



Billy Walsh <bwalsh@natickma.org>

Welcoming Communities Policy - Select Board Meeting, November 21, 2024

1 message

'nnorthgraves@yahoo.com' via Select Board <selectboard@natickma.org>

Tue, Nov 19, 2024 at 9:50 PM

Reply-To: "nnorthgraves@yahoo.com" <nnorthgraves@yahoo.com>

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

Cc: AbBill <northgraves80@gmail.com>

Dear Select Board Members,

We are writing to strongly oppose the proposed “Welcoming Communities” Policy. Although we recognize the goal is to foster a safe environment for everyone living in Natick, the policy —particularly item #5—aligns closely with the exact definition of a Sanctuary City: *a municipality that limits or denies its cooperation with the national government in enforcing [immigration law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanctuary_city#United_States). (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanctuary_city#United_States)*

This policy raises concerns about the rule of law and public safety. When we offer protections that keep some individuals away from law enforcement, it can unintentionally create a space where criminal behavior feels more at home, making it harder for our police to carry out their important work effectively.

In addition, has any consideration been given to the unintended consequences for the Town in adopting this policy? It could easily attract many undocumented immigrants from the bordering town of Framingham (which is not an official sanctuary city) to migrate to Natick.

Does Natick have the budget and infrastructure to manage an influx of immigrants or to provide for their needs, such as housing, healthcare, and education, without straining public resources? The Town and the taxpayers are already facing the possibility of an operational override to meet our current budget expenditures.

We ask you to reconsider the adoption of this policy and vote **NO**.

Thank you.

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