at the U.S. Treasury payment systems by Musk must be stopped. Our democracy is barreling into dysfunction. Open your educated eyes and predict the fallout to the people you represent. Retribution to federal employees, the pardoning of criminals that injured police officers protecting Congress, incompetent cabinet nominees, threatened market disruptions and bullied allies in only two weeks.

Our security, our safety, our health, our economy, our insurance costs, our environment, our retirement are all at risk as government and democracy melts down.

Winning an election does not give anyone the license to ruin our democracy and its norms.

Congress has a central leadership role; do not abdicate your power to protect all Montanans.

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Juanita R](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Request That Billings Not Cooperate With ICE Enforcement  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:59:09 PM

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Thank you for reaching out.

As a woman of color, I too, am deeply troubled by the activity of ICE agents across our country.


In my work and in my personal life, I am intimately acquainted with families of myriad races, and everyone is positively uneasy in their community, in their homes, in their own skin. This is unacceptable to me.

I cannot speak for the rest of Council, but please know I am in your corner.

Billings

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**From:** Juanita R <ladyredjd@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:54 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request That Billings Not Cooperate With ICE Enforcement

  
Dear Mayor and Members of the Billings City Council,

I am writing as a Billings resident to respectfully urge the City Council to ensure that the City of Billings and the Billings Police Department do not cooperate with ICE enforcement activities.

Over many years, the Billings Police Department has worked to build positive, trust-based relationships with the people it serves. That trust is essential to public safety. When community members feel safe interacting with local law enforcement—reporting crimes, serving as witnesses, and seeking help—our entire city is safer. Cooperation with ICE risks undermining that trust and undoing years of progress.

In addition, city and police resources are already stretched to the limit. Our officers and municipal services should be focused on addressing local public safety needs, responding to emergencies, and serving the community—not diverting limited time, staffing, and funding to federal immigration enforcement. Such diversion would place unnecessary strain on an already overburdened system and reduce the effectiveness of local services.

I am deeply concerned about the social disruption and community harm we are seeing in other cities, including Minneapolis. The chaos, fear, and damage that follow aggressive

immigration enforcement are not outcomes Billings should invite. Our city has worked hard to foster stability and cooperation, and those efforts should be protected.

I am also particularly troubled by the targeting of Native American citizens in immigration enforcement actions. Billings has a large Native population, and any policies or practices that result in racial profiling or the harassment of Indigenous people are unacceptable. No resident should be made to feel unsafe or questioned about their right to be here based on appearance or heritage.

Local law enforcement exists to serve and protect the community—not to carry out federal immigration enforcement. I urge the City Council to take a clear stand in support of community trust, public safety, responsible use of resources, and the rights and dignity of all Billings residents by refusing cooperation with ICE.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our city.

Sincerely,

Juanita Rathbun  
Billings Resident and taxpayer

**From:** [Aguirre, Amy](#)  
**To:** [JENNIFER Sanchez](#); [Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Support for ICE  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2026 4:32:44 PM

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Hello Jennifer, thank you for reaching out. I believe that all citizens deserve to practice their freedom of speech and speak their truth to power.

I read your email and while I do not agree with your viewpoint, please know you have been heard.

As a woman of color, I am as worried as any other non-white person about the damage ICE agents can and do bring to a community. They are illegally profiling people and denying them their constitutional rights. People are literally dying by their hands as well as by their neglect.


When I see a citizen being mistreated, abused, or otherwise manhandled this way, no matter what, I will always see them as human beings first. I pray you can see this issue in this way, too.

In Peace,

Amy Aguirre  
Ward 3

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**From:** JENNIFER Sanchez <sanchezkj@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2026 12:25 PM  
**To:** Council <council@billingsmt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for ICE

  
Hello. I've heard you are getting a lot of info from anti-ice people. What they are doing is pure insanity!

We need ICE to get rid of illegals who are in our country. Many of these illegal aliens are here to cause chaos, are criminals and rapists, are bringing drugs in, are sex teafficking kids, are laundering our tax payers money, are on our welfare, are getting things for free that Americans are not, and refuse to assimilate into our country. There are many more horrifying things they are doing to our country too.

Please support ICE. We need their help to make our country safe again!

Thank you. Jennifer Sanchez

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