

State	Proposed Location	Action Taken	Effect
Georgia	Social Circle, Walton County	Mayor and City Council released official statement of opposition, stating they would continue to oppose any efforts of this kind through all appropriate channels.	DHS has successfully purchased the warehouse. However, bipartisan representatives from all government levels have continued to push against ICE, citing Social Circle's apparent lack of resources to sustain the facility.
Indiana	Merrillville, Lake County	Town Council approved a resolution expressing opposition to using local warehouses for federal immigration detention or processing.	There has been no official conformation of DHS plans to build a facility, but the council intends to continue taking action to prevent ICE buying the warehouse.
Maryland	Elkridge, Howard County	County Council, with unanimous bipartisan support, and signed into law emergency legislation prohibiting privately-owned buildings from operating as detention centers in the county.	Howard County officially blocked a 29,000-square-foot private immigration detention center from opening in an office building in Elkridge.
Minnesota	Shakopee, Scott County	Public pressure from residents and MN. State Rep Brad Tabke.	Reports indicate a leaked DHS document showed the plan for the facility. Following public protest and pressure from Rep. Tabke, the plans have been reportedly abandoned.
Missouri	Kansas City, Jackson County	Mayor and City Council approved an ordinance establishing a five-year moratorium on permits, licenses, zoning and other approvals for non-municipal detention facilities in Kansas City.	Specifically blocks private or federal entities from converting warehouses into detention centers. While the city aims to use all legal tools to block the facility, federal supremacy may allow the government to override the city's action, though it would likely lead to a protracted legal battle.
New Hampshire	Merrimack, Hillsborough County	Town Council sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem opposing the plans on the grounds that it would be a hit to the town's finances.	DHS did not confirm the plans in their response letter, but there are documents submitted by ICE officials showing that they are planning to buy the proposed location. Local and state officials will continue to fight against it.
New Jersey	Roxbury, Morris County	Mayor and City Council unanimously passed a resolution in opposition, citing concerns about infrastructure and public safety.	Plans to build a facility have not been finalized, but local government and activists plan to fight against DHS using zoning ordinances.
Oklahoma	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County	Mayor and City Council insisted DHS participate in local special permit process. Began looking into legal actions to take if DHS did not follow local policies.	Local protests combined with statements from local government led to the warehouse owner withdrawing from deal with DHS.
Oklahoma	Durant, Bryan County	Choctaw Nation Tribal Council unanimously passed a resolution in opposition. Durant City Council unanimously passed an ordinance making it "unlawful for any person to own or operate a detention center located within the city unless there is a conditional use permit for the detention center."	While the purchase of the facility has not been completely stopped yet, activists and local government have continued their protests against ICE.
Texas	Socorro, El Paso County	County Commissioners directed county attorney to review legal framework of nearby detention centers, and send a letter of opposition. City Council asked city attorney to develop plans to prevent ICE detention centers within city limits, including the requirement of judicial warrants. They will also explore a moratorium on permitting, zoning and licensing for ICE facilities.	While DHS has successfully purchased the warehouse from the owner, local governments and organizations have signaled that they do not want ICE in their town and will continue to fight the facility.
Utah	Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County	Salt Lake County mayor released official statement in opposition and committed to use every legal tool possible to prevent the center from opening.	Following protests gathered in front of the warehouse, the owners released a statement confirming they would not sell the property to DHS.
Virginia	Ashland, Hanover County	Released official statement in opposition from the Board of Supervisors.	Due to overwhelming protest from local government and residents, the deal will not go through and DHS will not own the warehouse.

News

City of Social Circle Statement Regarding Reports of a Proposed ICE Detention Facility

Post Date: 12/31/2025 3:48 PM

Recent reports in the Washington Post and other media outlets tell of a proposed federal detention facility associated with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) possibly being located within the city limits of Social Circle.

According to reporting by The Washington Post, the plan under consideration includes renovating industrial warehouse facilities to hold between 5,000 and 10,000 people being staged for deportation.

The City of Social Circle has not been informed of any proposed detention facility. City officials learned of the media report at the same time as the public. To date, no representative of the federal government, ICE, or the property owner has contacted the City in any way, nor has the City received an application related to detention operations.

City staff and elected officials are actively seeking confirmation from state and federal partners that no such facility will be located within the City or the surrounding areas.

A key reason that such a facility is infeasible is because the City does not have the water and sewer infrastructure to support this type of facility. Current capacity limitations would not support a development of the size described in media reports. This proposal could result in an effective tripling of the City's population that is hovering right around 5,000 citizens.

In addition to the lack of water and sewer capacity, there is not a site within the City that will provide a safe distance from homes, businesses, and schools. The City will not tolerate a failure in security.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Social Circle unequivocally does not support an ICE detention facility in the City or the surrounding areas. City officials are evaluating what authority, if any, the City has in this matter and will continue to oppose any efforts of this kind through all appropriate channels.

As more verified information becomes available, the City is committed to keeping residents informed in a transparent and timely manner.

[Return to full list >>](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



The Heart of the Region

Jan. 28, 2026

Merrillville Town Council Opposes ICE Facility in Warehouses

MERRILLVILLE — The Town Council has taken a clear stance, opposing a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention or processing facility in Merrillville.

