



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Select Committee on Federal Administration and Policy Changes

Agenda

Thursday, April 3, 2025

2:00 PM

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

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Chair
Cathy Moore, Vice-Chair
Joy Hollingsworth, Member
Robert Kettle, Member
Sara Nelson, Member
Maritza Rivera, Member
Rob Saka, Member
Mark Solomon, Member
Dan Strauss, Member

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

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Policy Changes
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April 3, 2025 - 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. Details on how to provide 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. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

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. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

Pursuant to Council Rule VI.C.10, members of the public providing public comment in Chambers will be broadcast via Seattle Channel.

Please submit written comments to all Councilmembers four hours prior to the meeting at Council@seattle.gov or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Chair's Report

D. Public Comment

E. Items of Business

**1. Federal Impact on Housing and Homelessness Response Issues
Panel**

*Supporting
Documents:*

[KCRHA Presentation](#)

[DESC Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (60 minutes)

Presenters: Jess Blanch, Enterprise Community Partners; James Lovell, Chief Seattle Club; Daniel Malone, Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC); Simon Foster, King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA); Naomi See, Hunt Capital Partners

2. Welcoming City Resolution

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Presentation](#)

[Draft Resolution](#)

Briefing and Discussion (60 minutes)

Presenters: Vanessa Reyes, Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN); Edith Reyes, OneAmerica; Jasmine Marwaha, Council Central Staff

F. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2660, **Version:** 1

Federal Impact on Housing and Homelessness Response Issues Panel



KCRHA

King County Regional Homelessness Authority

Federal Impact on the Homelessness Response System

Simon P. Foster

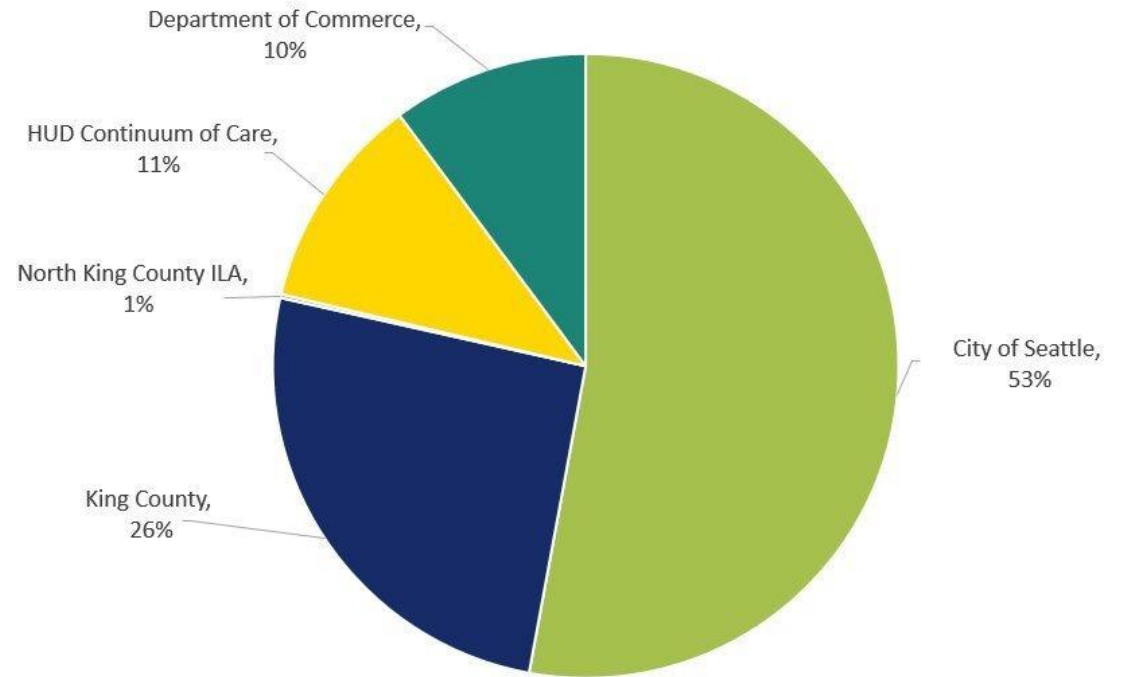
Seattle City Council

Federal Administration and Policy Changes Select Committee

April 3, 2025

2025 KCRHA Budget Breakdown

- HUD CoC program is **3rd largest** funding source.
 - KCRHA received **\$23 million** from HUD.
- Funds **critical** programs:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Rapid Re-housing
 - Transitional Housing
 - Youth Demonstration Projects
- Withholding these funds **threatens** our region's homelessness response system.



