



## SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION NO. 41905

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS DIAZ, PALMER, SADALGE, AND  
2 WALKER

3 A RESOLUTION relating to immigration enforcement; condemning the broader  
4 pattern of overzealous, unjust, and dangerous enforcement actions carried  
5 out during recent federal immigration enforcement actions; reaffirming the  
6 City's longstanding opposition to private, for-profit detention centers;  
7 supporting oversight of the United States Department of Homeland Security  
8 and operations at the Northwest Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
9 Processing Center; calling on the Congress of the United States to take  
10 steps to ensure federal immigration enforcement agencies operate under  
11 clear standards that protect public safety, respect constitutional rights, and  
12 provide real accountability when those standards are violated; and calling on  
13 State leaders to take further actions to reaffirm the underlying principles of  
14 the Keep Washington Working Act.

15 WHEREAS the City Council believes deeply in the United States'  
16 principles of freedom, equality, due process and justice, and that all individuals  
17 must enjoy equal protection under the law, and

18 WHEREAS communities across the country have witnessed an alarming  
19 escalation in federal immigration enforcement tactics by United States  
20 Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") and United States Customs and  
21 Border Protection ("CBP"), marked by increasingly aggressive operations and a  
22 broad expansion of detention practices, including reports of prolonged, opaque,  
23 and potentially unjust detainment conditions, that undermine safety, erode due  
24 process, and threaten core civil liberties, and

25 WHEREAS in multiple cities, agents from ICE and CBP have violently  
26 arrested civilians and deployed chemical weapons without warning in residential  
27 areas, harming school children and local law enforcement, and



1           WHEREAS these concerns have been brought into sharp and painful focus  
2 by the January 2026 fatal shootings in Minneapolis of United States citizens Alex  
3 Pretti and Renée Nicole Good during encounters with federal agents, two lives lost  
4 in incidents that have deeply shaken communities, sparked grief and outrage  
5 across the nation, and prompted urgent calls for transparency, accountability, and  
6 independent investigation into the use of force by the United States Department of  
7 Homeland Security (“DHS”) and its enforcement agencies, including ICE and CBP,  
8 and  
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11           WHEREAS the fatal events in Minneapolis, and the widespread public  
12 concern that followed, contributed to a national debate over federal immigration  
13 enforcement practices, ultimately leading to a legislative impasse in Congress and  
14 a partial shutdown of DHS beginning February 14, 2026, after lawmakers failed to  
15 reach agreement on incorporating meaningful civil rights protections into continued  
16 funding, and  
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18           WHEREAS the City Council recognizes that this funding lapse is not an  
19 isolated disruption, but a reflection of deeper structural challenges within DHS,  
20 where insufficient accountability and oversight have strained trust between federal  
21 agencies and the communities they serve, underscoring the urgent need for  
22 durable reforms that prioritize transparency, safety, and civil rights, and  
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24           WHEREAS federal law enforcement agencies exercise extraordinary  
25 authority, including the power to detain individuals and use lethal force, and such  
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1 authority must be accompanied by clear rules, transparency, and accountability to  
2 the public, and

3 WHEREAS the City Council believes strongly in upholding the rule of law  
4 and supporting lawful public safety functions while insisting that all law  
5 enforcement officers respect constitutional rights and are accountable when those  
6 standards are violated, and

8 WHEREAS the City Council has consistently affirmed support for protecting  
9 civil rights and supporting all members of our community, especially the  
10 marginalized and historically targeted, and

12 WHEREAS the City Council deeply values our foreign-born community  
13 members who comprise approximately 13 percent of the population in the City and  
14 contribute greatly to the economic and cultural vitality of our City, and

15 WHEREAS the City Council has an interest in the health, safety, and welfare  
16 of the people who live in and visit our City and this deep concern extends to those  
17 who are detained in the Northwest Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
18 Processing Center (“NWIPC”), and

20 WHEREAS while the City Council understands the legal and jurisdictional  
21 limitations that prevent it from unilaterally closing or directly regulating the federally  
22 contracted detention facility, immigration enforcement activities undertaken by ICE,  
23 including conditions reported at NWIPC, involve a profound lack of transparency,  
24 including withheld detainee locations, unannounced transfers, and individuals  
25 effectively disappearing from public tracking systems, leaving families and legal  
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1 counsel unable to locate them, undermining access to basic legal protections,  
2 transparency, and human dignity, and

