



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Select Committee on Federal Administration and Policy Changes

Agenda

Thursday, March 5, 2026

2:00 PM

Council Chamber, City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Chair
Robert Kettle, Vice Chair
Dionne Foster, Member
Joy Hollingsworth, Member
Debora Juarez, Member
Eddie Lin, Member
Maritza Rivera, Member
Rob Saka, Member
Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8808; AlexisMercedes.Rinck@seattle.gov

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
Select Committee on Federal Administration and
Policy Changes
Agenda
March 5, 2026 - 2:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Council Chamber, City Hall, 600 4th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Committee Website:

<https://seattle.gov/council/committees/federal-administration-and-policy-changes>

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Please register in advance in order to be recognized by the Chair. Details on how to register for Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at <https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>. Online registration to speak will begin one hour before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

In-Person Public Comment - Register to speak on the public comment sign-up sheet located inside Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time. Registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

Please submit written comments no later than four business hours prior to the start of the meeting to ensure that they are distributed to Councilmembers prior to the meeting. Comments may be submitted at Council@seattle.gov or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104. Business hours are considered 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Comments received after that time will be distributed after the meeting to Councilmembers and included as part of the public record.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

Members of the public may address items on the agenda and matters within the purview of the committee. Please register in advance to be recognized by the Chair.

D. Items of Business

1. [Res 32194](#) **A RESOLUTION reaffirming data and privacy protections for any person seeking or accessing City programs or services; requesting a review of the City’s data collection and sharing practices to limit data exposure to the federal government and to other local, regional, and state jurisdictions; and requesting that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements.**

Supporting Documents: [Summary and Fiscal Note](#)
[Presentation](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote (30 min)

Presenters: Jasmine Marwaha, Tamaso Johnson, and Edin Sisic,
Council Central Staff

2. **Federal Response Update**

Supporting
Documents: [Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (40 min)

Presenters: Kelsey Mesher, Seattle Mayor's Office; Cuc Vu, Acting Director, and Oksana Bilobran, Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs; Anne Maher, Office of Intergovernmental Relations

3. **Seattle Police Department Immigration Response**

Supporting
Documents: [Statement of Legislative Intent SPD-111S-A](#)
[SPD Response to Statement of Legislative Intent SPD-111S-A](#)
[Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (40 min)

Presenters: Shon Barnes, Chief, and Yvonne Underwood, Seattle Police Department (SPD)

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Res 32194, **Version:** 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION reaffirming data and privacy protections for any person seeking or accessing City programs or services; requesting a review of the City's data collection and sharing practices to limit data exposure to the federal government and to other local, regional, and state jurisdictions; and requesting that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements.

WHEREAS, City policy makes clear that no person seeking access to its programs or services shall be required to disclose their immigration status, recognizing that local services must remain accessible without fear or unnecessary barriers; and

WHEREAS, Seattle's Privacy Principles reflect the commitment to collect only the personal information necessary to deliver services, to reduce risks of misuse or unintended secondary use, and to safeguard residents from preventable harm; and

WHEREAS, in light of expanded federal immigration enforcement activity and increasingly interconnected data systems, municipal data collection and sharing practices carry heightened implications for all communities; and

WHEREAS, protecting civil liberties requires scrutiny of what information the City gathers, how long it retains such data, and under what legal authority it may be disclosed to federal entities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of transparency regarding any requests from federal agencies for City-held data, including requests made through Criminal Justice Information Services or other federal systems;

WHEREAS, the City's contracting standards prohibit the unnecessary collection of personal information, including related to immigration status, and require contractors to notify the City before responding to

requests from federal immigration enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, reinforcing personal information privacy standards in City contracts, ensuring compliance with applicable privacy and data protection laws, and providing clear guidance to contractors on secure data handling and retention practices are necessary steps to prevent misuse of City resources or data for civil immigration enforcement purposes except where required by law; and

WHEREAS, despite the legal and policy protections of the Keep Washington Working Act passed in 2019 with the intent of prohibiting local cooperation related to civil immigration enforcement, except as required by law, investigative reporting has identified instances where the federal government has accessed personally identifiable information from state agencies; and

WHEREAS, RCW 10.93.160 limits the use of state and local resources and certain non-public personal information for federal civil immigration enforcement, while allowing agencies to continue collecting data for lawful program administration and delivering public benefits and services; and