Impacts and Actions

Estimated Impacted Individuals

- KCRHA serves across the CoC continuum **3,510** households and **4,490** individuals
 - Includes 2,300 households and 2,523 individuals in King County's CoC program.
- Anticipated impacts:
 - **2,174** individuals in private market units could be at risk of incurring late fees by their landlord, loss of subsidy, and/or eviction.
 - **2,316** individuals in transitional housing, youth, or safe- haven programs risk exiting into homelessness.
 - **241** employees at affected KCRHA funded programs are at risk of furlough.
 - Overall system stagnancy and **fewer** enrollments into services.

KCRHA Actions

- Maximize federal funding through weekly drawdown of funds for expended costs.
- Collaborate with King County and service providers to maximize the use of existing funding effectively.
- Close coordination with our local HUD office and will continue to meet with them bi-monthly.





A brief overview of DESC

Housing and services
for people with
complicated
behavioral health
conditions

Housing First pioneer:
1,900+ units,
hundreds of shelter
beds

Licensed behavioral
health provider:
mental health and
SUD treatment, case
management

1,000 multidisciplinary
staff: doctors, nurses,
social workers, peers,
and other social
service professionals

\$140M budget, about
25% federal origin,
serving 8,000 annually
in King County



DESC Permanent Supportive Housing

1,566 units with 24/7 supports, hundreds more scattered sites units
Fund sources: LIHTC, HUD CoC, Section 8, Seattle, King County, WA

All sites rely on Medicaid-funded services to support tenants' care & goals!





Medicaid-funded Services at DESC

- Outpatient behavioral health; includes case management, mental health care services, and substance use disorder care
- Crisis stabilization services
- Mobile outreach services
- Opioid treatment services
- Foundational community supports





Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2661, **Version:** 1

Welcoming City Resolution



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Welcoming City Affirmation - Draft Resolution

JASMINE MARWAHA, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY CHANGES
APRIL 3, 2025

Presentation Outline

- Background
- Summary of Draft Resolution
- Next Steps

Background

- Previous City Resolutions and Current Executive Actions
- Shifting Landscape
- March 6 Select Committee on Federal Administration and Policy Changes

Summary of Draft Resolution

1 of 3

- Recognizes and reaffirms ongoing City policy commitments:
 - Commitment to welcoming and actively supporting immigrants and refugees
 - City employees will make city services accessible and will not withhold services on the basis of ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, physical or mental disability, religion, or immigration status
 - City employees will not require any person seeking services to disclose their immigration status
 - City employees will make no record of any immigration status information inadvertently disclosed and will treat such information as confidential and sensitive, pursuant to the City's privacy principles
 - City employees will not cooperate or assist with any registration or surveillance programs or any other rules or policies that are inconsistent with United States law or the US Constitution
 - SPD will not enter into any arrangement granting an officer authority for federal civil immigration enforcement, consistent with state law
 - City employees will not honor detainer requests from federal civil immigration enforcement agencies without a judicial warrant, will not allow federal civil immigration agents to access non-public areas of City facilities without a judicial warrant, and will not share information with federal immigration authorities except as expressly required by federal or state law

Summary of Draft Resolution

2 of 3

- Requests departments continue training for City employees on current policies and practices
- Requests the City Attorney's Office to:
 - Implement policies that endeavor to prevent immigration consequences for immigrants and refugees at all stages of the criminal legal process
 - Within 90 days establish a team to monitor federal actions that may target immigrant communities and prepare legal strategies in response
- Requests that all City facilities post signage clearly designating areas that are not open to the public to assist City employees in implementing the Mayor's Directive regarding federal immigration enforcement
- Requests annual update from Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, in consultation with community, evaluating the City's progress in implementing the Resolution requests and other relevant policies and programs protecting immigrants and refugees

Summary of Draft Resolution

3 of 3

- Expresses commitment from Council to expand investments in the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs with additional \$300,000
- Expresses commitment from Council to maintain polices and investments that support:
 - Seattle’s diverse business community, including but not limited to women- and minority-owned business enterprises (WMBEs), the LGBTQ business community, and the Office of Economic Development’s community wealth building strategies;
 - Anti-displacement strategies, including but not limited to the Equitable Development Initiative, the implementation of the One Seattle Comprehensive Plan, and affordable housing funds; and
 - The Office of Labor Standards, including but not limited to robust enforcement of protections for low-wage workers, confidential reporting processes, specialized outreach materials in multiple languages, and support for community and business organizations to provide outreach and assistance.

Next Steps

- Next Select Committee on Federal Administration and Policy Changes
 - May 16, 2025
 - Discussion and possible vote

Questions?