3 WHEREAS the City Council has repeatedly and consistently expressed  
4 concerns about the NWIPC and supported state and federal legislation to provide  
5 oversight and greater protections for those held in the facility, including adopting  
6 Resolution No. 40636 to support greater protections for the health, safety, and  
7 welfare of the individuals held in the facility during the COVID pandemic, and  
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9 WHEREAS the City supported legislation and subsequently worked on the  
10 rulemaking process with the Washington State Department of Health to set  
11 operational, health, and safety standards that will ensure persons detained in  
12 private detention facilities are provided sanitary, hygienic, and safe living  
13 conditions as required by 2SHB 1470 and E2SHB 1232, and  
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15 WHEREAS the City Council has taken actions within its limited authority to  
16 support individuals detained in the NWIPC, including providing funding for legal  
17 assistance with civil immigration matters and the passage of Resolution  
18 Nos. 41378 and 41757 authorizing the use of funds to provide access to phone  
19 services for individuals detained in the NWIPC and to support welcome center  
20 services that help connect released individuals with their friends and family, and  
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22 WHEREAS the City Council passed Resolution No. 41627, reiterating the  
23 City's commitment to the Keep Washington Working Act and further restricts City  
24 funds, facilities, property, equipment, or personnel from being used to investigate,  
25 enforce, cooperate with, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any  
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1 federal registration or surveillance programs or any other laws, rules, or policies  
2 that target individuals in the City solely on the basis of race, religion, immigration,  
3 or citizenship status, or national or ethnic origin, and Resolution No. 41817  
4 directing the City Manager to clarify the use of City-owned property for federal  
5 immigration enforcement operations as directed in Resolution No. 41627, and  
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7       WHEREAS the City Council passed Resolution No. 41844 which directed the  
8 City Manager to create a web page to share resources for immigrants, community  
9 members, and businesses related to immigration issues impacting residents of the  
10 City, including background on the City Council legislation in support of the City's  
11 immigrant and refugee community and the City's advocacy to restrict the use of for-  
12 profit detention centers, and directing the City Manager to create outreach materials  
13 and share this information with affected community members, and  
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15       WHEREAS because the City Council does not have the legal authority to  
16 prevent ICE from entering our City, or the ability to unilaterally close or directly  
17 oversee the NWIPC, the City Council is strongly supporting State and Federal  
18 efforts to provide necessary guardrails and protections against the increasingly  
19 alarming activities of ICE and the CBP, and  
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21       WHEREAS the City Council actively engaged with the Washington State  
22 Legislature during the 2026 legislative session to advocate for policies that protect  
23 immigrant rights and promote community safety and trust, and  
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25       WHEREAS such advocacy has included collaboration with regional partners  
26 and state policymakers to advance legislation addressing immigrant worker



1 protections, prohibitions on law enforcement at any level of government wearing  
2 masks, strengthened data privacy and personal safety protections for all  
3 Washington residents, enhanced reporting requirements and law enforcement  
4 responses to incidents at private detention facilities, and requirements for  
5 documenting and reporting interactions between state and local law enforcement  
6 and federal immigration authorities, and

8       WHEREAS additional advocacy by City Council members included providing  
9 testimony before legislative committees in support of measures to establish  
10 remedies for violations of federal constitutional rights during immigration  
11 enforcement, prohibit the investment of funds managed by the state investment  
12 board in private detention facilities, and authorize enforcement mechanisms,  
13 including fines, when private detention facilities deny access to the Washington  
14 State Department of Health for inspections, and

17       WHEREAS members of the City Council stood in solidarity with  
18 Governor Bob Ferguson and Attorney General Nick Brown and scores of  
19 community leaders in front of the Northwest ICE Processing Center and residents  
20 as they announced legal action against The GEO Group, the private company that  
21 owns and operates the NWIPC, to ask the court to order The GEO Group to allow  
22 inspectors from the state Department of Health into the immigration detention  
23 facility to ensure it is following state law, and to investigate the more than 3,500  
24 complaints from detainees about conditions in the facility; Now, Therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby condemns the killings of Renée Good and Alex Pretti by the United States Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) agents during Operation Metro Surge in Minnesota, as well as the broader pattern of overzealous, unjust, and dangerous enforcement actions carried out during recent federal immigration enforcement actions; the City Council further condemns the federal weaponization of DHS and United States Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) agents against individuals in cities across the United States, actions that have resulted not only in these high-profile deaths but in additional loss of life, serious injuries, and the unjust and unfounded detainment of individuals, including United States citizens, in communities nationwide.