WHEREAS, The City seeks to review our data privacy policies and procedures to effectively and proactively identify any potential areas of non-compliance or vulnerabilities related to the collection of personally identifiable information; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THAT:

Section 1. The City Council (Council) affirms current City policy that City employees shall not require any person seeking or accessing City programs or services to disclose their immigration status. The Council affirms its commitment to Seattle's Privacy Principles, which aim to minimize personal data collection from residents to help prevent data from unintended secondary use. The Council requests the Executive and departments to review current departmental data collection practices to align with these principles, and to determine whether data collection of personally identifiable information is truly necessary for City purposes. The Council requests that the Seattle Municipal Court similarly review its data collection and sharing practices, with particular attention to data collected and shared with Criminal Justice Information Services.

A. In the City's commitment to its Privacy Principles, the Council requests the Executive and departments to review their data sharing practices to determine whether any data is currently being shared with the federal government, including but not limited to personal data, employment status, worksite locations, or other identifying information about any individual with federal agencies, even if those agencies are not directly responsible for immigration enforcement. The Council requests that the Executive limit this data sharing except as required by law, as a condition of federal funding, or pursuant to a valid judicial warrant. The Council further requests that the Executive ensure that no City resources are used for civil immigration enforcement, except where required by law. When the use of City resources or data sharing with the federal government is required by law or is a condition of federal funding, the Council requests a report on the circumstances surrounding its use.

B. The Council requests to be informed in a timely manner of any data requests from federal agencies, and of data breaches resulting in federal agencies having access to City records.

C. The Council requests that the Executive and departments review their data sharing practices to determine whether personally identifiable information is currently being shared with other local, regional, and state jurisdictions, including but not limited to personal data, employment status, worksite locations, or other identifying information about any individual. The Council requests that the Executive and departments limit this data sharing except as required by law, as a condition of funding, or pursuant to a valid judicial warrant. The Council requests a report on this review of current data sharing practices with other jurisdictions, and an analysis of potential vulnerabilities for that data to be used by the federal government for civil immigration enforcement purposes.

D. The Council affirms current City practice, as stated in all consultant contracting templates created by the Department of Finance and Administrative Services, consistent with the City's Privacy Principles, that City employees and contractors shall not require disclosure of unnecessary personal information, including immigration status, and shall not provide access to non-public areas or personal data without prior City review

and consent. As stated in the model Request for Proposal (RFP), contractors must immediately notify the City project manager before responding to any request from a federal immigration agency (e.g., ICE, DHS, HSI, ERO, CBP, USCIS) for access to non-public information provided to contractors working on City contracts. No access or data should be provided until the City authorizes next steps.

1. The Council requests the Executive to review existing contractor policies and practices to ensure alignment with the City’s Privacy Principles and the City’s Responsible Contractor Policy, verify compliance with applicable privacy and data protection laws, and determine whether further policies are warranted to prevent data being shared with other local, regional, state, and federal jurisdictions, if there are potential vulnerabilities for that data to be used by the federal government for civil immigration enforcement purposes. The Council further requests that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements, which may include but not be limited to updating the City’s Responsible Contractor Policy, updating Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 20.60 regarding the City’s purchasing and procurement responsibility requirements, and providing guidance to contractors on secure data handling and retention practices.

2. The Council requests the Executive to report back to the Council by June 30, 2026, on its efforts to review policies, ensure compliance, and provide guidance on privacy standards and secure data handling practices.

Section 2. The City shall implement policies consistent with RCW 10.93.160, ensuring that City resources and non-public personal information are not used for federal civil immigration enforcement except as required by law, and that nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted to limit or delay the delivery of public benefits, services, or lawful programs for eligible residents.

Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2026, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2026.

President _____ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
LEG	Marwaha/Sasic/Johnson	N/A

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: A RESOLUTION reaffirming data and privacy protections for any person seeking or accessing City programs or services; requesting a review of the City’s data collection and sharing practices to limit data exposure to the federal government, other local, regional, and state jurisdictions; and requesting that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This legislation reaffirms data and privacy protections for any person seeking or accessing City programs or services; requests a reviews of the City’s data collection and sharing practices to limit data exposure to the federal government; and requests that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? Yes No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

The resolution expresses intent for the city to review current city policies and practices, and to update those policies and practices. There will likely be indirect costs, such as staff time, to implement the actions intended in the resolution.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