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

..title

A RESOLUTION reaffirming The City of Seattle as a Welcoming City; and committing to maintaining investments and policies that support all Seattle residents regardless of ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, physical or mental disability, religion, or immigration status.

..body

WHEREAS, Seattle fosters a culture and environment that makes it a vibrant, global city where immigrant and refugee residents can fully participate in and be integrated into the social, civic, and economic fabric of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in five Seattle residents is foreign born and 140 languages are spoken in Seattle’s public schools; and

WHEREAS, Washington State is the country’s eighth largest refugee-receiving state and a majority of the estimated 6,000 new arrivals each year are resettled in Seattle-King County; and

WHEREAS, Washington State is home to immigrants and refugees of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and faiths—including an estimated 100,000 Muslim residents—who contribute to the social, cultural, and economic fabric of the state, and call cities like Seattle home as neighbors, colleagues, and community members; and

WHEREAS, immigrants and refugees in Seattle contribute significantly to the local economy, with immigrant-owned businesses in Washington State generating over \$2.3 billion in annual revenue and creating thousands of jobs; and

WHEREAS, more than 13,000 undocumented youth in Washington State are the recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program and they deserve an opportunity to

1 have a bright future and to contribute their time and talent to make Seattle a city of
2 innovation and growth; and

3 WHEREAS, City employees serve all residents and make City services accessible to all,
4 regardless of immigration status, and City agencies and law enforcement cannot withhold
5 services based on ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual
6 orientation, gender identity, marital status, physical or mental disability, immigration
7 status, or religion; and

8 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has previously adopted Resolution 30355 in 2001, honoring
9 Seattle’s immigrant community, and Resolution 30796 in 2005, relating to development
10 of an action plan to identify and address issues facing Seattle’s immigrant communities;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle adopted Resolution 30851 in 2006, Resolution 31193 in 2010,
13 and Resolution 31490 in 2013 supporting Federal Comprehensive Immigration Reform
14 and fostering family unity with a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented, including
15 students who arrived in the U.S. as children; and

16 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle enacted Ordinance 123822 in 2012 to create an Office of
17 Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and renaming the Immigrant and Refugee Advisory
18 Board to the Immigrant and Refugee Commission; and

19 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle adopted Ordinance 121063 in 2003 to establish policies of the
20 Seattle Police Department to protect immigrants’ access to police protection and public
21 services regardless of immigration status, subsequently reaffirmed by Resolution 30672
22 in 2004 and Resolution 31730 in 2017; and

1 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle adopted Resolution 31724 in 2016 reaffirming Seattle’s values
2 of inclusion, respect, and justice, and the City’s commitment toward actions to reinforce
3 these values; and calling on President Donald Trump to condemn recent attacks and hate
4 speech that perpetuate religious persecution, racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia,
5 and xenophobia; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed the Keep Washington Working
7 Act with bipartisan support, restricting the extent to which local law enforcement
8 agencies may participate in the enforcement of federal immigration laws; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2020, the Washington State Legislature passed the Courts Open to All Act,
10 which prohibited judges, court staff, prosecutors, prosecutor’s office staff, and court
11 security personnel from inquiring into or collecting information about an individual’s
12 immigration or citizenship status or place of birth, and from disclosing nonpublic
13 personal information to immigration authorities, except as required by law, among other
14 protections for immigrants and refugees interacting with the court system; and

15 WHEREAS, on January 10, 2025, the Mayor issued a Directive that directs department directors
16 to conduct an internal review of their policies, practices, and materials to confirm that
17 they are updated to maintain consistency with applicable law related to federal
18 immigration enforcement, requires all requests from federal immigration enforcement
19 agencies be directed to the Mayor’s Office, and requires identified department staff to
20 participate in train-the-trainer activities led by the Office of Immigrant and Refugee
21 Affairs; and

22 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2025, the Mayor issued an Executive Order to improve
23 accessibility of information by requiring the creation of the Seattle’s first plain language

1 plan and new approaches to make information and services more accessible to everyone,
2 including people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency; and

3 WHEREAS, on March 6, 2025, the Seattle City Council Select Committee on Federal
4 Administration and Policy Changes heard from representatives of vulnerable
5 communities most impacted by federal administration policy changes, who consistently
6 requested that The City of Seattle maintain funding for programs and policies that
7 support immigrants and refugees, low-wage workers, communities at risk of
8 displacement, and continued investments and policies that support women- and minority-
9 owned business enterprises, the LGBTQ business community, and community wealth-
10 building strategies; and

