

From: [Debbie Cabrales](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Written testimony for Salem City Council meeting 2/9/26
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 2:59:00 PM
Attachments: [Salem City Council Testimony 2_9_26.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see my written testimony that is attached to this email.

Thank you,

Debbie D. Cabrales



Executive Director, She/Her/Ella
Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos
300 Young St. Woodburn, OR 97071
503-902-0768

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Good evening Mayor and Council Members.

My name is Debbie Cabrales, and I am the Executive Director of Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos. While our organization is based in Woodburn, our services are available statewide, and many of the people we serve proudly call Salem home.

Today, our communities are living in fear. Masked agents are terrorizing immigrant families, creating an atmosphere where people are afraid to go to work, afraid to take their children to school, afraid to buy groceries, and even afraid to step outside their own homes. This is the daily reality for many Salem residents.

This is precisely the moment when the City of Salem must step up. Now more than ever, our immigrant community needs your support. The City approved a \$400,000 allocation to support immigrant residents, so why is that commitment now being reduced by half? Cutting this funding sends a clear and painful message: that our immigrant residents are somehow less worthy of full support.

These are your residents. They deserve to know that their Mayor and City Council care about their safety, stability, and future. They should not be forced to choose between paying rent, keeping the lights on, or putting food on the table, especially while living under constant fear and intimidation.

As an organization, we urge you, and we demand that the full \$400,000 be allocated to serve Salem's immigrant residents. This funding is critical for eviction prevention, food assistance, and utility support. Our immigrant community is the backbone of our local economy. Their labor, resilience, and dedication sustain our city, and without them, Salem would struggle.

Supporting our immigrant community is not just the right thing to do, it is an investment in the strength, dignity, and future of Salem. Thank you.

From: [Alyssa Cokinis](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Micki Varney](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [CityRecorder](#); [Mai Vang](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Testimony for 2/9/26 item 5b
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 2:22:39 PM

Dear Mayor Hoy and Council,

First off, shame on Mayor Julie Hoy for not signing a letter that 31 fellow Oregon mayors and Governor Kotek signed demanding immigration enforcement activity cease immediately in our state. It is not a hard thing to do to add your name. Mayor Hoy, you clearly do not care about all of your constituents equally. I would hope that Councilor Nordyke, should she win the mayoral race, would have actually signed it, but I believe actions, not words.

Regarding item 5b, **Council must pass the full \$400,000 emergency relief fund for migrant families and victims of ICE, as well as other families in need of direct assistance.** \$200,000 will not cut it: migrant workers pay US taxes but do not qualify for public resources in the same way US citizens do. They are regularly denied legal representation when detained by ICE and therefore are in need of money to cover legal costs and representation wherever possible. This emergency relief fund provides an action to your emergency declaration regarding immigration enforcement. It is a tangible way for you to support your words with action.

This is not money wasted like the failed airline: this makes an *actual* impact for your constituents, neighbors, and local organizations already doing the work like Latinos Unidos Siempre. Protect **all** of your residents and don't just cater to the business community because you're desperate for election or re-election. Do not sit by and say "We can't do anything, we're just city government" as ICE continues to racially profile and terrorize our Latino/a/e community.

Alyssa C
Ward 1
Writing as a private citizen

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From: [Deborah Noonan](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No on illegal funding
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:28:59 AM

STOP using tax payer money on illegal aliens. They should all self deport and the ones who won't should be picked up by ICE and deported. We have homeless on the streets who should be helped first. Start cooperating with ICE and deport illegals.

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [J Stembridge](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Monday February 9th City Council Meeting
Date: Friday, February 6, 2026 6:53:37 PM

2026-5 Agenda Item: City Council Meeting February 9th

Recommendation to establish a Social Service Fund to assist those damaged by agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Border Patrol contact.

I strongly encourage the City of Salem to establish a social service fund to support those who have been injured or traumatized by ICE or CBP contact.

Just last week in Salem, a woman named Maria was thrown to the ground, given a concussion and a torn rotator cuff injury by 4 masked ICE agents. That Salem grandmother was a care provider. I would think it unlikely that with a head injury and torn rotator cuff injury that Maria can now perform her employment duties. Having a designated fund for people like Maria would be the least we can offer to individuals who have suffered such trauma.