The resolution expresses intent for Executive and Council actions, which could still happen even if the legislation is not passed. The intent of the resolution would be to provide public assurance and create public trust.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

The resolution expresses intent for the city to review current city policies and practices, and to update those policies and practices. There will likely be indirect costs, such as staff time, to implement the actions intended in the resolution.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** No
- b. **Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?** No
- c. **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** No
- d. **Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.**
 - i. **How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.**

This resolution promotes policies, and best practices across City departments to protect the rights of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, including but not limited to immigrants and refugees.
 - ii. **Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.** N/A

iii. **What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

The legislation provides direction and requests for City departments, and does not directly impact communications to the public. Departments that are implementing the Welcoming City policies reaffirmed by the Resolution are undergoing training by OIRA and should already have language access plans associated with their department.

e. **Climate Change Implications**

i. **Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.** N/A

ii. **Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.** N/A

f. **If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?** N/A

g. **Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?** N/A



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Welcoming City Data and Privacy Protections Resolution

JASMINE MARWAHA, EDIN SISIC, AND TAMASO JOHNSON, ANALYSTS

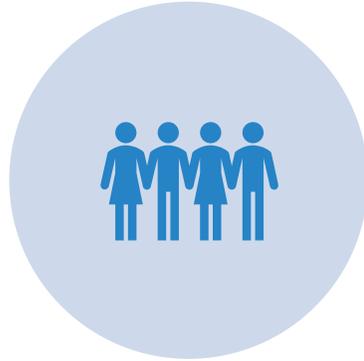
SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY CHANGES

MARCH 5, 2026

Purpose of the Resolution

- Reaffirm Seattle's commitment to protecting personal data for all residents
- Ensure access to City services without disclosing immigration status or other personally identifying information that could make a resident vulnerable
- Reduce risks associated with expanding federal immigration enforcement
- Strengthen transparency and accountability in data sharing practices

Section 1: Policy Affirmations



CITY STAFF MUST NOT REQUIRE
DISCLOSURE OF IMMIGRATION
STATUS FOR ACCESS TO SERVICES



DEPARTMENTS MUST HAVE DATA
COLLECTION PRACTICES THAT
ALIGN WITH PRIVACY PRINCIPLES

- Council requests the Executive and departments review current data collection practices to align with the City's Privacy Principles, and requests that the Seattle Municipal Court similarly review its data practices, with particular attention to data collected and shared with Criminal Justice Information Services.

Key Privacy Principles

- Collect only the personal information necessary to deliver services
- Prevent misuse or unintended secondary use of personal data
- Safeguard residents from preventable harm related to data exposure
- Scrutinize what data is collected, how long it is stored, and legal disclosure requirements

Section 1A: Federal Data Sharing Review

- Assess whether any personal or identifying data is shared with federal agencies, even if those agencies are not directly responsible for immigration enforcement
- Limit data sharing unless required by law, federal funding conditions, or a valid judicial warrant
- Report to Council when federal data sharing is legally required
- Ensure no City resources are used for civil immigration enforcement except where legally mandated

Section 1B: Transparency Requirements

- Notify the Council promptly of federal data requests
- Report any data breaches that result in federal access to City records

Section 1C: Local, Regional, State Data Sharing Review

- Review sharing of personally identifiable information with other jurisdictions
- Limit sharing unless legally required, tied to funding, or based on a valid judicial warrant
- Provide a report analyzing vulnerabilities related to federal civil immigration enforcement access

Section 1D: Existing City Contractor Privacy Practices

Current City practice (built into FAS contracting terms and conditions):

- Contractors and City staff may not request unnecessary personal information, including immigration status
- No access to non-public spaces or non-public data for federal civil immigration enforcement purposes without prior City review and approval
- Contractors must immediately notify the City before responding to any federal immigration agency request and no data or access may be provided until the City authorizes next steps

Contracting Policy Updates Requested

- Review contractor policies and practices for alignment with the City privacy standards and laws
- Identify whether updates to the Responsible Contractor Policy or SMC are needed.
- Provide contractors with guidance on secure data handling, retention, and limits on data sharing
- Request report back by June 30 on Executive's efforts to review policies, ensure compliance, and provide guidance on privacy standards and secure data handling practices for contractors

Questions?



