

# LAKEWOOD

## CITY COUNCIL DECLARATION

Like many communities across the country, we have been watching with deep concern the reports of violence and loss of life connected to recent federal immigration enforcement actions involving U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Minnesota and elsewhere. Events like these do not exist in isolation. They reverberate far beyond state lines and affect how safe people feel in their homes, workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods, including here in Lakewood.

We acknowledge and honor the lives lost in connection with recent ICE and federal immigration enforcement actions, including:

Luis Gustavo Núñez Cáceres  
Geraldo Lunas Campos  
Víctor Manuel Díaz  
Parady La  
Renee Nicole Good  
Luis Beltrán Yáñez–Cruz  
Heber Sánchez Domínguez  
Alex Pretti

Their deaths and the circumstances surrounding them have deeply impacted families, communities, and the national conscience. We join the bipartisan call for thorough, fair, and transparent investigations, and we hold space for those whose names may never be widely known but whose lives mattered just as deeply.

No person should live in fear for peacefully exercising their rights. No child should be afraid to go to school. No family should feel unsafe opening their door. The protection of constitutional rights, including due process, free speech, and freedom from unlawful search and seizure, is foundational to our democracy and must be upheld at every level of government.

As members of the Lakewood City Council, our responsibility is to the people who call this city home. While federal immigration enforcement does not fall under municipal authority, we do have a clear duty to ensure that Lakewood remains a place where residents are treated with dignity, where civil rights are respected, and where people know their rights and how to access support when they need it.

In Lakewood, our role is to ensure residents understand their rights and feel safe accessing city services, reporting crime, and participating in civic life without fear. We will continue to discuss and implement policy that supports approaches to prioritize de-escalation, transparency, and the protection of civil liberties.

We also recognize the essential role of our local first responders and public safety professionals, who are entrusted with protecting the community while respecting constitutional protections. Maintaining trust between residents and local institutions is critical to public safety and to the well-being of our city.

Lakewood has long been shaped by people of different backgrounds, experiences, and stories. Our commitment remains rooted in fairness, respect, and opportunity for all who live and work here. We will continue to listen to our community, share accurate information, and lead with clarity and compassion during moments that feel heavy and uncertain.

Moving forward is not easy, but we do so together, grounded in our shared responsibility to one another and in the belief that a safer, stronger Lakewood is built through trust, transparency, and care for our neighbors.

— Lakewood City Council

**Introduced by:** Councilor Ken Cruz, Ward 3

**Co-Sponsors:**

Councilor Glenda Sinks, Ward 1

Mayor Pro Tem Jeslin Shahrezaei, Ward 1

Councilor Liz Black, Ward 2

Councilor Isabel Cruz, Ward 2

Councilor Roger Low, Ward 3

Councilor Bill Furman, Ward 4

Councilor Dave Rein, Ward 4

Councilor Jacob LaBure, Ward 5

Councilor Paula Nystrom, Ward 5

Mayor Wendi Strom