



RESOLUTION NO. 3467

A Resolution of the City Council supporting Bend's immigrant communities and condemning the current federal government approach to immigration enforcement.

Findings

A. The City of Bend is committed to treating all individuals with respect in providing local government services to Bend residents and visitors.

B. The City of Bend recognizes and values the diverse contributions of all individuals, and affirms its commitment to upholding the dignity and respect of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, immigration or refugee status, heritage, culture, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ability, age, housing status, or economic status. Bend adopted Resolution No. 3068 in 2017 to uphold these values and join the Welcoming America initiative.

C. Immigrants, foreign-born and refugee populations make up a vital portion of Bend's community and economy, contributing significantly as friends, neighbors, workers, business owners, and community and faith leaders; they remind us that immigration is a legacy to be honored and a strength to be protected.

D. The City recognizes the importance of providing information and resources to members of Bend's immigrant communities. The City maintains information and resources on its website, including links to resources offered by community organizations and other local governmental partners, state and national resources, City policies pertaining to state law restrictions on cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, and frequently asked questions on Oregon law, Bend's Welcoming City status, and other topics. The City maintains the information and resources here:

<https://bendoregon.gov/departments/administration/accessibility-equity/resources-for-immigrants-migrants-and-refugees/>

E. Since 1987, Oregon law has differentiated between state and local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement by restricting cooperation with federal immigration authorities and limiting how public resources can be used for immigration enforcement. Oregon strengthened those distinctions in 2021 through HB 3265. One purpose behind such laws is to enhance community safety by encouraging members of immigrant communities to engage with local law enforcement from a place of trust rather than fear.

F. Oregon Revised Statutes 180.805 through 180.810, and 181A.820 through 181A.829



prohibit public bodies from disclosing immigration status without judicial warrant, restrict immigration enforcement activities at public facilities, and prohibit using public resources to enforce federal immigration law except under narrow circumstances. The City complies with state law, and recently adopted Administrative Policy CF-0003, Prohibitions on Use of City Facilities for Immigration Enforcement, with a primary goal of providing guidance for staff on how to respond, in accordance with state law, in the event federal immigration enforcement personnel are encountered on City property.

G. Federal immigration agencies and personnel have been engaging in conduct around the country that violates the constitutional and human rights of individuals with operations and conduct that infringes on the sovereignty of state and local governments guaranteed by the Constitution. People in Bend and Central Oregon have been directly impacted by this enforcement approach.

H. This conduct has included arresting and detaining individuals without affording due process; refusing to share information about the reason for an individual's arrest or the location where an individual will be detained; routinely wearing masks and refusing to provide identification when requested; not cooperating or not cooperating in a timely fashion with local and state authorities responsible for investigating incidents that may involve potential crimes or violations of individuals' rights; and questioning residents and visitors about their immigration status based on their race, ethnicity, language, accent, occupation, or presence at certain locations such as day-labor sites, bus stops, car washes, and parking lots.

I. Recent enforcement actions reflect a disturbing pattern of constitutional and human rights violations by federal immigration enforcement authorities. These egregious actions have included unnecessary and unjustified violence and the tragic loss of human life.

J. The unnecessary tactics being used by federal immigration enforcement authorities have generated widespread fear in the community, causing people to be fearful of leaving their homes to go to work and school, accessing City services, taking public transportation, attend medical appointments, and other necessary daily activities. As a result, children are denied access to public education, individuals are prevented from seeking necessary healthcare, local businesses are negatively impacted, and people may feel reluctant to work with local law enforcement agencies to report, solve and prevent crime. For individuals and families, this takes a toll on mental health and overall wellbeing, creating a sense of instability from living in a constant state of emergency.

K. The impacts of the current federal approach to immigration enforcement are reflected in the Governor's adoption on January 30, 2026, of Executive Order 26-04. The Executive Order, among other things, establishes the Interagency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Coordination. The Council's purpose is to coordinate internal interagency efforts in response to increased federal immigration enforcement activity by using existing resources to ensure alignment with Oregon sanctuary laws and practices, and thereby strengthen existing state programs to support immigrant and refugee communities. Among other things, the Council



is tasked with coordinating and identifying the infrastructure necessary for sustained cross-agency collaboration, including establishing consistent practices and ensuring reliable communication among state agencies and with communities across Oregon. The City of Bend supports this effort.