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2850, **Version:** 1

Federal Response Update

Federal Response Update

March 5, 2026

SEATTLE
CITY HALL

Federal Landscape

- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has remained on shutdown following the lapse in DHS appropriations on February 13th
 - Negotiations continue to be at a stalemate with the Senate failing to advance a measure for DHS funding
 - Despite the shutdown, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) remains largely funded due to the passing of H.R.1 in the fall of 2025
- President Trump reiterated his administration's focus on halting immigration as a top priority during his State of the Union address
 - He also highlighted both Delilah's Law and the SAVE America Act (H.R. 7296)
- Cities across the nation continue to face significant levels of deployment of ICE agents

WA State Landscape

- With session wrapping up, state legislators are considering the following bills:
 - HB 2105 (Ortiz-Self) concerning immigrant worker protections.
 - HB 2165 (Obras) concerning peace officer false identification.
 - SB 5855 (Valdez) concerning law enforcement face coverings.
 - SB 5906 (Hansen) establishing data and personal safety protections within areas of public accommodation for all Washington residents.
 - HB 2464 (Ortiz-Self) concerning reporting requirements and law enforcement responses for incidents at private detention facilities.
 - SB 5925 (Hansen) concerning the general powers and duties of the attorney general's office, including ability to issue civil investigate demands related to laws addressing law enforcement agency restrictions relating to federal immigration enforcement.

City Operations

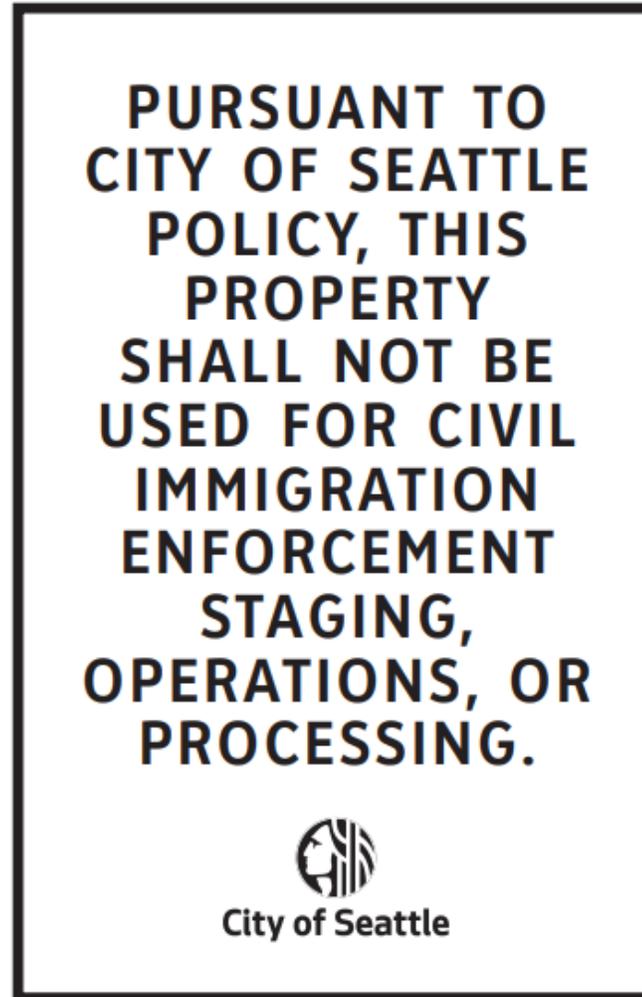
- Mayoral Directive to Staff
- Directive to Seattle Police Department
- Executive Order banning staging and operations on City property
- Compliance & Readiness training video
- Internal cross-department protocols and preparedness

The Mayor's directive asked departments to:

- Designate a department representative
- Make a department specific plan
- Conduct data and privacy review
- Mark non-public areas
- Promote availability of Compliance and Readiness training in Cornerstone

Signage on City property

650+ signs being installed on City owned and controlled parking lots, parks, plazas, vacant lots, storage facilities, garages and the Seattle Center.



Community Support, Engagement, and Communications



Community roundtable with Mayor, ongoing engagement



Stand Together Initiative for private property owners



\$4 million in funding



Planning for increase in basic needs



Stand Together website with resources: Seattle.gov/stand-together

Office of the Mayor

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Stand Together: Let's Make Seattle a Welcoming City



This is your city. Everyone that lives, visits, or works here belongs here, and has a right to live with dignity and be safe in our city. City staff and police protect and serve everyone in the community. We promote policies and programs to foster inclusion for all residents and visitors regardless of their immigration or refugee status. Learn about [How Seattle is a Welcoming City](#).

