

From: [n.o](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MLK & ICE
Date: Monday, January 19, 2026 7:38:19 PM



"Our lives begin to end the day we become SILENT about things that matter." MLK

Finally, a number of Billings residents spoke up! There were several insightful, meaningful, important comments regarding not wanting ICE in Billings. I support their views & opinions with regard to ICE behavior & actions.

However, their emails to the mayor & council also exhibited an ongoing, serious issue in Billings which perpetuates "selective" public safety & "unconscionable" failure to "PROTECT & SERVE." That being, the level of uninformed, unaware, controlled residents with regard to giving unearned trust & respect to BPD and its' unacceptable lack of integrity, accountability & transparency.

I will not be silent about BPD!

From: [Maegan Stabenow](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Native Wildflower Pollinator Patches
Date: Monday, January 19, 2026 8:00:25 AM



Dear Billings City Council Members,

I am writing to formally recommend the establishment of native wildflower pollinator patches throughout Billings. This initiative provides substantial environmental, economic, and aesthetic advantages for our community.

Pollinators, such as native bees and butterflies, are critical to our ecosystem and local agriculture. To address the nationwide decline in these populations, I propose creating dedicated habitats featuring native Montana wildflowers.

These patches offer a more sustainable alternative to traditional landscaping. Species such as purple coneflower, blanket flower, prairie smoke, and black-eyed Susan are well-adapted to our semi-arid climate. Once established, these native plants require significantly less water, mowing, and chemical intervention than turf grass, leading to reduced city maintenance costs.

In addition to financial savings, these installations would enhance our parks and public spaces while serving as educational resources for residents. I encourage the Council to explore conservation grants and consider implementing a pilot program in select locations.

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

Best Regards,

Maegan Stabenow

From: [Molly Ouellette](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No to ICE in Billings
Date: Monday, January 19, 2026 11:42:41 AM

Dear City Council,

I wanted to reach out to recommend that as a community we pressure BPD to prevent them from collaborating with ICE, as well as explain that overall our community is opposed to ICE presence in Billings.

Not only would it be bad for ICE to detain Billings community members, ICE presence and threats of ICE being in the area puts the community as a whole at risk of escalated tensions and violence, like we are seeing in Minneapolis. Our city does not have the infrastructure to withstand a similar situation.

Also, I think that most people are opposed to ICE—I think that the average person is just not that inclined or interested in emailing city council or going to city council meetings.

Other cities in Montana have been working to prevent ICE presence in their communities, too.

I urge you to please keep us from entering into a situation like in Minneapolis where tension and chaos and violence are playing out on a national stage.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Molly

From: [Ione Young](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for Billings to Decline ICE Training or Deputization of Local Law Enforcement
Date: Monday, January 19, 2026 8:23:10 PM



Dear Mayor Nelson and Billings City Council Members,

I am writing as a concerned Billings resident to respectfully urge the council to make a clear and public commitment that the City of Billings will not work with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in ways that involve training, deputizing, or authorizing Billings Police Department officers to engage in federal immigration enforcement.

All residents need to feel safe interacting with local government and law enforcement. When local police are trained or deputized by ICE, it undermines community trust, discourages people from reporting crimes or cooperating with investigations, and ultimately makes our city less safe. Residents should be able to contact police, serve as witnesses, or seek help without fear that doing so could lead to immigration enforcement or family separation.

Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility. Involving local law enforcement in ICE operations diverts limited city resources away from core public safety functions and places officers in roles that can damage relationships with the communities they serve. Clear boundaries help ensure that the Billings Police Department can focus on keeping our city safe for everyone who lives and works here.

I respectfully ask the Mayor and City Council to:

- Commit to not allowing ICE to train or deputize Billings Police Department officers;
- Decline participation in agreements or programs that entangle Billings law enforcement with federal immigration enforcement; and
- Publicly affirm that the City of Billings will prioritize public safety, trust, and community well-being for all residents.

Thank you for your service to Billings and for considering this request. I appreciate your leadership and your attention to policies that strengthen trust, safety, and dignity throughout our community.

Sincerely,
Ione Young