The council formalized the position by unanimously adopting a resolution during Tuesday's Town Council meeting. The action came after more than 40 minutes of emotional public comment, all of which against an ICE facility in Merrillville.

"This council chose to be proactive rather than reactive," Council President Rick Bella said. "We are making it clear now that a detention or processing facility does not align with Merrillville's values, planning standards or vision for the future."

Tuesday's action stems from reports that the federal government is exploring the use of large industrial warehouses as immigration processing or detention facilities, and that Merrillville was identified as a possible location for such a facility.

Although Merrillville has received no notice from ICE/DHS or any federal agency regarding this matter, the council decided it was necessary to clearly state the town's position on this situation.

Warehouses in Merrillville were approved and built based on industrial use. They weren't designed for human occupancy at detention-scale levels. If such a conversion happened, it would place unanticipated demands on police, fire, emergency services, as well as other public resources like water and sewer utilities. Any facility that disregards local zoning, planning and regulatory ordinances is unacceptable to the town of Merrillville.

"Industrial incentives are meant to create jobs, strengthen our tax base and improve the lives of our residents," Councilman Shawn Pettit said. "A detention or processing facility does none of those things, and that's why it doesn't belong here."

Tuesday's resolution won't be the only action associated with this matter.

"The council expects transparency and accountability," Town Attorney Joseph Svetanoff said. "We will be seeking answers from our congressional delegation to understand what actions are being taken and to ensure Merrillville's concerns are clearly communicated at the federal level."

When more information becomes available, it will be posted on the town website (merrillville.in.gov), the My Merrillville app and on our social media pages.

###



RESOLUTION No 26-02
of the
TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, OPPOSING THE
LOCATING OF A UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS
ENFORCEMENT PROCESSING OR DETENTION FACILITY IN
WAREHOUSES WITHIN THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE**

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2025, the Washington Post published an article in which it was indicated that the federal government produced a draft solicitation that may seek private detention contractors for the renovation and use of industrial warehouses to process and detain U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees; and

WHEREAS, according to the Washington Post article, the Town of Merrillville was identified as a potential municipality wherein there may be a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility having at least 500 beds; and

WHEREAS, neither the Town of Merrillville, nor its officials have been informed, approached, inquired or solicited by the federal government for the placement of such a facility within the Town of Merrillville; and

WHEREAS, given the lack of any communication or contact regarding the realistic potential of a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility within the Town, it is impossible for the Town Council to make informed policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the prior approvals of the existing industrial warehouses within the Town were, in part, based upon the limited demand such facilities have for water and sewer, and upon other public resources and services; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Merrillville is committed to adhering to the laws of the State of Indiana and the Town's ordinances, inclusive of those governing local planning and zoning; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of industrial warehouses within the Town would place unanticipated demands upon the Town's water, sewer, public safety services, and other public resources in structures and areas not intended for human occupancy; and

WHEREAS, it is a primary objective of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville to ensure the public safety and welfare of its residents, business community and visitors to the Town; and

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville that the Town of Merrillville is not an appropriate municipality for the placement of a detainee processing facility; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Merrillville and its police department have had longstanding important collaborative relationships with county, state, and federal law enforcement partners that rely on communication between the agencies to best protect the officers, agents and the public while performing their duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

SECTION ONE: That the Town Council hereby unequivocally opposes the conversion of existing industrial warehouses within the Town for the creation of a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility, or any other facility that disregards the Town's land use and regulatory ordinances and creates unanticipated burdens upon the Town's infrastructure, resources and services.


SECTION TWO: That if any section, clause, provision or portion of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect any other section, clause, provision or portion of this Resolution.

SECTION THREE: That all existing Resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution, are hereby deemed null, void, and of no legal effect, and are specifically repealed.

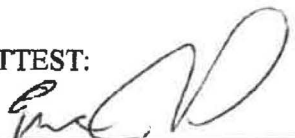
SECTION FOUR: That this Resolution shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage and adoption by the Town Council.

Duly Resolved and Adopted this 27th day of January 2026, by the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of
MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA


Rick Bella, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

ATTEST:


Eric O. January, C.P.A.
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)



Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 2

Bill No. 16 -2026

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
Co-Sponsored by: Opel Jones, Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby, and Liz Walsh

Short Title: Emergency Act - Amending – Howard County Building Code – I-3 Use group

Title: AN EMERGENCY ACT amending the Howard County Building Code to provide that only a government agency is eligible to make application, obtain or hold a permit for the I-3 Use group; to provide that the building official may suspend or revoke a permit other than one issued to a government agency that has not passed final inspection; generally relating to the regulation of building and construction in Howard County; and declaring this to be an emergency act.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2026. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2026.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2026 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ____ day of _____, 2026 at ____ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2026

Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the
2 *Howard County Code is amended as follows:*

3 *By adding:*

4 *Section 3.101. Howard County Building Code; adoption of international codes.*
5 *Subsection (b), paragraph (23)*

6

7 *By renumbering:*

8 *Section 3.101. Howard County Building Code; adoption of international codes.*
9 *Subsection (b), paragraph (22) to be paragraph (23A)*

10

11

Title 3. Buildings.

12

Subtitle 1. Building code.

13

Section 3.101. Amendments to the International Building Code, 2024 Edition.

