

RESOLUTION - OPPOSING THE OPERATION OF AN IMMIGRATION DETENTION FACILITY BY U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT IN ORANGE COUNTY, NEW YORK

WHEREAS, the mission of our community is to promote safety, dignity, and equal protection for all residents regardless of immigration status; and

WHEREAS, immigration detention is a civil, not criminal, matter, yet detention facilities often operate under carceral conditions similar to criminal incarceration; and

WHEREAS, numerous reports nationwide have documented concerns regarding detainee access to medical care, legal representation, due process, and humane treatment within immigration detention facilities; and

WHEREAS, the presence of an ICE detention facility may erode trust between immigrant communities and local law enforcement, discouraging victims and witnesses from reporting crimes and thereby undermining public safety; and

WHEREAS, local resources - including emergency services, healthcare systems, and community support networks - may be strained by the operation of a federal detention facility; and

WHEREAS, many residents of Orange County value diversity, inclusion, and the protection of civil and human rights; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County is a neighboring community and will be negatively affected by this.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town of Rosendale formally opposes the operation or expansion of any immigration detention facility operated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement within Orange County, New York.
2. We call upon county and state officials to decline participation in agreements that facilitate the detention of individuals for civil immigration purposes within local facilities.
3. We urge federal representatives to pursue humane, community-based alternatives to detention that ensure compliance with immigration proceedings while respecting due process and human rights.
4. We affirm our commitment to fostering a welcoming and safe community for all residents, regardless of immigration status.
5. A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Ulster County Executive, Orange County Executive, the Governor of New York, and members of Congress representing this region.

Motion made at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale, March 11, 2026 by Supervisor Walsh and seconded by Councilmember Wykoff.

VOTING MEMBERS

Councilmember Cassidy Yes

Councilmember Fade Yes

Councilmember Sweeney Yes

Councilmember Wykoff Yes

Supervisor Walsh Yes