

# #DEPORTICE



MEDIA  
ALLIANCE



WELLSTONE DEMOCRATIC  
RENEWAL CLUB





OAKLAND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS  
Unlocking the Power of Oakland



May 20, 2019

**VIA E-MAIL ONLY**

Hon. Dan Kalb (dkalb@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Nikki Bas (district2@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Lynette McElhaney (lmcelhaney@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Sheng Thao (sthao@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Noel Gallo (ngallo@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Loren Taylor (ltaylor@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Larry Reid (lreid@oaklandca.gov)  
Hon. Rebecca Kaplan (atlarge@oaklandca.gov)  
Oakland City Council  
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Community Support for the Sanctuary Contracting and Investment Ordinance**

Dear Honorable Members of the Oakland City Council:

The undersigned coalition urges the Oakland City Council to approve the Sanctuary Contracting and Investment Ordinance (Kaplan), noticed as Item 16 on your May 21, 2019 agenda. This coalition represents diverse Oakland and Bay Area residents who are concerned with the ever-increasing number of private actors that are supplying data and other services to federal immigration agencies, for the purpose of deporting our immigrant neighbors, families, friends, and colleagues. We thank the members of the Public Safety Committee for unanimously supporting this proposal.

This Ordinance provides the City of Oakland with a mechanism to better align its Sanctuary values with its purchasing power, and adoption of the Ordinance will cause the business practices of these vendors to change. In June 2018, the City Council of Richmond enacted a similar ordinance by 6-1 vote. The City Council of Berkeley also enacted a similar ordinance last month, with unanimous support. Oakland should not be in the business of subsidizing President's Trump's deportation machine. We urge you to approve it without delay.

This Ordinance prohibits the award of City contracts to any vendor that is supplying "Data Broker", "Extreme Vetting" (e.g. threat modeling, predictive analytics), or "Detention Facility" services to Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE"), Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), or the Office of Refugee Resettlement ("HHS/ORR"). As the Trump Administration signals that it will focus its surveillance and enforcement powers on immigrants and Muslim Americans, local leaders have a special responsibility to enact strong measures that protect vulnerable residents from suspicionless monitoring and the creation of databases exploitable for discriminatory ends. As the contracts cited to in the various Whereas clauses in the Ordinance evidence, ICE is already moving fast along this path. Targeted communities cannot afford a delay in adoption.

On February 6, 2018, the Alameda City Council rejected a \$500,000 proposal to purchase automated license plate readers from Vigilant Solutions, a Livermore, California based company, due to concerns about Vigilant Solution's contract to provide data to ICE<sup>1</sup>. On March 13, 2018, the Culver City Council also rejected a proposal from Vigilant Solutions for license plate readers, due to concerns that Culver City's Sanctuary City status would be at risk because the company provides data to ICE.<sup>2</sup> On March 20, 2018, the San Pablo City

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.aclunc.org/blog/alameda-rejects-surveillance-deal-company-tied-ice>

<sup>2</sup> <http://culvercitycrossroads.com/2018/03/14/special-city-council-meeting-no-to-license-plate-readers-yes-to-drones/>

Council tabled a \$2.49 million proposal which included license plate readers from Vigilant Solutions, due to the same concerns about data sharing practices.<sup>3</sup>

If adopted, this Ordinance will protect the civil liberties and civil rights of all Oakland residents, it will cause the business practices of private parties to change, and it will demonstrate to the Trump Administration that Oakland rejects its xenophobic policies.

Sincerely,

Alameda County Immigration Legal and Education Partnership  
American Civil Liberties Union - California  
American Friends Service Committee  
Associated Students – University of California  
Block By Block Organizing Network  
California Immigrant Policy Center  
Council on American-Islamic Relations – San Francisco Bay Area  
California Sanctuary Campaign  
Center for Media Justice  
Centro Legal de la Raza  
Coalition for Police Accountability  
Courage Campaign  
Defending Dissent  
DeportICE.org  
Educators for Migrant Justice  
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights  
Forward Together  
Freedom for Immigrants (formerly CIVIC)  
Greenlining Institute  
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network  
Immigrant Legal Resource Center  
Indivisible - Sacramento  
Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity  
Jewish Voice for Peace – Bay Area  
Media Alliance  
Mijente  
Mujeres Unidas y Activas (MUA)  
Nikkei Resisters  
NorCal Resist  
Oakland Privacy  
Oakland Community Organizations  
PASOS  
Restore the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sacred Heart Community Service  
Secure Justice  
Service Employees International Union, Local 521

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.eastbayexpress.com/SevenDays/archives/2018/03/21/san-pablo-tables-plan-to-expand-city-wide-surveillance-system-with-license-plate-scanners-from-company-tied-to-ice>

Services, Immigrant Rights, and Education Network (SIREN)

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Bay Area

Veterans for Peace East Bay

Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club