14
15 (b) *Local Amendments.* The following amendments modify certain provisions of the
16 adopted code.

17 (22) *Subsection 104.8.1 Legal defense.*

18 In the first sentence of this subsection, delete "legal representation of the
19 jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings" and substitute "Howard
20 County in accordance with Maryland Law".

21 (23) *SECTION 105.1 REQUIRED.*

22 ADD AN EXCEPTION AS FOLLOWS:

23 EXCEPTION: NO OWNER OR OWNER'S AUTHORIZED AGENT, OTHER THAN A
24 GOVERNMENT AGENCY, IS ELIGIBLE TO MAKE APPLICATION, OBTAIN, OR HOLD A
25 PERMIT FOR I-3 USE GROUP. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL IS AUTHORIZED TO SUSPEND
26 OR REVOKE A PERMIT FOR ANY OWNER OR OWNER'S AUTHORIZED AGENT, OTHER
27 THAN A GOVERNMENT AGENCY, WHICH HAS BEEN ISSUED A PERMIT BUT WHICH HAS
28 NOT PASSED FINAL INSPECTION AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS LEGISLATION.

29 ([[22]]23A) *Subsection 105.1.1 Annual Permit.*

30 Delete this subsection and substitute the following:

1 **105.1.1. Master permit.** Instead of an individual permit for each alteration to an
2 already approved building, electrical, fire, gas, mechanical, or plumbing
3 installation, the Building Official may issue a master permit upon application by
4 any person, firm, or corporation regularly employing one or more qualified
5 professional or tradesperson in the building, structure, or on the premises owned
6 or operated by the Applicant.

7
8 **Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,
9 Maryland that subsections 3.101(b)(1) through (21) and (24) through (80), as adopted by
10 Council Bill No. 24-2025, shall remain unchanged and in effect.

11
12 **Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,
13 Maryland that an emergency exists because Institutional Group I-3 are facilities, that are
14 inhabited by more than five persons which require the occupants be under restraint or
15 security and such uses consist of correctional centers, detention centers, jails, prerelease
16 centers, prisons and reformatories and receiving a use and occupancy permit for such
17 uses should remain with and under the oversight of governmental entities and not private
18 entities.

19
20 **Section 4. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,
21 Maryland that allowing a private entity to own or operate a detention facility, which
22 typically requires great responsibility and oversight of the government, in Howard
23 County will negatively impact the health, safety, and welfare of our communities.

24
25 **Section 5. And Be it Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,
26 Maryland that this Act is adopted as an emergency measure to address an immediate
27 emergency affecting public health, safety, or welfare and having been passed by two-
28 thirds of its members, this Act shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.



File #: TMP-6413 *260074*

ORDINANCE NO. TMP-6413

Declaring a moratorium until January 15, 2031, on all approvals for non-municipal detention facilities, including the approval of building permits, special use permits, zoning applications, plan review, project plans, development plans, and zoning changes where the subject matter of the project is a proposed non-municipal detention facility.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council hereby declare that there is a moratorium on all approvals for non-municipal detention facilities, including the issuance or approval of building permits, special use permits, zoning applications, plan review, project plans, development plans, and zoning changes, and any other approvals allowing the acquisition, construction, facilitation, or expansion of an existing project or initiation of a new project when the application for the project was filed on or after January 15, 2026, and where the subject matter of the project is for any purpose relating or incidental to detention, corrections, or other carceral activities, with exceptions for any municipally owned or operated facility.

Section 2. This moratorium shall remain in effect until January 15, 2031.

Approved as to form:

Sarah Baxter
Senior Associate City Attorney



Authenticated as Passed

Quinton Lucas, Mayor

Marilyn Sanders, City Clerk

JAN 15 2026
Date Passed

260061 Sponsor: Mayor Quinton Lucas and Councilmember Kevin O'Neill

Directing the City Manager to enter into agreements necessary to expand the Front Street Detention Facility into a permanent detention facility at the Front Street site; directing the City Manager to permit the lapsing of the land purchase option and reallocate associated funding to the detention facility expansion project; and mandating a report to Council within 20 days detailing steps taken and progress made.

Sponsors: Lucas and O'Neill

A motion was made by Councilmember Bough, seconded by Councilmember Duncan, that this Ordinance be Move to Advance.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lucas, O'Neill, Willett, French, Rogers, Patterson Hazley, Robinson, Bunch, Curls, Parks-Shaw, Bough, and Duncan

Nay: Rea

A motion was made that this Ordinance be Adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lucas, O'Neill, Willett, French, Rogers, Patterson Hazley, Curls, Parks-Shaw, Bough, and Duncan

Nay: Robinson

Abstain: Rea, and Bunch

260074 Sponsors: Mayor Quinton Lucas

Declaring a moratorium until January 15, 2031, on all approvals for non-municipal detention facilities, including the approval of building permits, special use permits, zoning applications, plan review, project plans, development plans, and zoning changes where the subject matter of the project is a proposed non-municipal detention facility

Sponsors: Lucas

A motion was made by Councilmember Bough, seconded by Councilmember Parks-Shaw, that this Ordinance be Move To Introduce.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lucas, O'Neill, French, Rogers, Patterson Hazley, Robinson, Rea, Bunch, Curls, Parks-Shaw, Bough, and Duncan