11 WHEREAS, community-based organizations report strong concerns of increasing
12 criminalization of immigrants, expanded deportation efforts and expedited removal, and
13 threats of mass deportation, potentially in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the U.S.
14 Constitution, targeted on the basis of race or ethnicity in violation of the Equal Protection
15 Clause, or denied due process rights based on immigration status; and

16 WHEREAS, Seattle benefits tremendously from the large number of diverse immigrants and
17 refugees who contribute to the development of a culturally and economically diverse and
18 enriched community; and

19 WHEREAS, the level of anti-immigrant and anti-refugee rhetoric during the 2024 presidential
20 campaign, racist hate speech toward immigrant and refugee communities, and anti-
21 immigrant and anti-refugee policies proposed by the current federal administration is
22 alarming; and

1 WHEREAS, research consistently shows that sanctuary counties have lower crime rates than
2 non-sanctuary counties and contribute positively to economic growth, cultural diversity,
3 and community vitality; and

4 WHEREAS, Seattle is committed to continue building a welcoming, safe, and hate-free
5 environment in communities, where all immigrants and refugees are welcomed, accepted,
6 and integrated; and to encourage business leaders, civic groups, community institutions,
7 and residents to join in a community-wide effort to adopt policies and practices that
8 promote integration, inclusion, and equity; NOW, THEREFORE,

9 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

10 Section 1. The Seattle City Council (“Council”) reaffirms its commitment to welcoming
11 and actively supporting immigrants and refugees from all nationalities, religions, and
12 backgrounds with policies programs, and dedicated resources that foster inclusion, meaningful
13 participation, and economic opportunity for all.

14 Section 2. The Council reaffirms City policy that City employees will continue to serve
15 all residents and make City services accessible to all residents, regardless of immigration status.
16 City policy further states that: the City will not withhold services on the basis of ancestry, race,
17 ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status,
18 physical or mental disability, religion, or immigration status; City employees will not require any
19 person seeking or accessing City programs or services to disclose their immigration status; and
20 City employees will make no record of any immigration status information that is inadvertently
21 disclosed and will treat such immigration status information as confidential and sensitive
22 information pursuant to the City’s privacy principles as adopted by Resolution 31570 in 2015.
23 The Council requests that City departments develop and maintain regular training programs for

1 all employees on immigrant rights, cultural responsiveness, and language access requirements,
2 and continue to designate at least one staff member to serve as a language access liaison,
3 responsible for advancing departmental compliance with these policies.

4 Section 3. The Council affirms City policy that City employees will not cooperate or
5 assist with any registration or surveillance programs or any other rules or policies that are
6 inconsistent with the Constitution or laws of the United States and targeted at immigrants and
7 refugees, and rejects any attempts to characterize family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues as
8 enemies of the state.

9 Section 4. The Council reaffirms City policy stating that employees will abide by state
10 law prohibiting local law enforcement agencies from entering into any contract, agreement, or
11 arrangement that would grant an officer authority for federal civil immigration enforcement. As
12 such, the City will reject any offer from the federal government to enter into a Section 287(g)
13 agreement per the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.). The Council further
14 recognizes and reaffirms City policy that the City will not honor detainer requests from federal
15 civil immigration enforcement agencies without a judicial warrant, will not allow federal civil
16 immigration agents to access non-public areas of City facilities without a judicial warrant, and
17 will not share information with federal immigration authorities except as expressly required by
18 federal or state law. The Council requests that City departments implement regular training for
19 law enforcement officers and all City staff on these policies. The Council further reaffirms its
20 position that the Seattle Police Department should be focused on the safety and security of all
21 Seattle residents regardless of immigration status and refuses to allow its police officers to be
22 compelled into service as de facto immigration officers.

1 Section 5. The Council requests that the City Attorney’s Office provide public
2 acknowledgment that it is taking all necessary measures to fully comply with the Courts Open to
3 All Act and other relevant state law. The Council further requests that the City Attorney’s Office
4 implement policies that endeavor to prevent immigration consequences for immigrants and
5 refugees at all stages of the criminal legal process, and take into consideration whether
6 noncitizen residents may face harsher punishments than U.S. citizens solely due to their
7 immigration status.

8 Section 6. The Council requests that all City facilities post signage clearly designating
9 areas that are not open to the public to assist City employees in implementing the Mayor’s
10 Directive, dated January 10, 2025 (“Mayor’s Directive”), that directs employees to refer requests
11 to the Mayor’s Office when Immigration and Customs Enforcement or other federal authorities
12 related to immigration enforcement request access to non-public areas in City buildings and
13 venues. The Council further requests that all City departments fully comply with the Mayor’s
14 Directive, and assess on an annual basis that all policies and protocols are still aligned with this
15 directive.

