



Billy Walsh <bwalsh@natickma.org>

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## Natick Welcoming Community Policy

1 message

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Elizabeth M <esmnick@gmail.com>

Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 11:37 AM

To: "Selectboard@natickma.org" <Selectboard@natickma.org>

Dear Members of the Board,

I urge you to support the draft Welcoming Community Policy posted earlier this month. The policy is a thoughtfully crafted compromise that balances protecting immigrant communities while ensuring our compliance with state and federal law. It is also very similar to other policies in many other municipalities in Massachusetts.

This policy is critical for ensuring that our town employees are not conscripted into enforcing federal immigration law at a time when our resources are already limited. The policy also assures immigrant communities that they can utilize town resources, including reporting crimes to law enforcement, without fear of immigration repercussions.

Any upcoming program of mass deportation will lean heavily on local law enforcement for support. That is why we must have policies in place now that reflect Natick's inclusive values. Therefore, I strongly encourage you not to give in to any calls to water down the policy with additional exceptions that could be used to undercut the policy's goals—the *town* simply should not be in the business of enforcing *federal* immigration law.

My family and I have lived, worked, volunteered, attended school, and enjoyed Natick for 14 years. The kind of inclusiveness and community values supported by this policy is why I am proud that we made Natick our home! My husband and I are involved in the community and support the efforts of local non-profit organizations to make Natick a kind, resilient, and welcoming community.

Thank you for YOUR service to Natick. I strongly urge you to vote yes on the draft policy.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Montemayor

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