Nay: Willett

A motion was made by Councilmember Bough, seconded by Councilmember Parks-Shaw, that this Ordinance be Move to Advance.. The motion carried by the following vote:



TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

6 BABOOSIC LAKE ROAD · MERRIMACK, NH 03054 · WWW.MERRIMACKNH.GOV

January 23, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE
Washington, DC 20528-0525

Dear Honorable Kristi Noem:

The Merrimack Town Council is presently examining and preparing the 2026-2027 Municipal Budget. Two areas of great concern have been identified if an ICE Processing Center is established in the Town of Merrimack, NH. If the potential non-verified warehouse is purchased by the Federal Government, there would be a \$529,000 decrease in the tax revenue. This would result in an increase in the tax rate for our citizens.

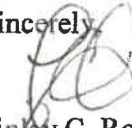
If an ICE Processing Center is established within the Town, potential difficulties and civil protest would necessitate our Police and Fire/Rescue Department services. Again, there is potential financial impact upon those departments and their budgets.

As a result, this Town Council is against the establishment of an ICE Processing Center based upon the aforementioned financial impacts and concerns to our budget.

There is an expectation that communication with our Town Manager, Paul Micali, will occur when a decision is made regarding the actual determination of any ICE Processing Center in the Town of Merrimack, NH.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns and deliberate consideration regarding placement of an ICE Processing Center in our community.

Sincerely,


Finlay C. Rothhaus
Town Council Chairman
Town of Merrimack, NH

Cc: The Honorable Kelly Ayotte, Governor of NH
The Honorable Margaret Hassan, Senator of NH
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Senator of NH
The Honorable Chris Pappas, Congressman of NH
The Honorable Maggie Goodlander, Congresswoman of NH

Director Robert M. Buxton, NH Homeland Security & Emergency Management
Asst. Field Office Director Mark Anzelmo, USCIS District 11-Boston Office

NH Delegation Representing Merrimack, NH:

The Honorable Tim McGough, Senator of NH
The Honorable Bill Boyd, NH State Representative
The Honorable Julie Miles, NH State Representative
The Honorable Maureen C. Mooney, NH State Representative
The Honorable Nancy A. Murphy, NH State Representative
The Honorable Jeanine M. Notter, NH State Representative
The Honorable Adam Joseph Presa, NH State Representative
The Honorable Rosemarie Rung, NH State Representative
The Honorable Wendy Thomas, NH State Representative

Roxbury,
Jersey

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-029

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING THE LOCATING OF A UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT PROCESSING OR DETENTION FACILITY IN WAREHOUSES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2025, the Washington Post published an article in which it was indicated that the federal government produced a draft solicitation that may seek private detention contractors for the renovation and use of industrial warehouses to process and detain U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees; and

WHEREAS, according to the Washington Post article, the Township of Roxbury was identified as a potential municipality wherein there may be a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility having between 500 to 1,500 beds; and

WHEREAS, neither the Township of Roxbury, nor its officials have been informed, approached, inquired or solicited by the federal government for the placement of such a facility within the Township of Roxbury; and

WHEREAS, given the lack of any communication or contact regarding the realistic potential of a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility within the Township, it is impossible for the Township Council to make informed policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Roxbury is a predominately residential community located in the western part of the County of Morris and subject to the New Jersey Highlands Act, with limited water, sewer and other public resources and municipal services; and

WHEREAS, the prior approvals of the existing industrial warehouses within the Township were, in part, based upon the limited demand such facilities have for water and sewer, and upon other public resources and services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Roxbury is committed to adhering to the laws of the State of New Jersey and the Township's ordinances, inclusive of those governing the use of lands; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of industrial warehouses within the Township would place unanticipated demands upon the Township's water, sewer, public safety services, and other public resources in structures and areas not intended for human occupancy; and

WHEREAS, it is a primary objective of the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury to ensure the public safety and welfare of its residents, business community and visitors to the Township; and

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury that the Township of Roxbury is not an appropriate municipality for the placement of a detainee processing facility.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, hereby unequivocally opposes the conversion of existing industrial warehouses within the Township for the creation of a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility, or any other facility that disregards the Township's land use and regulatory ordinances and creates unanticipated burdens upon the Township's infrastructure, resources and services.

ADOPTED: January 13, 2026

Attest:

Amy E. Rhead, RMC
Township Clerk



**The City of
OKLAHOMA CITY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

January 22, 2026

Alexis Price
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of Chief Readiness Support Officer
Springfield, VA 20598-0075
alexis.t.price@associates.ice.dhs.gov

Re: Proposed processing center in Oklahoma City

Dear Ms. Price:

Thank you for the December 23, 2025 letter regarding the proposed processing facility to be located at 2800 S. Council Road in Oklahoma City. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments.

It is the City of Oklahoma City's longstanding position that decisions about land use are best made locally. The placement of a detention facility is an issue of local interest that would benefit from a public process involving residents, especially the neighbors of such a facility, which are most impacted and can have their concerns addressed through the public process. Any private sector activity would be subject to such a process. Oklahoma City ordinances require a detention facility to secure a Special Permit granted by our City Council. Although federal authority may exempt DHS from local permitting requirements, voluntary compliance would demonstrate commitment to the local community and ensure appropriate public consideration and process. We therefore respectfully request that the Department of Homeland Security honor our process and apply for a Special Permit for a "forced detention facility."

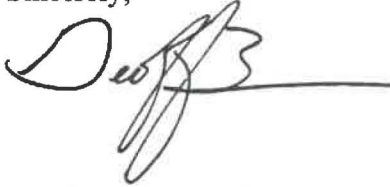
Participating in the Special Permit process offers significant benefits for both DHS and the community, including:

- Public hearings in front of the Planning Commission and City Council where residents can voice concerns and ask questions;
- Review of the facility's effect on traffic and other issues that may need special standards applied for the facility to better coexist with its neighbors;
- Opportunities for DHS to address community concerns more directly; and
- A transparent process that builds understanding and trust.

A voluntary commitment to local procedures would demonstrate respect for the communities DHS serves, while allowing the federal government to proceed with its mission in a manner that builds public confidence.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and can arrange a meeting at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Butler", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Geoffrey Butler, AICP
Planning Director

cc: Mayor David Holt
City Manager Craig Freeman
LaShawn Thompson, Assistant City Manager
Gabrielle Fernandez, Environmental Protection Specialist, DHS
Katie Friddle, Principal Planner, OKC Planning Department

Durant,
OK

ORDINANCE O-2026-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DURANT CODE OF ORDINANCES TITLE XV, CHAPTER 156 REQUIRING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO OWN OR OPERATE A DETENTION CENTER LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING PENALTY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF DURANT, OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1 – THAT THE FOLLOWING NEW SECTIONS ARE ADDED TO THE DURANT CITY CODE SUCH THAT THERE NOT BE A DUPLICATION IN NUMBERING:

§156.076 – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUIRED

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or operate a detention center located within the city unless there is a conditional use permit for the detention center.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or operate a detention center located within the city unless the conditional use permit is posted at or near the principal public entrance to the detention center in such a manner that it will be conspicuous to all who enter the premises.

C. In any prosecution under subsection (A) above, it shall be presumed that there was no conditional use permit at the time of the alleged offense, unless a conditional use permit was then posted as provided in subsection (B).

§156.077 – PENALTY; CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

A. Violation of any provision of this article shall be punishable by a fine of \$500.00. Each day any violation continues shall constitute and be punishable as a separate offense.

B. The revocation or suspension of any conditional use permit shall not prohibit the imposition of a criminal penalty, and the imposition of a criminal penalty shall not prevent the revocation or suspension of a conditional use permit.

SECTION 2 – DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

For the immediate preservation of the peace, health and safety of the City of Durant, Oklahoma, and the inhabitants thereof, it is necessary this this Ordinance shall become operative and go into effect immediately upon its passage, approval and publication.

Passed and approved this 13th day of January 2026, in regular session of the Durant City Council.

CITY OF DURANT

ATTEST:

Martin Tucker, Mayor

Cynthia J. Price, City Clerk

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PLACEMENT AND OPERATION OF A
PROPOSED IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT DETENTION
FACILITY IN DURANT, OKLAHOMA**

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A JOINT RESOLUTION

A JOINT RESOLUTION expressing the position of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in opposition to the siting and operation of a proposed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) detention facility at the former Big Lots distribution facility site in Durant, Oklahoma, within the Choctaw Nation Reservation; and authorizing the release of an official public statement.

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the “Nation”) is a sovereign Tribal Nation and, in the exercise of its inherent self-governing authority, is committed to promoting and safeguarding the health, safety, welfare, and security of its citizens, employees, visitors, and those who work at, visit, or receive services at Nation facilities within the Choctaw Nation Reservation;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma maintains key governmental operations and community-serving facilities in and around Durant, Oklahoma, including its headquarters and facilities serving children, elders, patients, families, and the general public;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma operates major economic enterprises in Durant, including gaming and hospitality facilities within a mile of the proposed detention facility that support essential governmental services, jobs, and regional economic stability;

WHEREAS, information presented to the Nation reflects a proposal to locate and operate an ICE detention facility at the former Big Lots distribution facility site in Durant, Oklahoma, with a contemplated scale that could house up to thousands of detained individuals;

WHEREAS, Choctaw Nation mapping and internal analysis reflect that the former Big Lots distribution facility site is in close proximity to the Nation’s headquarters and multiple community-serving facilities, including childcare and child development services, health services, wellness services, and facilities serving elders and families;

WHEREAS, the Nation’s analysis reflects that the proposed site is approximately **2,256 feet** from the Choctaw Nation Tribal Headquarters and approximately **1,073 feet** from the Choctaw Nation Child Development Center, placing detention operations unacceptably close to facilities where children are present daily and where essential governmental functions occur;

WHEREAS, the public and governmental health analysis further identifies significant public health concerns associated with detention operations of this scale, including, without limitation, infectious disease transmission risks, strain on local and regional health systems, and

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PLACEMENT AND OPERATION OF A
PROPOSED IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT DETENTION
FACILITY IN DURANT, OKLAHOMA**

environmental and infrastructure impacts related to water use, wastewater output, and sanitation demands;