Thank you for voting to support this crucial measure. Your "YES" vote will demonstrate your support is more than words. It will demonstrate you truly value each resident regardless of the color of their skin or the fact that they speak with a foreign accent.

Thank you for your public service,
Sincerely,
Joan Stembridge
Salem Oregon

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From: [Kris Phillips-Fletcher](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Tonight's council meeting
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 9:09:20 AM

I can't be at the meeting tonight to voice my opinion and nonsupport for spending \$200,000 for community support for families struggling with ICE.

First of all, If my tax dollars are not used to support the entire community of Salem, then it's a waste of money. Secondly, this money is not going to go very far or do much at all. Third, it looks like a money drop and a very one sided money pandering for votes.

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Meg Hummon](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Linda Nishioka](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]City council 2-9-26, agenda item 5b
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 1:24:15 PM

Please approve the recommendation of staff to fund the emergency fund to help our community members whose lives are made more difficult by activities of ICE and CBP. I regret that the proposed amount was reduced. It's urgent to get this program into operation, and demonstrate that Salem is a sanctuary city.

Authorize the creation of a social service pilot program and approve resolution no. 2026-5 transferring \$200,000 within the General Fund to fund the pilot program.

Meg Hummon
Ward 2

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From: [Mike Slagle](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]The Taxpayers say no
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:31:28 PM

Mayor Hoy, Distinguished Council members,

I am writing you today to strongly oppose the proposal to set aside \$200,000 of taxpayer funds to help illegal immigrants and their families who were affected by their arrest by federal ICE, DHS or other federal law enforcement.

As a native to Salem and longtime taxpayer, I do not agree with taking funds from our already overbearing taxes to fund an illegal activity. If you want to help people in our city, then we should prioritize the citizenry first. When you needed funds to keep the library open, and parks, and the 50+ center you got that, because you said there was a direct need to keep services going. We have longtime residents struggling to make it each month.

Allowing funds to be allocated to help illegal activity will further propagate the issue as it will send a message to everyone. That message will say "if you come to Salem illegally, you will be taken care of if you get arrested" do you not see the ramifications of this? Are you doing this in hopes that people won't notice and still vote you into office again?

I will be sure to note who votes for this and will work to educate people, who pay taxes that you do not care about them, but more for illegal activity. It seems we live in an upside-down world where the citizenry takes a back seat to illegal immigration.

Do not fall into the trap of the activists who will pull at your heartstrings with their stories about how they are terrorized by ICE. I know who these people are and much of it is made up talking points that is given to LUS (many of these activists are not school aged or live in Salem and all of them have the same talking points) they are adults and they use these tactics to get you to cave to them. They will threaten you, call you a racist or bigot to get you to vote their way. I've experienced it firsthand and know who is behind this group. Do some research and you will see what they are trying to do.

I hope you can hold decorum with this group. Their tactic is to show up early, flood the signing up to speak in mass. It is all designed to keep opposing voices from speaking. Perhaps you could ask if there are opposing views when they drone on with the same talking points. I have experienced this, and this group has threatened me with violence in the past at a school board meeting all because I opposed their call to rid SRO'S from

schools. Do you see a pattern here?

Please vote no on allocating our very hard to come by resources to fund illegal activity. I and others are watching.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted

Mike Slagle

Ward 2

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From: [Rachael Atchison](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public comment, item 5b
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 11:18:56 AM

I was so pleased to see the budget committee vote to recommend that a social service program be redeveloped and funded with 400K, and very disappointed to see that staff is now proposing half that amount for a one time distribution. Also, having half this proposed amount come from leaving a position empty in the obviously overworked city managers office seems ridiculous. We have been told over and over that this office is having to do more with less.

Because this fund is so necessary given current conditions and the emergency generated by increased violent federal immigration activity, it really needs to be more in line with what was agreed to by the budget committee on January 14th. At minimum, rededicate the 300k of our tax money that was set aside for the extremely unlikely event that it would attract another commercial airline!

Rachael Atchison
Ward 3

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Rachael

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From: [Russ](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No to any tax money for Illegals
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 10:11:30 AM

As a citizen of Oregon I do not approve of any more tax money being allocated to illegal non-citizens for help with legal fees or anything related to keeping them here illegally and being helped. I urge you and all Oregonians to leave ICE alone to do their jobs. You are obstructing our constitution by aiding criminal illegals (any person who did not come here legally is criminal illegal). I'm not sure where you got the idea that taxpayers should support illegals so that you can get your votes and stay in power, but this mad rush to stop federal law and ignore taxpayers who no longer want to foot the bill for non-citizens is about to screech to a halt. We are done with your taxes, fake help that is never about help, but about lining your pocket. To keep this sanctuary state mess up is insanity when there are roads to fix, schools to fix, veterans and elderly to help, yet you are holding the line on illegals???. What American would help illegals with tax payer money? Elderly can't pay their property taxes and are being forced out of their homes, we have homeless littering the street and you allocated major funds for that(not solving it at all, but making it worse), you are taking away veterans state park special access pass and many more programs that benefit actual citizens are on the chopping block, but you will propose help using taxpayer money for Illegals once again. We are spending 1.6 billion or so on healthcare funding for illegals, using taxpayer money; when does this stop? Let's have real elections where you don't need illegals to vote so you remain in power. Why don't you require a birth certificate for people to get a drivers license and vote? We are helping ruin our own state with this ridiculous mess. Have you not seen how immigrants are impacting Europe? It is devastating the populace of each country because the people's tax money has to be what helps them. You are tugging at the heartstrings of caring people, but ICE needs our help to get us back to helping ourselves and not helping people who decided to come and suck off our good hearts. You do not get to say you are a good person by taking from Americans/Oregonians and give to people who need help, but not help the taxpayer. Come here the correct way or get out. Please vote no on any more tax money and tell people to get out of Federal enforcements way. It is we the people of the United States, not we the people will pay for democrats illegal voters brought in to keep them in power and give them more seats in congress by census. Please change your tune to be Americans following our constitution and stop this anti-American crap. We want to be the priority with tax money going to support us, but with billions each year supporting illegal foreigners, you are abusing your position and show your contempt for our constitution. No on any more money to support illegals against America and ICE.

Get over it already!! We want a clean Oregon without Homeless, with mental health institutions which will create jobs, and let's make Oregon green, safe, healthy and legal citizens only once more!!!

Russ Rodgers
Marion County CITIZEN

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From: [Stacey Vieyra-Braendle](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: [Julie Hoy](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Mai Vang](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Micki Varney](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Testimony for Agenda Item 5.B
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:12:28 AM

Dear City Councilors and Mayor Hoy:

I write today to urge you to vote in favor of the social service pilot program. As a member of the Budget Committee, I was thrilled when the motion came before us to direct Council to consider the creation of a fund to support families and individuals harmed by ICE. I was subsequently heartbroken to hear that, for some, the violence and fear being inflicted on BIPOC communities wasn't important enough to take action on. As a Latina, I think about the harm that is happening, and the harm that has been happening, to mine and other minoritized communities every day, and I end every day in tears. I cry thinking about the images of families literally torn apart. I cry thinking about those I know that live in fear every single day. I cry thinking about those who are unable to leave their houses, and the social and emotional isolation they now experience. I cry thinking about those who have died, and those who are near death in ICE's horrendously inhumane and abusive detention centers. I cry thinking about the children that have been bound, sometimes barely clothed, and separated from family. I cry thinking about how schools, hospitals, and other once safe spaces no longer are. I nearly cried on the stage at our Budget Committee meeting hearing the worth of our community's safety being debated. I cry thinking about when this harm might strike closer to home, and when I instead might see the face of my sibling/father/abuelo/sobrinos/or other loved ones. Supporting this program and financially supporting our community members is an opportunity for each of you to show that you also think about us. Maybe you haven't shed a tear, but maybe you're willing to take a small action to help community members most in need.