Section 2. The City Council calls on the Congress of the United States to take steps to ensure federal immigration enforcement agencies operate under clear standards that protect public safety, respect constitutional rights and provide real accountability when those standards are violated, and for an end to the aggressive and dangerous surges of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) and CBP, and an end to improper CBP deployments in communities across the country, both of which are undermining public safety, endangering the health and safety of residents, unduly harming children and vulnerable adults, and violating the legal and constitutional rights of American citizens and immigrants and refugees.



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Section 3. The City Council calls on the United States Congress not to provide any additional funding for the DHS without including meaningful and significant guardrails to rein in the agency and how it operates in communities, and recognizes that the recent DHS shutdown, driven by congressional failure to reach agreement on necessary civil rights protections and oversight of federal immigration enforcement, underscores the urgent need for comprehensive reform. The City Council expresses support for guardrails that would end lawlessness in enforcement, including requiring DHS to obtain a judicial warrant prior to enforcement actions, cease the use of masked agents during immigration enforcement operations, prohibit enforcement actions at sensitive locations, ensure independent and transparent investigations are conducted for all law enforcement–involved deaths involving federal agents, guarantee state and local authorities full and timely access to evidence and cooperation in all investigations, establish clear public reporting requirements when federal operations are conducted in local communities, and ensure robust oversight of all enforcement practices, including use of force and detention policies. The City Council also supports funding for legal representation of individuals detained by ICE or held in ICE detention facilities.

Section 4. The City Council reaffirms its longstanding and steadfast opposition to the use of private, for-profit detention centers as expressed in Resolutions No. 40506 and 40877, and remains committed to the principles outlined in the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act (H.R. 2760, 118th Congress, 2023-2024) that would advance dignity and justice to the broken detention system,



1 the New Way Forward Act (H.R. 2374, 118th Congress, 2023-2024) that would  
2 phase out the practice of holding federal detainees in private detention centers and  
3 county jails, and 2SHB 1470, passed in 2023 by the Washington State Legislature,  
4 that required the Washington State Department of Health to adopt rules and inspect  
5 private detention facilities, which would include the Northwest Immigration and  
6 Customs Enforcement Processing Center (“NWIPC”), to ensure compliance with  
7 measurable standards providing sanitary, hygienic, and safe conditions for detained  
8 persons.  
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10           Section 5. The City Council affirms that meaningful oversight is essential  
11 when the liberty, health, and safety of individuals are at stake, and strongly  
12 supports the State of Washington’s efforts to impose robust, enforceable oversight  
13 of private detention facilities, including independent inspections, mandatory  
14 compliance standards, and meaningful consequences for violations, recognizing  
15 that state action is necessary where federal oversight has proven insufficient to  
16 ensure transparency, accountability, and the protection of basic civil and human  
17 rights.  
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Section 6. The City Council affirms its longstanding support for the Keep Washington Working Act (Laws of 2019 ch. 440, E2SHB 5497) which establishes policies to limit state and local agency involvement in federal immigration enforcement, protect immigrant rights, and support Washington’s economy by ensuring the rights and dignity of all residents, and requests that Governor Ferguson continue close monitoring and oversight of state agency data sharing agreements with federal agencies, and further that the Governor perform a formal review to ensure that all state agencies are fully compliant with the provisions of Act.

Section 7. The City Council reaffirms the underlying principles of the Keep Washington Working Act that enforcing federal immigration law is not the primary purpose of state or local law enforcement and that immigration status or presence in the United States alone is not a matter for police action, and requests the Attorney General’s Office provide additional training and guidance to local governments regarding appropriate responses by local law enforcement to activities conducted by ICE, particularly where concerns arise regarding the legality of such actions.



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Section 8. The City Manager is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Washington's congressional delegation representing the City, which includes both United States Senators and United States Representatives from the sixth and tenth congressional districts, the Washington State Governor and Attorney General, and the Washington State legislative delegation representing the 27th, 28th, and 29th Legislative Districts.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney