



Office of the Mayor
City of Seattle
Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Executive Order 2026-03: An Executive Order prohibiting the use of property that is both City-owned and City-controlled, as defined herein, for civil immigration enforcement activities, and directing the Department of Finance and Administrative Services to create clear signage that can be posted on applicable City property stating: “This property is owned and controlled by the City of Seattle. It shall not be used for civil immigration enforcement staging, operations, or processing.”

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle (City) is a Welcoming City, committed to ensuring the safety, dignity, and human rights of all residents, regardless of race, religion, refugee or immigration status, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the City is a first-class city and has the authority to control the use of its own property and to safeguard the intended use of that property; and

WHEREAS, state and local laws and policies prohibit City resources and personnel from being used to assist with or participate in activities that support or constitute federal civil immigration enforcement, except as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits the federal government from commandeering the City’s property and resources related to civil immigration enforcement activities against the City’s will; and

WHEREAS, using City property for federal immigration enforcement staging, operations, or processing would erode trust between immigrant communities and local law enforcement and is inconsistent with the City’s values and commitment to protect and serve all community members; and

WHEREAS, federal agents in other cities have used municipal property as staging sites for civil immigration enforcement operations, creating a risk that such actions could occur in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, as the Mayor of the City, it is within my authority to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations to implement City ordinances that comply with state law and to issue executive orders establishing policies and procedures to direct and supervise executive departments, which include departments responsible for overseeing and determining the appropriate use of City-owned or controlled property;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Katie B. Wilson, Mayor of Seattle, hereby order the following actions:

A. Prohibition on City controlled and City owned property for civil immigration enforcement staging.

- (1) Property that is both City-owned and City-controlled, defined to include only City parking lots, parks, plazas, vacant lots, storage facilities, garages, and the Seattle Center, and not including the public right-of-way used for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, shall not be used by federal authorities to assemble, mobilize, or deploy personnel, vehicles, or equipment for federal civil immigration enforcement operations, or for surveillance or logistical coordination for those operations.
- (2) FAS shall design clear signage or templates for departments to produce that departments post on their applicable City properties stating: “This property is owned and controlled by the City of Seattle. It shall not be used for civil immigration enforcement staging, operations, or processing.”
- (3) FAS shall work with City departments and agencies to identify property that is both City-owned and City-controlled, as defined herein, that could be used as a staging area, processing location, or operations base for the purpose of civil immigration enforcement.
- (4) Any City employee who becomes aware of the attempted or actual use of a City property that is subject to this Executive Order as a staging area, processing location, or operations base for civil immigration enforcement shall immediately report this information to Department Representative on immigration issues (DRI) who will communicate with the Mayor’s Office General Counsel.

B. Creation of signage to promote community protection among private property owners.

- (1) The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) shall design a signage template that private property owners and leaseholders, including but not limited to businesses, nonprofit organizations, and faith institutions, can use, if they choose that clearly states:

**This property is a Stand Together Seattle partner
No agent of the federal government, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), may enter these premises for purposes of civil immigration enforcement,**

absent a valid judicial warrant or court order. This property may not be used for civil immigration enforcement as a staging area, processing location, or operations base.

- (1) Property owners and leaseholders that use this signage do so at their own discretion and assume any legal risk associated herewith. The City cannot prevent ICE and federal immigration enforcement activity on private property. OIRA will also make available to the public “know your rights” materials regarding entry by federal immigration enforcement officials.

C. Scope

- (1) Nothing in this Order shall be construed as restricting or interfering with the execution of lawful judicial warrants, court orders, or the enforcement of criminal law.

Inquiries by City departments and offices regarding this Executive Order should be directed to Mayor’s Office General Counsel Caedmon Magboo Cahill.

Dated this 29th day of January, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie B. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie B. Wilson
Mayor, City of Seattle