City Policy on Immigration Enforcement

- City employees, including police, do not enforce federal civil immigration laws and cannot ask about an individual's immigration status.
- The federal government bears sole responsibility to enforce civil immigration laws. The City does not act under federal direction even amid heightened enforcement activity.

OIRA \$4M: Proposed Investment Areas

1. Legal Removal Defense
2. Rapid Response
 - *Community Grants*
 - *Support for Schools, Workers, and Businesses*
 - *Deportation Defense Coordination*
3. Investment into Areas Impacted by Federal Funding Cuts
 - *Legal Orientation Program for Detained Immigrants*
 - *Naturalization Services*
 - *ESOL & Adult Basic Education*
4. Emergency Assistance/Basic Needs
5. Language Access & Ethnic Media
6. Additional Staffing (2 FTEs)



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2851, **Version:** 1

Seattle Police Department Immigration Response

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V2

SPD-111S-A

Request that SPD report on federal immigration enforcement policies

SPONSORS

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Rob Saka, Mark Solomon, Joy Hollingsworth, Maritza Rivera, Dan Strauss, Robert Kettle

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that the Seattle Police Department (SPD) provide a report to the Public Safety Committee on the implementation plan for Executive Order (EO) 2025-07 – City of Seattle Response to Potential National Guard Deployment, and EO 2025-08 - Strengthening Seattle’s Response to Federal Threats to Immigration and Refugee Communities, to include:

(1) A description of the process used to develop the Directive noted in EO 2025-8 Section 3.C., and whether Seattle’s police accountability partners participated in its development: the Community Police Commission, Office of the Inspector General for Public Safety and Office of Police Accountability;

(2) Indicating whether the department will incorporate into the SPD Policy Manual the practices, procedures and policies outlined in the Directive referenced in EO 2025-8, and whether Seattle’s accountability partners will review such policies as required by the Accountability Ordinance (ORD 125315) section 3.29.410.C.;

(3) Outlining how the department will ensure that its line level officers and patrol supervisors are trained for, and know how to quickly access department policies on, interactions with federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers that may include:

a. An ICE officer requesting immediate, on-scene assistance with an arrest or detention that ICE characterizes as enforcement against criminal activity per federal code restricting illegal entry or prior deportation;

b. ICE officers requesting immediate, on-scene assistance with immigration enforcement operations that result in a need for peacekeeping activities such as crowd control or traffic management;

c. ICE officers who use excessive force during an arrest or detention, such that an SPD officer becomes compelled to comply with RCW 10.93.190 Peace Officer Duty to Intervene;

d. Individuals who appear to potentially be, or are acting in a manner that creates the perception that they are ICE officers involved in immigration enforcement activities, but are not identifiable as federal agents, and who may be concealing their identities using masks; and

e. ICE officers or officials who attempt to compel SPD assistance in securing physical evidence or sharing data captured during an ICE enforcement operation or at a city event that could include residents’ exercising their First Amendment rights.

(4) Indicating whether the Executive and SPD plan to work with the City Attorney’s Office to develop a plan for defending the City against legal actions that would compel the City to share physical evidence,

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

data or information that may assist ICE with immigration enforcement, including enforcement characterized as criminal under federal immigration code.

SPD should submit the report to the Public Safety Committee and Central Staff Director on March 1, 2026. SPD may be requested to appear before the Committee in January 2026 to provide a status update on its efforts to implement EO 2025-07 and EO 2025-08.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Public Safety

DUE DATE: March 1, 2026



DATE: February 27, 2026

TO: Councilmember Alexis Mercedes Rinck
Chair, Select Committee on Federal Administration and Policy Changes

FROM: Sarah Smith, SPD Chief Operating Officer

SUBJECT: Federal Immigration Enforcement Policies Report (Response to SLI SPD-111S-A)

Statement of Legislative Intent SPD-111S-A-2, adopted with the 2026 Budget, requested that the Seattle Police Department (SPD) report on the implementation plan for [Executive Order \(EO\) 2025-07 – City of Seattle Response to Potential National Guard Deployment](#), and [EO 2025-08 – Strengthening Seattle’s Response to Federal Threats to Immigration and Refugee Communities](#). This report should include:

