

**From:**  
**To:** [Hondorp, Joel](#)  
**Subject:** Make Grand Rapids a Sanctuary City  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025 1:36:36 PM

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I am asking you today to vote to make the City of Grand Rapids a Sanctuary City, in which city officials and resources do not cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials or any law enforcement agency that seek to surveil, arrest, detain, and deport our undocumented immigrant neighbors.

With the incoming Trump Administration threat of mass deportations, it is imperative that institutions across the city of Grand Rapids step up and take action in support of our undocumented immigrants who are an integral part of our community.

People in our city depend on and interact with immigrant neighbors every day: from the harvested food we eat, to the restaurants we patronize; from the construction of buildings we live and work in, to the manufactured products we use daily; from the clean hotel rooms and offices we visit, to the home health care we receive or provide for our loved ones. They are the children learning and playing in our schools, the drivers who stop and wave us through, and the neighbors who offer a smile on our daily walks.

We must make clear that they are valued members of our community and that their safety is a priority. It is essential that we do not have a repeat of the first Trump administration, when GRPD was so eager to work with ICE that they reported an American citizen, Jilmar Ramos Gomez, to ICE without cause.

In declaring itself a Sanctuary City, Grand Rapids would implement and execute the following:

- policies restricting the ability of state and local police to make arrests for federal immigration violations, or to detain individuals on civil immigration warrants;
- policies restricting the police or other city workers from asking about immigration status;
- policies prohibiting "287(g)" agreements through which ICE deputizes local law enforcement officers to enforce federal immigration law;
- policies that prevent local governments from entering into a contract with the federal government to hold immigrants in detention;
- policies preventing immigration detention centers in Grand Rapids.

These policies and practices would send a strong message to our immigrant neighbors that they are truly welcome and valued in Grand Rapids. I look forward to your response to this email and to your vote for Grand Rapids to become a Sanctuary City at the next Commission Meeting.