



CITY OF AURORA, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 025-075
DATE OF PASSAGE November 12, 2025

An Ordinance Restricting the use of City of Aurora Property for Civil Immigration Enforcement Activities.

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora has a population of more than 25,000 persons and is, therefore, a home rule unit under subsection (a) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, subject to said Section, a home rule unit may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora has a population made up of diverse cultures and backgrounds, who all contribute to our rich cultural and social fabric, contributing every day to our vibrant economy and educational systems; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora remains committed to its responsibilities under the law while ensuring that every person, regardless of race, immigration status, or national origin, is treated with dignity and afforded basic protections; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora Council stands for basic human rights that allow our residents to live in peace in their own neighborhoods and calls for due process for all individuals in our nation; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the State of Illinois passed the TRUST Act, which prohibits state and local law enforcement from participating in federal immigration operations, and the TRUST Act also prohibits the use of City resources for onsite support in federal civil immigration enforcement operations, including establishing traffic perimeters, use of City facilities, parking lots, vacant lots, and garages; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora does not assist with or participate in federal immigration enforcement activities and is not notified in advance of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions taking place throughout the City or on City property; and

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WHEREAS, federal agents recently deployed to Illinois and the Chicago metropolitan area have used City and publicly owned parking lots, vacant lots, and garages in other communities as staging sites for civil immigration enforcement operations; and

WHEREAS, use of City of Aurora facilities and property for federal civil immigration enforcement operations would not only violate the TRUST Act but would also interfere with the City's authority and control over its own resources, property, and personnel, and erode trust between the City's immigrant communities and local law enforcement, weakening relationships essential to ensuring public safety and effective community policing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora supports the constitutional rights of all residents of the City and affirms its dedication to be a safe and inclusive community for all; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora objects to the incursions into local communities and neighborhoods disrupting the lives of law-abiding residents and the instances in our region where enforcement has led to injury and physical and emotional trauma; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora upholds its right to declare specific its property private or for employee use only, thereby preventing those areas to be used to assemble, mobilize, deploy vehicles, equipment, or materials or related personnel for the purpose of carrying out civil immigration enforcement efforts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Aurora, Illinois, as follows:

Section One: That the City Council of the City of Aurora, Illinois finds as fact all of the preamble recitals of this Ordinance.

Section Two: That the City Council hereby enacts Chapter 40, "RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY" into the City Code of Ordinances, as described fully in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Section Three: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect, and shall be controlling, upon its passage and approval.

Section Four: That all Ordinances or part of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as any conflict exists.

Section Five: That any section, phrase or paragraph of this Ordinance that is construed to be invalid, void or unconstitutional shall not affect the remaining sections, phrases or paragraphs of this Ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect.

ORDINANCE NO. 025-075

LEGISTAR NO. 25-0898

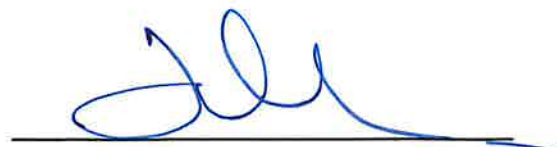
PASSED AND APPROVED ON November 12, 2025

AYES 11 NAYS 0 NOT VOTING 0 ABSENT 1

ALDERMAN	Vote
Alderman Barreiro, Ward 1	yes
Alderwoman Garza, Ward 2	yes
Alderman Mesiacos, Ward 3	yes
Alderman Núñez, Ward 4	yes
Alderman Franco, Ward 5	yes
Alderman Saville, Ward 6	yes
Alderman Bañuelos, Ward 7	yes
Alderwoman Smith, Ward 8	yes
Alderman Bugg, Ward 9	yes
Alderwoman Baid, Ward 10	absent
Alderman Larson, At-Large	yes
Alderman White, At-Large	yes

ATTEST:


City Clerk Jennifer Stallings


Mayor John Laesch

1 **Chapter 40: RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY**

2 **Section 40-1. Restrictions on Use of City-Owned Property.**

3 No City-owned and controlled parking lot, building (including
4 interior and exterior areas of any parcel upon which a building is
5 located), vacant lot, or park shall be used as a staging area,
6 processing location, or operations base for civil immigration
7 enforcement.

8 For purposes of this Chapter, "staging area" means an area
9 that is used to assemble, mobilize, and deploy personnel, vehicles,
10 equipment, or materials, for any purpose arising out of or related
11 to civil immigration enforcement operations. For purpose of this
12 Chapter, "City-owned" includes the Phillips Park Family Aquatics
13 Center and affiliated parking spaces.

14 **Sec. 40-2 Scope.**

15 Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to restrict or
16 interfere with the execution of lawful judicial warrants or the
17 enforcement of criminal law, nor as limiting the rights of any
18 person or entity under applicable law, other than as specifically
19 stated herein. This Chapter does not apply to property that is
20 subject to an existing lease or concession agreement to which the
21 City is a party. This Chapter is not intended to, and shall not be
22 interpreted to, interfere with any such lease or agreement.

23 Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to guarantee the
24 safety of any individual, nor shall this Chapter be construed to

1 impose any duty of care, special relationship, or liability on the
2 City of Aurora, its officials, employees, officers or agents.

3 **Sec. 40-3 Documentation.**

4 a. Except as provided in subsection 40-3(b), any City
5 employee, official, or agent who observes the attempted or actual
6 use of a City-owned and controlled parking lot, vacant lot, garage,
7 or other property as a staging area, processing location,
8 operations base, or other support for civil immigration
9 enforcement in violation of this Chapter shall without endangering
10 themselves or others at the time, and/if they are fearful for their
11 safety at the time, as soon as practical, report by name or
12 anonymously to their supervisor, who shall as soon as practical,
13 report to the Mayor's Office or his/her/their designee(s). The
14 Mayor's Office or his/her/their designee(s) is responsible for
15 documenting all attempted or actual violations of this Chapter and
16 creating procedures to comply with the Illinois Accountability
17 Commission as established in Executive Order 25-06.

18 b. The Aurora Police Department shall adopt procedures to
19 document violations of this Chapter when sworn officers on duty
20 observe such violations.

21 **Sec. 40-4 Signage.**

22 a. City departments and agencies shall collaborate to
23 identify City-owned and controlled parking lots, vacant lots,
24 garages, and other City-owned property that could be used as a

1 staging area, processing location, operations base, or other
2 support for civil immigration enforcement.

3 b. City departments and agencies shall ensure that all such
4 properties have clear signage stating: "This property is owned and
5 controlled by the City of Aurora. It may not be used for civil
6 immigration enforcement, including use as a staging area,
7 processing location, or operations base pursuant to Chapter 40 of
8 the Aurora Code."

9 c. Where available and appropriate, city departments may
10 utilize physical barriers such as locked gates to limit access to
11 City-owned and controlled parking lots, vacant lots, garages, or
12 other property consistent with this Chapter and in conjunction
13 with proper signage.