

From: [katchmoleen](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ICE
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 1:53:43 PM



please register my opinion as a resident of Billings. I support all Federal, State, and Local law enforcement in their efforts to make our city and state a safer place to live. I object to any efforts to impede them in their efforts.

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

From: [Maddison Wilhite](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to DHS and ICE Presence in Billings
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:14:24 AM
Attachments: [Opposition to DHS and ICE Presence in Billings.docx](#)



Dear Members of the Billings City Council,

My name is Maddison Wilhite, and I am a resident of Billings. I came here in 2018 as an AmeriCorps VISTA and have since found a truly strong and caring community. I work in the nonprofit sector, serve on a nonprofit board, and volunteer locally because I care deeply about this city and the people who live here.

I am writing to express my opposition to any presence of the Department of Homeland Security or ICE in our community.

Community matters, and looking out for our neighbors is a shared responsibility. Diversity is one of the things that makes a community strong and helps it thrive. Billings is strengthened socially, culturally, and economically by people from many backgrounds.

The presence of ICE erodes trust—not only in law enforcement, but in the institutions meant to serve all of us. When people fear immigration enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek medical care, engage with schools, or participate in civic life.

While immigration enforcement is often discussed at the federal level, its impacts are felt locally. City leadership plays a critical role in determining whether federal agencies operate in ways that harm trust and community safety.

Our community is strongest when everyone feels safe going to work, school, and public life without fear of detention or family separation. Regardless of where someone was born, they are our neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and friends.

I urge you to oppose any cooperation, agreements, or actions that would allow ICE to operate within our community, and instead to publicly affirm your commitment to the dignity, safety, and rights of all who call our city home.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,
Maddison Wilhite
Billings, Montana 59102

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Maddison Wilhite
maddison.wilhite@gmail.com
(802) 738-8215

From: [Emma Stafford](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to ICE in Billings
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:57:33 AM



Dear Members of the Billings City Council,

I am a resident of Billings, and I am writing to express my opposition to any presence of the Department of Homeland Security or ICE within our community.

Strong communities are built on trust, cooperation, and participation. When residents fear local involvement with federal immigration enforcement, they are less likely to engage with law enforcement, access healthcare, participate in schools, or invest in local businesses. This has tangible impacts on public safety, education, and economic growth.

Billings' economic vitality depends on a diverse workforce and an inclusive environment. People from many backgrounds contribute to businesses, entrepreneurship, and the labor market, which in turn supports local tax revenue, job creation, and community services. Policies or actions that target or intimidate residents weaken this foundation.

City leadership has the authority to influence how federal agencies operate locally. Decisions about cooperation, agreements, or resource sharing directly affect trust, safety, and economic stability in our city.

I urge the Council to oppose any cooperation or agreements that would allow ICE to operate in Billings, and to affirm a commitment to maintaining the safety, dignity, and rights of all residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emma Stafford

From: [katie harrison](#)
To: [Kukulski, Chris](#); [MayorAndCouncil](#); [St. John, Rich](#); [Krivitz, Brian](#); harperrd@billingsmt.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Police Staff Directory still needs updating
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 5:01:24 PM



Hi all!

I was looking at the police staff directory just now and realized that there is still some outdated information on the site.

<https://www.billingsmt.gov/directory.aspx?did=10>

When I last phoned the Office of Professional Standards on Dec 31 looking for Captain Harper (who is still listed as the Captain of that office), I was instead called back by Lieutenant Krivitz who said that Harper "is no longer with us". I am assuming that Krivitz is now in charge of that office? But I did not ask him directly about that.

I'm not sure what other updates may possibly need to be made but I just wanted to let you all know on that.

Have a great evening everyone,

Katie Harrison (She / Her)

**Residing on the traditional lands of the Salish, Kootenai, Kalispel, Apsáalooke (Crow), and Cheyenne peoples, among many others who share this land. I recognize that we are settlers to this land and dedicate myself to honoring this history and these peoples, listening and learning, and working to repair the harms of colonization by teaching a new generation of civic leaders and supporting the work of our Native partners.*

From: [Sasha Kraev](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yellowstone Country Club zone change
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:48:08 PM



Dear Council Member,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed request by Yellowstone Country Club to rezone three areas currently designated as P1 park/open space to suburban zoning for housing development within the Yellowstone Country Club neighborhood.