WHEREAS, the Nation's analysis also identifies significant safety and security concerns associated with detention operations of this scale, including, without limitation, increased demand on law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services; the potential for protests and traffic disruption; facility security incidents; and other impacts that could divert public safety resources from existing community needs;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation has been preparing significant community and economic development initiatives in the Durant area, and the location and operation of a detention facility of this nature in such close proximity to the Nation's governmental, community, and economic center threatens long-term planning, investment, and the safety and well-being of Choctaw families and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that the proposed placement and operation of an ICE detention facility at this location is inconsistent with the Nation's obligation to protect children, elders, patients, employees, and visitors; undermines community security and public confidence; and poses unacceptable risks to the Nation's governmental operations and economic enterprises in Durant.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the joint motion by the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council, Chief Gary Batton and Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Joint Resolution be cited as a resolution opposing the placement and operation of a proposed ICE detention facility at the former Big Lots distribution facility site in Durant, Oklahoma, within the Choctaw Nation Reservation, due to public health, safety, community, and economic impacts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby adopts and authorizes release of the following official public statement of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma:

**PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA
TRIBAL COUNCIL**

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Council publicly states its firm opposition to the placing, permitting, contracting for, or operation of any Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facility within the Choctaw Nation Reservation at or near the former Big Lots distribution facility location in Durant, Oklahoma.

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FACILITY IN DURANT, OKLAHOMA**

This proposed location is unacceptably close to the Nation's governmental headquarters and to multiple Choctaw Nation facilities that serve children, families, elders, patients, employees, and visitors each day. The Nation's analysis and mapping reflect that the proposed site is located within a short distance of the Choctaw Nation headquarters campus and approximately 1,073 feet from the Choctaw Nation Child Development Center. The Tribal Council will not accept a detention operation of this scale being placed next to facilities where children learn and are cared for, where families access essential services, and where the Nation conducts core governmental business.

The Tribal Council's opposition is based on serious concerns for public health, public safety, emergency response capacity, and community disruption. Detention operations of this nature can create heightened demands on law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services; raise public safety risks and security concerns; and generate traffic disruptions, protest activity, and other impacts that place avoidable burdens on the surrounding community. The Tribal Council also recognizes the potential for public health and infrastructure impacts associated with detention operations, including infectious disease risks and sanitation and wastewater demands that can affect the broader community beyond the facility itself.

The Choctaw Nation also opposes the proposed facility due to its proximity to the Nation's key economic and community corridor in Durant, including gaming and hospitality operations that support essential governmental services and jobs. The Tribal Council will not support actions that jeopardize the safety, stability, growth, and long-term planning of the Nation's governmental and economic center in Durant.

The Choctaw Nation's position is not directed at any individual person. It is directed at an irresponsible location decision that would place detention operations in immediate proximity to vulnerable populations and critical Choctaw Nation facilities. The Tribal Council calls upon all relevant federal, state, county, and municipal officials, to the extent permitted by law, to deny, halt, or refuse any approvals, permits, zoning actions, contracts, or infrastructure commitments required to establish or operate an ICE detention facility at this location or any similarly situated location that endangers the Nation's headquarters area, community facilities, or children and families.

The Choctaw Nation will continue to insist on meaningful government-to-government engagement and will actively pursue all appropriate governmental and legal avenues to protect its citizens, employees, visitors, and community.

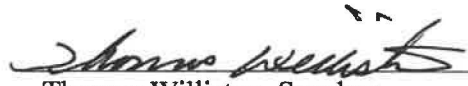
**A JOINT RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PLACEMENT AND OPERATION OF A
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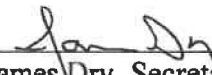
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Speaker of the Tribal Council, the Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and authorized representatives of the Nation are hereby directed and authorized to transmit this Resolution and the foregoing Public Statement to relevant federal, state, county, and municipal officials and agencies; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Public Statement may be released immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that eleven (11) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, on January 10, 2026. I further certify that the foregoing Joint Resolution CR- 02 - 26 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven (11) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.


Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


James Dry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


Gary Banton, Chief
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

Date: 1-14-26

- E. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.0725, discuss grant application of the Office of the Governor FY27 Operation Lone Star Application.
Carmen Arrieta-Candelaria, Director, Budget and Finance, 915-273-3726
- F. (Postponed 01/26/26) Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities pertaining to a proposed Letter of Intent between SuperCity AI and El Paso County.
Vivian Arroyo, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247
- G. Discuss litigation styled Jesus Fernandez, et al v. El Paso County, Texas; Cause No. 3:24-CV-00417-LS; County Attorney case number: 0167-24-LD, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Manuel Romero, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, (915) 273-3238
- H. (Postponed 01/26/26) Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.0725, discuss contract negotiations between the City of El Paso and the County regarding developing and designing the proposed Downtown Deck Plaza.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600

10. REGULAR SESSION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 5:47 P.M.

- A. Discuss and take appropriate action pertaining to detention centers within El Paso County.
Christina Sanchez, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

Motion – DIRECT THE COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE TO DELIVER A PUBLIC PRESENTATION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS REGARDING THE PROCESSES, STATUS, AND FRAMEWORK ASSOCIATED WITH DETENTION FACILITIES, IN RECOGNITION OF THE SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC CONCERN AND INTEREST SURROUNDING THIS MATTER.

– AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE COMMISSIONERS COURT EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF DETENTION FACILITIES TO CONGRESSWOMAN VERONICA ESCOBAR, CONGRESSMAN TONY GONZALEZ, SENATORS CRUZ AND CORNYN AND ALL MEMBERS OF EL PASO COUNTY’S STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, URGING THEM TO UTILIZE THEIR RESPECTIVE AUTHORITIES AND RESOURCES TO OBTAIN COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION CONCERNING ANY PROPOSED DETENTION FACILITIES WITHIN EL PASO COUNTY, TO DEMAND THAT ANY CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH SITES FOLLOW APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES AND TO SHARE SUCH INFORMATION WITH EL PASO COUNTY AND ITS RESIDENTS.

– AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE TO REQUEST, OBTAIN, AND COMPILE ANY AND ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING PROPOSED DETENTION FACILITY SITES WITHIN EL PASO COUNTY FROM MUNICIPALITIES; PLANNING AND PERMITTING DEPARTMENTS; FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES; AND OTHER RELEVANT GOVERNING BODIES,

INCLUDING ELECTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF. SUCH INFORMATION SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, SITE MAPS, APPLICABLE PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES, PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS, AND MEETINGS OR DISCUSSIONS RELATED TO PROPOSED SITES.

– DIRECT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION TO IDENTIFY A PERSON TO LEAD OR PARTICIPATE IN A TASK FORCE AND SEND INVITATIONS TO LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS TO JOIN A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW AND ADDRESS THESE CONCERNS. Discuss and take appropriate action pertaining to detention centers within El Paso County.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: David Stout Commissioner, Pct. 2
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

- B. (Postponed 01/26/26) Discuss and take appropriate action regarding pending litigation styled United States v. Texas, No. '24-50149, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL. *Bernardo Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247*

NO ACTION

ADJOURN

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:05 P.M.

January 17, 2026

Mayor Jenny Wilson Opposes Proposed ICE Detention Facility in Utah

SALT LAKE COUNTY, UT

— Salt Lake County Mayor Jenny Wilson today issued a strong statement opposing the potential establishment of a large federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facility in Utah and committed to using every available tool to prevent it from opening in Salt Lake County.

Recent reports indicate that a west-side Salt Lake City warehouse has been identified as a potential site for a 7,500-bed ICE detention facility. Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall has already raised serious concerns, noting that the building and surrounding infrastructure are not equipped to safely support a facility of this scale.

“I have been working non-stop to understand how and why this proposal is moving forward in our community,”

Mayor Wilson said

“At this point, there are still more questions than answers. I am trying to determine how far along this proposal is, who has been involved, and whether local or state officials were aware of the potential use of this property. I have also learned the building may be in the process of being sold, raising concerns that its future use may not have been fully disclosed.”

Mayor Wilson said she has heard from a growing, bipartisan group of business leaders, community members, and elected officials who are deeply alarmed by the proposal.

“Over the past 24 hours, I’ve spoken with dozens of Utahns who are concerned about the scale of this facility and the impact it would have on our neighborhoods, businesses, and public safety,”

Wilson said.

“An opposition coalition is forming quickly, and it reflects widespread unease about ICE’s aggressive and unchecked conduct nationwide, and the instability detention facilities often bring to surrounding communities.”

An ICE facility of this size would house more than three times the number of people currently held in the Salt Lake County Jail and would exceed the total inmate population of Utah’s entire state correctional system.

“This is a moment for Utahns to stand together, regardless of party, faith, or where we live,”

Wilson said.

“A detention center of this magnitude would bring disruption, strain local resources, and harm the economic and social fabric of our community.”

Mayor Wilson emphasized that her opposition to the facility is consistent with Utah’s history and values.

“Utah was founded by migrants fleeing persecution and seeking opportunity,”

she said.

“Our state’s story is rooted in resilience, faith, and the belief that people deserve dignity and a chance to build a better life. That history matters.”

While opposing the proposed detention facility, Mayor Wilson reaffirmed her belief that immigration policy must be addressed at the federal level.

“I support meaningful federal immigration reform — including a secure and orderly border, clear enforcement standards, and a practical path to citizenship,”

Wilson said.

“Those decisions belong in Congress, not through the siting of massive detention centers that destabilize local communities.”

Mayor Wilson committed to opposing the project through all available legal and policy avenues, including land-use authority, regulatory review, and coordination with local partners.

“Salt Lake County stands with families, with immigrants, and with our long-standing values of fairness and opportunity,”

she said.

“I will do everything in my power to ensure our community is defined by stability, compassion, and respect — not by detention and division.”