1. A description of the process used to develop the directive to SPD officers that is mandated in EO 2025-08 (Section 3.C.), including participation by Seattle’s accountability partners;
2. Whether the practices, procedures, and policies outlined in EO 2025-08 will be incorporated into the SPD Policy Manual and reviewed by Seattle’s accountability partners;
3. An outline of how the department will ensure its officers and Patrol supervisors have the necessary training and knowledge to quickly access department policies on interactions with federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers; and
4. An explanation of whether the Executive and SPD plan to work with the City Attorney’s Office to develop a plan for defending the City against legal actions compelling the sharing of information that may assist the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with immigration enforcement

Background

In October 2025, Mayor Harrell issued an Executive Order to enhance the City of Seattle’s response to federal threats to our immigrant and refugee communities and an Executive Order to protect local communities and resources in the event of a unilateral National Guard deployment. The orders called for the creation of an interdepartmental task force, proactive legal planning and coordination, legislative actions to hold federal agents accountable, training for all City employees on protocols and procedures for complying with State and local immigration enforcement laws, and directives to guide local police response and reinforce SPD’s functional independence from federal authorities. The interdepartmental task force, the Seattle Resilience Task Force, developed several key recommendations, including providing feedback to SPD on a potential directive clarification to officers.

SPD subsequently issued a department-wide directive, which clarified our current department policy to:

- Establish procedures for employees on interactions with federal agents and the National Guard during unilateral deployments, presumptively for immigration enforcement;
- Provide guidance for sworn employees and field supervisors regarding potential interactions with unidentified law enforcement personnel; and

- Preserve the autonomy and authority of SPD as the primary law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in the City.

In January 2026, Mayor Wilson built on these efforts by issuing a directive to address federal immigration enforcement activities. This directive included [Executive Order 2026-03](#), prohibiting federal immigration authorities from using City-owned and City-controlled property for civil immigration activities; and it also established the Stand Together Seattle Initiative, which encourages private property owners to post notices clarifying that their property may not be accessed by federal agents for purposes of immigration enforcement without a warrant. The directive further required SPD to investigate, verify, and document, with in-car and body-worn video, any reports of immigration enforcement activity.

In February 2026, City Council passed [Council Bill 121158](#), which amends the Seattle Municipal Code to explicitly prohibit City employees from sharing non-public information for use in the enforcement of civil immigration laws (in the absence of a judicial warrant) and strikes prior language that directed cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

Development of SPD Directive on Interaction with Federal Law Enforcement

The City of Seattle is a welcoming city, and we abide by all State laws and regulations that prohibit SPD's participation in immigration enforcement. SPD has no role in federal civil immigration enforcement, which is solely the responsibility of the federal government.

Following the establishment of the Mayor's Seattle Resilience Task Force, in December 2025, the Resilience Task Force reviewed the directive language and shared it with our accountability partners (the Community Police Commission, the Office of Police Accountability, and the Office of Inspector General).

SPD received feedback specifically on clarifying the department's [6.020 – Interaction with Foreign Nationals](#) policy through an SPD Directive. Directives are occasionally sent to address an immediate issue in law or in City policy. For instance, in 2020, a directive was issued requiring officers to turn on body-worn video in response to [Mayor Durkan's Executive Order \[2020-07\]](#). Policies and directives both carry the same disciplinary penalties for non-compliance.

Incorporation of EO 2025-08 Practices/ Procedures/ Policies into SPD Policy Manual

In the event of a decision by the federal government to unilaterally deploy the National Guard or other federal agents or resources into the City of Seattle, SPD will continue to serve and protect Seattle's communities under the command of the Chief of Police, which is aligned with the Department directive and all local and state laws.

As mentioned above, it was important for the department to get the Directive out quickly to clarify SPD officers' interactions with Federal law enforcement. The directive language was shared with the Resilience Task Force team and the mayor's office in December 2025. The final Directive was formalized and transmitted to the department in January 2026.

The specific policy manual update to 6.020 is currently still in the review process with our different stakeholders and is expected to be finalized in the coming months. The department is still working through the updated language revision and review process. It is difficult to set a timeline, as each and every policy

update undergoes a very stringent process that includes reviews and consultations with our impacted labor partners, the command of chain, and our oversight committees (Office of Police Accountability, Community Police Commission, Office of the Inspector General for Public Safety).