Even though these parcels are privately owned, they are intentionally zoned as P1 park/open space and function as important open space and recreational resources for the surrounding community. Two of the three areas contain well-established trail systems that have been in continuous use for over 30 years. These trails provide valued walking and recreational opportunities and are an integral part of the neighborhood's character and livability. The land is also the last remaining open space under the lower rims in Billings city limits.

Approving a rezoning of P1 open space for residential development would conflict with the City of Billings' adopted City Council strategies and priorities, which include a stated mission to increase parks, trails, recreation, and cultural investments. Reducing existing open space and established trail access runs counter to these goals and weakens long-term planning efforts intended to protect and enhance community recreation assets. The trails on this land connect the upper rims to the lower rims and is a corridor for wildlife and a loved trail by much of the neighborhood.

As Billings continues to grow, preserving designated open space and trail corridors is critical to maintaining quality of life and honoring the City's planning commitments. Once P1-zoned land is converted to suburban development, the opportunity for open space and trail connectivity in this area is permanently lost.

I am saddened to see that instead of introducing new parks, trails and bike opportunities, they are taken away. I respectfully urge you to oppose this rezoning request and to uphold the intent of the P1 park/open space designation in accordance with the City's adopted strategies and priorities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alexander Kraev

Billings, Montana

From: [Peterson, Loren](#)
To: [.MayorAndCouncil](#)
Subject: FW: Chief St. John and Chief Hoppel email
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 1:33:07 PM

Mayor and Council,

Please see the email below. My apologies for the delay in receiving this message. I was informed that the distribution list I was using did not include mayor and council.

Loren

From: Peterson, Loren
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2026 2:12 PM
To: .All City Email Employees <[All_City_Email_Employees@billingsmt.gov](mailto>All_City_Email_Employees@billingsmt.gov)>
Cc: LGIT <affiliates@mtlgit.org>; MT-LGIT (members@mtlgit.org) <members@mtlgit.org>
Subject: Chief St. John email

All,

Chief St. Johns email account was compromised today. Please disregard any messages received from, specifically with subject Re: St. John, Rich shared "Rich St. John sent a document for review" with you. We are working on the account currently.

stjohnr@billingsmt.gov

All,

Fire Chief Matt Hoppels email account was compromised today. Please disregard any messages received from, specifically with subject Re: Hoppel, Matt shared "Matt Hoppel sent a document for review" with you. We are working on the account currently.

hoppelm@billingsmt.gov



Loren Peterson
IT Security Engineer
peterson@billingsmt.gov
[View my credentials](#)

billingsmt.gov

316 N. 26th St.
Billings, MT 59101
P 406.657.3099

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.

From: [Aguirre, Amy](#)
To: [Peterson, Loren](#); [.MayorAndCouncil](#)
Subject: RE: Chief St. John and Chief Hoppel email
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 8:13:24 PM

Thank you for this information. It is incredibly alarming to me that this could happen. Council Member Lindley is in the process of proposing a new commission with just this kind of oversight, ensuring that these kinds of things can't happen. Please, do keep us updated as progress on this matter takes place.

Regards,
Amy Aguirre
Ward 3

From: Peterson, Loren <petersonl@billingsmt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 1:33 PM
To: [.MayorAndCouncil](#) <Mayor&Council@billingsmt.gov>
Subject: FW: Chief St. John and Chief Hoppel email

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Cc: LGIT <affiliates@mtlgit.org>; MT-LGIT (members@mtlgit.org) <members@mtlgit.org>
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hoppelm@billingsmt.gov



billingsmt.gov

Loren Peterson
IT Security Engineer
peteronl@billingsmt.gov
[View my credentials](#)

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