



Odette Ramos

Baltimore City Councilwoman

District 14

(410) 396 - 4814

odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov

100 N. Holliday Street, Room 553

Baltimore MD 21202

March 10, 2026

Testimony

**26-0144 – Baltimore City Policies and Procedures-Safe Spaces and Communities
SUPPORT with Sponsor Amendments**

Chair Conway and Members of the Public Safety Committee:

I am writing to humbly request your support of **26-0144 – Baltimore City Policies and Procedures-Safe Spaces and Communities with sponsor amendments.**

I am honored to work with CM Parker and Gray on the Safe Spaces and Communities Act. Our bill codifies the existing executive orders and policies set out by our City and BPD related to immigration enforcement. It sends a clear message that Baltimore will not cooperate with immigration enforcement and that we protect our community.

Specifically, with the amendments, our bill mandates the following:

- A. In conjunction with MIMA, every City agency will create an immigration enforcement action response plan regarding immigration enforcement activities. They will have procedures for ensuring that immigration enforcement agents cannot enter without a judicial warrant, cannot enter into agreements with immigration enforcement, cannot use city funds for immigration enforcement, and the like. This is consistent with the Mayor's executive order.
- B. Immigration enforcement is also not allowed to use our facilities, information, or equipment for enforcement actions.
- C. There will be no information sharing. Right now, we do not ask about status, so we don't have that information anyway. Our bill is clear that data will not be shared with immigration enforcement.
- D. The Baltimore Police Department will not participate in immigration enforcement actions. The bill mirrors existing policy that says that if BPD is at a scene of an immigration enforcement action, BPD will use their body worn camera, ask the enforcing agent for their law enforcement credentials, and inquire if the enforcement action is for carrying out a judicial warrant or court order.
- E. BPD will engage in de-escalation if they are on the scene or called to a scene of enforcement action. This is consistent with current policies related to any situation where law enforcement is requested.
- F. No City agency can discriminate based on immigration status.
- G. MIMA will work with agencies to provide training for all employees. BPD is exempt from this because they have their own training methods, but they have to provide training on interactions with immigration enforcement.

We look forward to the next steps in this conversation and making sure our city is protecting our communities.

I respectfully request a favorable report with sponsor amendments on this bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Odette", written in a cursive style.

Odette Ramos
Baltimore City Councilwoman, District 14