Officer/Supervisor Access to SPD Policies on Interactions with ICE Officers

SPD policies are posted to a searchable internal system (PowerDMS) which is accessible by all department employees. SPD policies are also accessible to the public. Any changes to the Policy Manual are communicated via department-wide emails, and employees are required to review and acknowledge each updated policy in PowerDMS. Links to the PowerDMS site are prominently displayed on the SPD InWeb as well as the Mobile Data Terminal home screen to allow for quick access both in the office and out in the field.

There aren't typically formalized "trainings" on directives, since they are generally very clear orders. However, updates are discussed during roll call briefings and provided by the sergeant, lieutenant, or watch commander during shifts. This enables engagement and conversation, ensuring that officers understand what the City of Seattle requires of them.

Finally, this Directive is built upon long-standing policy and training that officers receive around documentation, In-car and Body-worn Video, Duty to Intervene, and more.

Shared Legal Strategy Between the Executive and CAO

The Mayor's Office, SPD, and the City Attorney's Office are actively discussing legal and tactical strategy around potential future interactions that might give rise to litigation by the City against federal officials or agencies. These conversations are active and remain privileged at this time.



Federal Immigration Enforcement Policies Report

Select Committee on Federal Administration & Policy Changes
Seattle Police Department

March 5, 2026



Statement of Legislative Intent SPD-111S-A-2



Statement of Legislative Intent SPD-111S-A-2, adopted with the 2026 Budget, requested that the Seattle Police Department (SPD) report on the implementation plan for [Executive Order \(EO\) 2025-07 – City of Seattle Response to Potential National Guard Deployment](#), and [EO 2025-08 – Strengthening Seattle’s Response to Federal Threats to Immigration and Refugee Communities](#).

Today’s agenda includes:

- Background and related actions,
- The process for developing SPD’s directive,
- The directive details, and
- The process for training and communicating with officers.



Background

October 2025: Mayor Harrell issues [Executive Orders 2025-07](#) and [2025-08](#)

- Establishes Interdepartmental group (“Seattle Resilience Task Force”) and starts Citywide coordination planning
- Requires SPD to issue a Directive

December 2025: Seattle Resilience Task Force Finalize Recommendations:

- SPD conducts a federal response tabletop
- The task force provides input on the draft SPD Directive. Accountability partners share feedback on the directive.

January 2026: Seattle Police Department Directive Transmitted

- SPD Directive relating to Interaction with Federal Law Enforcement finalized





SPD Department Directive

SPD's directive relating to Interaction with Federal Law Enforcement clarifies the department's [6.020 – Interaction with Foreign Nationals](#) policy.

This policy states that employees will not assist or participate in any immigration enforcement actions. Employees will not interfere in federal immigration enforcement actions ([18 USC §1505](#)).



SPD Department Directive

The Directive lays out the process for how they will respond to 911 calls of suspected or unverified ICE activity:

1. If officers receive a 911 call, they will respond to the concerns.
2. When officers arrive, they first will ensure the scene is safe for everyone present, then provide medical aid to any victim(s) as soon as possible.
3. Officers attempt to contact the reporting party, utilizing a language line as needed to facilitate communication.
4. Officers will utilize In-car and Body-Worn Video per manual section [16.090 – In-car and Body-Worn Video](#).
5. An officer will attempt to validate the status of the individuals appearing to be law enforcement by respectfully requesting official identification when safe and feasible, and document the incident.
6. A Patrol Supervisor will respond with officers to the scene and continue to monitor the incident until it is complete.



Directive in Action

Seattle Police Department (SPD) Mission:

The mission of the Seattle Police Department is to prevent crime, enforce the law, and support quality public safety by delivering respectful, professional, and dependable police services.

Concerning the directive, this includes:

- Peacekeeping,
- De- Escalation,
- Rendering medical aid, and
- Documentation



Training & Communication

SPD officers are informed about the Directive's requirements through:

- Clear orders from Chief
- Roll call briefings and discussion
- PowerDMS process
- Longstanding training on related tools (Duty to Intervene, etc.)

Additionally:

- SPD Directives and SPD Policies have the same force and effect
- SPD Directives are sometimes sent to address an immediate issue (in this case, clarifying officer interactions with federal law enforcement)
- Policy Manual update is underway but will take longer to formalize



Closing Statement

The Seattle Police Department's primary responsibility is the life and safety of everyone.

[The City of Seattle is a welcoming city](#) and we abide by all state laws and regulations that prohibit the Seattle Police Department's participation in immigration enforcement.



Questions?