L. The 2026 session of the Oregon legislature also included an emphasis on providing protection for vulnerable Oregonians. The legislature adopted bills that, among other things, strengthen data and information security around immigration status information, require public schools to inform students, parents, and staff when immigration enforcement authorities are present, and limit the use of facial coverings by law enforcement agencies and law enforcement officers operating within the state.

M. Congressional action is required on comprehensive immigration reform, including a realistic pathway to citizenship for all aspiring Americans. Decades of congressional inaction have created this crisis and we recognize it is long past time to fix the law by creating fair and responsible immigration policies that provide legal status for long-time residents who have contributed to our communities, create a path to citizenship for aspiring Americans, and secures America's borders thereby ensuring our long-term economic prosperity and community safety.

N. Bend's elected officials and staff are working on multiple ways to address the negative impacts federal immigration enforcement actions are having on our community. Community input has highlighted the need for additional support for individuals and families in Bend who are experiencing and may experience the economic and emotional insecurity, disruption, and other destabilizing effects of federal immigration enforcement activities. The City cannot prevent federal immigration authorities from operating in Bend and cannot interfere with federal operations. However, the City can and intends to, through this resolution, contribute to helping meet local needs related to unjust federal immigration enforcement actions.

Resolution

Based on these findings, the City Council of the City of Bend resolves as follows:

1. The City of Bend reaffirms its commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive city and to protecting people to the best of our ability from fear, discrimination, and unjust federal immigration enforcement practices. In response to expanding federal immigration actions that threaten civil liberties and community trust, this resolution reiterates the City's commitment to support and comply with Oregon's Sanctuary Promise Laws and reaffirms that City resources will not be used to enforce federal immigration laws.
2. The City of Bend unequivocally condemns the misuse of immigration enforcement when it is politically motivated, or when done in a manner that violates due process or targets those who are exercising their constitutionally protected rights.
3. The City of Bend declares that no matter when someone has joined our community or



where they have come from, every person deserves to be free of fear and intimidation and to be treated with dignity and respect.

4. The City of Bend condemns the current federal immigration enforcement approach, including but not limited to actions targeting our students and families and calls for an immediate end to such actions, which are having a chilling effect throughout schools, communities, and our state.

5. The City of Bend calls on all elected officials, including members of Congress from Oregon, to publicly denounce these unconstitutional actions, demand immediate oversight and transparency from immigration enforcement agencies, and work to ensure the rights of all individuals—regardless of immigration status—are fully protected under the Constitution.

6. The City of Bend and the City Council urge the Oregon Congressional delegation of Representatives Bonamici, Hoyle, Salinas, Bentz, Dexter and Bynum, and Senators Wyden and Merkley to prioritize legislation offering comprehensive immigration reform that aligns enforcement with our economic needs, humanitarian values, and community realities.

7. The City Council directs staff to continue to coordinate with community partners—including immigrant rights advocates, legal services providers, educational institutions, local business owners, neighborhood leaders, and faith leaders—and other local governments to develop and maintain programs for communication, outreach, and community support to address the emergency impacts of federal immigration enforcement. This resolution is a product, in part, of collaborative meetings between City Council members, City staff, and community partners. This coordination should continue and should include regular meetings and/or other engagement between City staff and community partners on relevant topics, including the City's work on building a coalition against hate and discrimination.

8. The City Council also directs the City Manager and staff to regularly review existing programs and services to identify ways to further enhance the goals of this resolution and implement best practices and policies for communities impacted by immigration.

9. The City Council directs the City Manager to provide \$100,000 to the Latino Community Association (LCA). The funding for LCA would be allocated to two distinct purposes: 1) \$50,000 to LCA as an administrator to provide assistance and support to families, individuals, and/or groups within Bend's diverse immigrant communities who are directly impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions; and 2) \$50,000 to LCA to support their role as an ongoing core partner for services related to Welcoming Week organization and support. This direction includes authorization for the City Manager to develop any related programs or processes, including any conditions or requirements that in the City Manager's discretion are necessary, to allocate, award, and administer the funding committed by this resolution. Administration of the funding should include conditions on allowable uses, eligibility, monitoring and reporting, and any other elements or controls deemed necessary by the City Manager.

10. This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.



Adopted by the Bend City Council

March 18, 2026

Yes: Kebler, Franzosa, Méndez, Norris, Perkins, Platt, Riley

No:

Melanie Kebler, Mayor

Attest:

Ashley Bontje, City Recorder

Approved as to form:

Ian Leitheiser, City Attorney