# CITY OF SHOREVIEW
# AGENDA
# CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
# Monday January 26, 2026
# 4:30 PM

Under MN Statutes 13D.02 and city policy, council members may participate remotely.

1. **GENERAL BUSINESS**
   1.a Discuss and consider potential actions related to public concerns about federal immigration enforcement activities

2. **OTHER ISSUES & LIAISON UPDATES**

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

**This is a special workshop to discuss and consider potential actions related to federal immigration enforcement. The meeting will take place in community room b across from the council chambers.**

# Memorandum

**TO:** City Council Workshop

**FROM:** Brad Martens , City Manager

**DATE:** January 26, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Discuss and consider potential actions related to public concerns about federal immigration enforcement activities

**ITEM NUMBER:** 1.a

**SECTION:** GENERAL BUSINESS

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**REQUESTED MOTION**

**INTRODUCTION**

The city council has requested an opportunity to have a follow up discussion regarding public comments received at the January 20 city council meeting.

**DISCUSSION**

The city council heard from 16 individuals who spoke during the public comment section of the meeting related to federal immigration enforcement activity in the metro area. In addition to sharing personal stories, the general theme was a request for the city to take actions to not allow ICE in city spaces, provide more information to the community, adopt policies or take action to limit ICE activity in the city, and assist in organizing community efforts to make them feel safe.

Following the public comment period the city council discussed their own thoughts on the topic during council comments. Later in the meeting under special order of business the city council approved a motion directing staff to schedule a special workshop so the city council could consider the requests that were shared and potentially direct staff to take action.

Below are the suggested actions that were shared at the public comment period. They have been compiled into the following three categories:

**Community center and public spaces**

- Signage:
  - Post signs on Shoreview public property stating that ICE is not allowed to use those areas for staging/blocking without a city permit, similar to Roseville. Pressure the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office to enforce the restriction.
  - Hang flyers around the community center with information about individuals rights and what to do if ICE is present.
  - Post signs in the community center prohibiting face coverings aside from medical masks and head scarfs.
- Public vs. private areas:
  - Require wristbands in more city areas.
  - Make current public spaces exclusive to city residents.

**Communication and education**

- City's statement:
  - Make sure it's more prominent on the website and accessible for all.
  - Provide daily or weekly updates on what measures the city is taking, including information on what organizations the city is collaborating with.
  - Make another statement or post with more substance about the situation.
  - Post more content on social media related to the ongoing situation.
- Guidance and resources:
  - Create a plain language resource packet for residents and business owners.
  - Provide concrete guidance to residents as it pertains to ICE operations and activities including:
    - What does a federal warrant signed by a judge look like?
    - How is a federal warrant different from a document signed by an ICE agent?
    - What should someone do if ICE shows up in their home or business?
    - If there is property damage caused by ICE, without true cause, who will be liable for that?
    - Who can residents call locally for questions or concerns, at a multitude of times and in a multitude of situations?
  - Provide information about individual rights on the website.
  - Provide information specifically about the rights of immigrants.
  - Provide information about the rights of ICE.
  - Give information about what concerned citizens can do as individuals.
- ICE activity in Shoreview:
  - Provide data about ICE activity in Shoreview and the surrounding areas.
  - Have some sort of system from the city to provide alerts to residents on ICE activity in the area.
  - Have a way for the city to receive reports from residents on ICE activity and report these to the Minnesota Attorney General.

**Policies, initiatives, and legal items**

- Ramsey County Sheriff's Office contract:
  - Amend the contract to include the following:
    - Clear language that deputies assigned to Shoreview will not participate in civil immigration enforcement.
    - Will not honor ICE Detainees.
    - Will only assist federal authorities when presented with a judicial warrant signed by a judge.
- Policies and plans:
  - Adopt a policy saying no city resources, facilities, data, or staff will be voluntarily used to assist ICE in civil immigration enforcement.
  - Create a cohesive plan to deal with ICE activity in the city.
  - Put up temporary barriers or reduce streets to one lane to slow the speed of ICE vehicles.
  - Add Shoreview to the ongoing lawsuit against the federal government around ICE.
- Community assistance:
  - Outline a legal plan of attack if citizen's rights are not met, based upon citizen reports.
  - Organize workshops at the community center that train people on their rights.
  - Engage in ongoing mutual aid efforts.

- Allow for rent pauses or rent assistance for those who do not feel safe to go to work.
- Organize food distribution systems.
- Partner with the Shoreview Community Foundation.
- Go to businesses in the community to educate staff on their rights.
- Provide whistle kits.
- Take over and/or engage with ongoing efforts led by grassroots organizations.
- Close the city government on Friday (1/23) in support of the Minnesota general strike.
- Organize transportation for the march on Friday (1/23) at 2pm in Minneapolis.

In addition to the suggested actions from the public, city councilmembers raised the following additional ideas at the meeting:

- Work with faith communities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations to craft a meaningful response/approach.
- Individual councilmembers to become more involved in grassroots communication chains to stay informed on ICE activity in the community.
- Post additional signs emphasizing the city's use of security cameras in public spaces.
- Post a comprehensive resource list on the website.

The city council should consider these suggested actions and provide direction to staff. Based upon the conversation of the city council the below framework is suggested to consider potential actions:

- Does this action help share information with the public?
- Does this action help to bring the community together in a meaningful way?
- Will this action increase community safety?
- Is the action sustainable beyond a short period of time?
- Will the action make a measurable impact?
- Is this an action in which the City of Shoreview is uniquely qualified to make a difference?

In addition to considering the above framework, the city council should consider the unique challenges cities face that limit their abilities to take actions:

- City authority is limited to the powers given to them by the State of Minnesota.
- Expenditures must qualify as a public purpose expenditure as outlined in state law.
- Other than in very limited circumstances any data collected by the city is defined as public and subject to data request by individuals or agencies.
- Public officials such as the city council and advisory board members are subject to the open meeting law in which a quorum of members may not discuss city activities outside of a properly noticed public meeting.
- The city contracts for law enforcement services and does not directly oversee the operations of the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.
- There is limited staff capacity available to complete additional work without impacts to other service areas.

Prior to receiving the requests at the January 20 meeting for the city to take action, the city had been proactively engaged on the topic and had taken the following actions related to federal immigration activities:

- Researched and received legal guidance related to federal immigration activities.
- Met with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office to understand their position and how they are responding to concerns related to federal immigration actions.

- Determined which city owned spaces are able to be defined as private.
- Provided guidance to city employees on private spaces and how to respond if federal immigration officers enter city owned spaces.
- Issued a statement on immigration activities including links to resources for individuals to learn their rights.
    - Staff have since expanded the list of resources and the information is located in a banner on the top of the webpage.
- Met with a variety of groups including faith based communities to hear their concerns and to learn about any assistance needed.
    - Additional meetings have taken place and this work is ongoing.
- Joined multiple discussions with other city leaders across the metro area to learn how they are responding to these federal immigration activities.
- Responded to every resident who reached out with questions to hear their concerns and share the actions taken by the city.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The city council should review the information provided in this report and consider directing staff to take any actions or prepare additional information for future consideration.

**ATTACHMENTS**