I know that this motion has now been generalized to help an even broader base of our community, and the reality is that this should make it even easier for each of you to vote yes. Why, you might ask? Last year, this body set the precedent that community members can now pay to play when you accepted a mostly anonymous donation and allowed the donors to direct that funding to purposes that met their aims and objectives, with no vetting required and no policy in place to guide this decision. What about those community members who can't do that? Are we now voiceless? You ask us to come to you and tell you what we want, what we need, what we think of the business before you. This has been happening for months now. Voices have loudly proclaimed that we desperately want your help to keep community members safe, and if that can't happen, that you step in after to minimize further harm. Should the community have been bringing money with them to help these asks weigh more? To show you they were more worthy of being taken seriously?

I appreciate you taking the time to read this testimony, and I hope that each of you will take this opportunity to vote yes on supporting community members in need.

Stay well,
Stacey

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Stacey Vieyra-Braendle

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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From: [Patriot T](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Fw: Opposition to Proposed \$200,000 Assistance Program and Request for Fiscal Priorities
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:07:58 AM

so you know who i am...

Respectfully,
tammy mittig
[salem oregon]
see email above!

From: Patriot T <strghtlin@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 1:17 AM
To: just <cityrecorder@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Opposition to Proposed \$200,000 Assistance Program and Request for Fiscal Priorities

Salem City Council
555 Liberty Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Opposition to Proposed \$200,000 Assistance Program and Request for Fiscal Priorities

Dear Mayor and Members of the Salem City Council,

I am writing as a concerned taxpayer and resident regarding the proposal to allocate \$200,000 to families affected by federal immigration enforcement actions. While I believe compassion is important, I strongly oppose this use of local taxpayer funds and urge the Council to reconsider these priorities.

Salem faces serious financial and social challenges. According to recent estimates, the average annual cost to provide supportive housing and services for one chronically homeless individual can range from **\$20,000 to \$35,000 per year**, depending on the level of services provided. This means that **\$200,000 could potentially support 6 to 10 individuals** with housing assistance, mental health services, or job placement programs—helping people currently living on our streets transition to stability.

Additionally, many working families in Salem survive on incomes well below the state median. Some residents, including seniors and people with disabilities, live on **\$20,000–\$30,000 per year or less**, yet receive no special city-funded financial assistance. It is difficult to justify allocating significant funds to one group while long-term residents struggle with housing costs, inflation, and rising taxes.

Salem taxpayers already fund public transportation, emergency services, schools, and infrastructure.

Every dollar spent should be prioritized for essential local needs that benefit the broadest number of residents. Redirecting \$200,000 toward homelessness services, public safety, or infrastructure improvements would provide measurable benefits to our community.

I respectfully ask the Council to reconsider this allocation and focus city resources on programs that directly address homelessness, public safety, and support for law-abiding residents who are struggling to make ends meet.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the City of Salem.

Respectfully,
tammy mittig
[salem oregon]
see email above!

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From: [KAREN R. HEUBERGER](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comment on Creating Fund to assist ICE impacted Families
Date: Sunday, February 8, 2026 5:11:09 PM

I urge opposition to giving out/doling out \$200,000 of taxpayer money to ICE impacted families. ICE is enforcing our legal immigration laws. Those swept up in enforcement tend to be the worst criminals; although illegal presence is against the law. To use the city's "limited" monetary resources for illegal alien families is loathsome. Taxpaying citizens of Salem hear constantly about revenue shortfalls. Illegals already access many welfare benefits; provided by beleaguered taxpayers--- of which I am one.

Rather than doling out money to illegal alien family members, please concentrate on making Salem livable. The east and west side of Front Street, near the bridges, is a vagrant filled, filthy mess; as are areas near the I-5 freeway in Salem. Actually, much of Salem looks like a dystopian, filthy hell hole. Livability should be your primary concern: Not handing out taxpayer money to illegal alien families impacted by legitimate law enforcement.

And please "wake up and smell the coffee": Commercial air service at the Salem airport is not "in the cards". Salem is too close to Portland Airport or Eugene Airport for this to be a reality. Please stop wasting taxpayer money on this futile effort. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Thank you,
K.R. Heuberger
P.O. Box 724
Salem, OR 97308

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