16 Section 7. The Council requests that the City use all legal avenues at its disposal to resist
17 any efforts to impose on the City any immigration, spending, or funding policy that violates the
18 Constitution and laws of the United States. The Council requests that the City Attorney establish
19 a team within 90 days to monitor federal actions that may target immigrant communities and to
20 prepare legal strategies in response. The Council shall consider allocating additional resources to
21 support this critical work.

22 Section 8. The Council commits to expanding its investments for the Office of Immigrant
23 and Refugee Affairs (OIRA), including but not limited to: deportation defense, rapid response

1 efforts coordinated with King County and Washington State agencies, citizenship programs,
2 English language learning and workforce development programs, as well as know your rights
3 trainings for City staff, contracted community organizations, and immigrants and refugees. The
4 Council further commits to expanding investments and/or policies to support language access,
5 ensuring that City services reach all communities. The Council commits to an initial additional
6 investment of \$150,000 in 2025 to expand OIRA’s current programming and services, as well as
7 an additional \$150,000 to establish an Immigrant Community Defense Fund, to respond to
8 emerging needs as unwarranted and inhumane immigration enforcement continues to escalate.

9 Section 9. The Council commits to supporting the City’s diverse business community,
10 including but not limited to maintained investments and policies that support women- and
11 minority-owned business enterprises, the LGBTQ business community, and the Office of
12 Economic Development’s community wealth building strategies. The Council requests that the
13 Office of Economic Development continue to promote and consider expanding outreach for
14 existing programs within the City, region, and Washington State that provide targeted technical
15 assistance, access to capital, language-appropriate business development resources, and
16 protection from exploitation. The Council further requests that City investments supporting the
17 City’s diverse business community continue to include, but not be limited to, cultural- and
18 language-specific outreach strategies for immigrant entrepreneurs in underserved neighborhoods.

19 Section 10. The Council commits to maintaining investments and policies to combat
20 displacement, to help maintain Seattle as a place where all residents can thrive regardless of their
21 ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity,
22 marital status, physical or mental disability, religion, or immigration status. These investments
23 and polices include but are not limited to supporting the Equitable Development Initiative, the

1 adoption and implementation of the One Seattle Comprehensive Plan, and the Office of
2 Housing’s JumpStart Payroll Expense Tax Community Self-Determination Fund and other
3 affordable housing programs.

4 Section 11. The Council is proud to support robust labor standards for low-wage workers,
5 as a nationwide leader in protecting workers’ rights. The Council is committed to maintaining its
6 investments in the Office of Labor Standards (OLS), to support high-road employers and hiring
7 entities, while supporting Seattle’s most vulnerable workers. The Council condemns employers
8 and hiring entities that threaten to retaliate against workers based on their real or perceived
9 immigration status. Similar to all City agencies as discussed in Section 2 of this resolution, the
10 Council understands that OLS will offer its services to all people regardless of their immigration
11 status and will take all legally allowable actions to keep information private in rendering its
12 services. These services include investigating potential violations of labor standards, providing
13 outreach and education on labor standards, and providing resources and referrals. The Council
14 requests that OLS continue to maintain specialized outreach materials in multiple languages
15 explaining workers' rights regardless of immigration status and explicitly addressing the
16 prohibition on immigration-based retaliation. The Council further requests that OLS continue to
17 provide confidential reporting processes specifically designed to protect vulnerable immigrant
18 workers from exploitation and partner with trusted community organizations to conduct targeted
19 outreach to immigrant workers. The Council particularly recognizes the importance of
20 continuing funding community and business organizations to provide outreach and assistance
21 with labor standards, for those workers and businesses that do not feel comfortable contacting
22 OLS directly about their rights and obligations.

1 Section 12. The Council shall support the efforts of elected officials and staff in local
2 jurisdictions throughout Washington State in developing policies protecting immigrants,
3 refugees, LGBTQ people, women, and other populations whose rights may be abrogated and
4 interests harmed by those who would unconstitutionally and illegally misuse the power of the
5 federal government to do so.

6 Section 13. The Council requests that OIRA consult with community-based organizations
7 contracted by the City to provide services to immigrant and refugee communities, as well as with
8 the Immigrant and Refugee Commission, in order to provide the Mayor and Council with an
9 annual update evaluating the City’s progress in implementing the requests outlined in this
10 resolution, as well as any other relevant policies and programs that protect immigrants and
11 refugees. The Council requests that OIRA provide an initial update no later than September 15,
12 2025.