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Liz Sollis

Communications Director, Mayor's Office

 (385) 266-1600  [Email Liz Sollis](#)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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HENRY DISTRICT

JEFF S. STONEMAN – VICE- CHAIR
HENRY DISTRICT

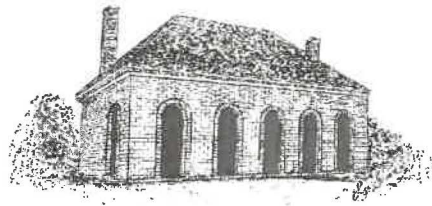
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DANIELLE GRIESHABER FLOYD
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HANOVER COUNTY

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DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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P.O. BOX 470, HANOVER, VA 23069
7516 COUNTY COMPLEX ROAD, HANOVER, VA 23069

PHONE: 804-365-6005
FAX: 804-365-6234

**HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STATEMENT
ON THE PROPOSED FEDERAL PROPERTY PURCHASE**

The Board of Supervisors values public input, especially on issues that directly affect the lives of the people who live and work in Hanover County. While state law requires a minimum level of public notice and participation, we have long believed that meeting the minimum is not enough. That is why we routinely go beyond state requirements by holding additional meetings, encouraging public feedback, and taking the time to listen before decisions are made on major County initiatives such as the budget, the Comprehensive Plan and significant zoning cases.

Last week, Hanover County received a letter from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security notifying us of its intent to purchase property in the Lewistown Commerce Center off Lakeridge Parkway and operate a processing facility at that location. That letter, which we shared publicly as soon as it was received, was the first direct communication the Board had from the federal government about this proposal.

Before that letter arrived, there were rumors circulating online and residents spoke about it during our January 14th meeting. County staff attempted to get information from DHS and the property owner but were unsuccessful. While the letter states that this will be a processing facility, there are no other details about the proposed use or when it might begin operating.

The Board needs to make clear that Hanover County was not part of the selection process, nor was Hanover County consulted prior to our receipt of this notice. With that, there was no discussion with Hanover County about whether this purchase would be consistent with the County's land use policies, Comprehensive Plan, or the impact to the established business, commerce, and residential area of this proposed use. Please know that while the federal government is generally exempt from our zoning regulations, and the Board is limited in being able to prevent federal facilities from operating, if in fact the federal government chooses to do so, it is our expectation that DHS, after receiving the County's comments, reconsiders its decision to purchase this property.

The property that DHS is considering purchasing is not owned by the County. The terms of the purchase are being negotiated between the owner, which is a private company, and the U.S. Government. The County has had no role in those negotiations and does not have authority to intervene in those discussions.

This proposal and subsequent process is one our residents do not experience with land use decisions that could have a significant impact on our community. The lack of early communication from the federal government has created understandable concern, as well as a substantial amount of confusion, and misunderstanding.

In response to the letter, the Board has directed County staff to evaluate the potential impacts of this proposed facility and to share those findings with DHS. An initial review shows the site is within the Lewistown Commerce Center Community Development Authority, a well-planned area established to encourage commercial and

industrial uses. It is located near retail businesses, hotels and restaurants, as well as several residential areas, including a historic residential district along Carters Heights Road, an established neighborhood along Telegraph Road, and a townhouse community on Lakeridge Parkway that was recently completed. The parcel is also adjacent to County-owned land intended for future public use.

A facility of this nature will change the character of the area, place unplanned demands on County services, including public safety, as well as reduced County tax revenues by no less than one million dollars annually. However, future revenue losses are likely to be significantly higher. These lost revenues would normally go to support vital and essential services that the County delivers to our citizens.

County staff will provide more detailed information in the County's formal response to DHS, which is due in mid-February. It is our expectation that our comments are carefully considered and that seeking local input is more than a procedural step.

While the Board has no role in federal immigration policy, we are responsible for land use and budget decisions and for ensuring transparency and public engagement on matters within the Board's authority. Based on the information available today, it is clear this location is not an appropriate one. Had the federal government contacted us earlier, we could have shared those impacts with them before they moved further along with their plans.

The Board's comments and the County's upcoming response should not be read as a position on processing or detention operations in general. In fact, Hanover County and its regional partners operate a regional detention facility, the Pamunkey Regional Jail, here in the County. However, the Board went through proper local land use procedures prior to the construction of that facility. We worked diligently on an appropriate location that would not be visible to the general public and that is away from our economic development zones.

Simply put, a DHS facility at this property on Lakeridge Parkway is not consistent with the established land use for this business, residential, and commerce area. The Board opposes the purchase of this property by DHS because of these well-panned current land uses.

The Board is taking the following actions on this matter:

1. The Board is directing staff and the County Attorney to draft a detailed summary to DHS within the required timeframes outlining the County's land use policies and other identified land use concerns;
2. The Board requests that our U.S. Senators and Representatives work with DHS to find a more suitable location for its operations and assist with ending plans for this proposed facility; and
3. The Board is directing the County Attorney to further evaluate the County's legal options in this matter.

The Board hopes that DHS will not proceed with this acquisition and sincerely hope they will look for a more suitable location for this type of operation. We ask that DHS, when it picks an appropriate location, that they will work with Hanover County, or the local government in whichever area they choose, so that any future land use proposals are consistent with local land use planning processes, as well as established and well-planned existing uses.

We also welcome the support from our state representatives in the General Assembly and any assistance that state agencies can provide.

The Board recognizes the strong feelings this issue has generated, and we appreciate how engaged and informed our residents continue to be. While many recognize the Board's limitations on matters such as this, we will continue to provide updates as accurate information becomes available. Copies of the County's response to DHS and correspondence with our federal representatives will be posted on the County website once available. Beyond this statement and the County's press release, the Board will not be providing additional comment at this time, and we encourage residents to rely on verified information posted by the County.