

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 29

**AFFIRMING SOUTH ST. PAUL'S COMMITMENT TO EQUAL AND JUST
TREATMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING AND
CITY OPERATIONS AS RELATED TO FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT
ACTIVITY**

WHEREAS, one of the fundamental pillars underlying public service within the City of South St. Paul is a commitment to ensuring the health, safety and well-being of all people who live, work, and recreate in the City. Yet, the increased level of federal immigration enforcement carried out during Operation Metro Surge have contributed to an acute sense of fear, anxiety, uncertainty and distrust felt by City residents and our business community, threatening the stability of this foundation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that community safety and trust are strengthened when law enforcement is visible, accessible, accountable, and trusted; when law enforcement professionals maintain calm and demonstrate care in their interactions with community members; and when law enforcement professionals exercise sound judgment and commit to de-escalating situations to reduce tension and prevent harm; and

WHEREAS, the City has the authority and duty to control its operations in accordance with the City Charter and State Statutes, including the activities of City employees; the use of City property; the protection of City data in accordance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and other applicable laws; the administration of City contracts; and the allocation of City resources. The City must also comply with applicable law, including valid judicial warrants and court orders; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and City Staff proudly and humbly stand with South St. Paul residents, faith leaders, educators, businesses, and the countless community members who are acting every day to respond to these federal actions with courage and compassion. South St. Paul is committed to being a community where everyone feels safe and welcomed, regardless of immigration status.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE
CITY OF SOUTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The City Council unequivocally condemns and denounces any unconstitutional actions taking place in South St. Paul, Minnesota, and across the nation regarding civil immigration enforcement.
2. The City does not engage in civil immigration enforcement.
3. The City will ensure that its public buildings and public spaces will be used for a public purpose with proper permits, if required.

4. The City has not historically, does not currently, and will not support civil immigration enforcement by providing access to nonpublic spaces in a city building without a judicial warrant or other legal authority.
5. The City has not historically, does not currently, and will not share nonpublic data for the purposes of immigration enforcement without a judicial warrant or other legal authority.
6. The City will continue to provide community resources and information regarding support services, standing alongside all those who are negatively impacted by immigration enforcement within our community.
7. The City stands with all families and their right to feel safe in their homes, businesses and freedom to travel without fear of intimidation and unconstitutional detainment.
8. We are committed to working with trusted community partners, neighboring cities, the school districts and others to provide resources for housing support, food, and other programs and services to offer as many resources as possible for those feeling heightened stress and anxiety due to immigration enforcement activities in the community.
9. We are committed to maintaining the public trust in local law enforcement and rebuilding the public trust with federal law enforcement agencies.
10. The City Council urges all federal legislators to take action to require that civil immigration enforcement activities show the proper respect for human life, the Constitution and the public welfare of all human beings. We authorize that this resolution be sent to the federal legislators who were elected to act on our behalf and who hold the power to make the changes needed to ensure that the City's commitments as enumerated in this resolution can be fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council and City leadership will be vigilant in its commitment and support to providing a healthy and safe community for everyone that lives and breathes within the borders of South St. Paul.

Adopted this 17th day of February, 2026.



City Clerk