

**PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL**

March 2, 2026

Council convened at 7:01 p.m. with Council President Thomas presiding.

Present: Councilman Ash-Shafii, Councilwoman Manica, Councilwoman Martin, and Council President Thomas. (4)

Absent: Council Pro Tem Robinson (1).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilman Ash Shafii

To approve the agenda with the addition of the following resolutions. 1- Resolution to approve the Highland Park Michigan Week Parade route on Woodward Avenue. 2- An Ordinance amending the City of Highland Park Zoning Ordinance to prohibit immigration detention holding, processing, and staging facilities, providing definitions, and providing for enforcement. Place these two resolutions under council affairs. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1).

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Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Support by Council President Thomas

To approve the minutes of the In-Person and Virtual Regular meeting held February 17, 2026. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Tabled from February 17, 2026

V. 3-2-26

The following communication was received from the CED Director.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE HIGHLAND PARK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PLAN
DOCUMENT**

Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by Council President Thomas

To remove the following resolution from the table.

WHEREAS, the City of Highland has prepared the Highland Park Economic Development Strategy (EDS) as a comprehensive policy framework to guide the city's economic growth business development, and community revitalization efforts over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Treasury and State Land Bank grant funded Economic Development Strategy establishes a long-term vision for sustainable and inclusive economic growth by aligning local objectives with regional and state-level opportunities, emphasizing collaboration, innovation, and equitable investment; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Economic Development Strategy was developed through an extensive planning process led by the Highland Park Economic Development Department incorporating data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and public participation to ensure the strategy reflects community priorities and values; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission meeting was held on December 10, 2025 to review and consider the Highland Park Economic Development Strategy, and following discussion and review, voted to recommend adoption of the plan to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, ADOPTION OF THE Highland Park Economic Development Strategy will provide a framework for guiding economic development initiatives, attracting investment, supporting existing businesses, improving public spaces, and enhancing the overall quality of life for Highland Park residents; and

WHEREAS, the Economics Development Strategy aligns with the MEDC Redevelopment Ready Community criteria, the City's Master Plan and reinforces Highland Park's commitment to equitable growth, fiscal sustainability, and community-driven revitalization.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Highland Park hereby adopts the Highland Park Economics Development Strategy (EDS) as the policy guide for the city's economic development activities and related planning initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City staff and the Economic Development Department are directed to use the EDS to inform decision-making, pursue funding and partnership opportunities, and monitor implementation progress. Yeas (2) Councilwoman Manica and Council President Thomas, Nays (2) Councilman Ash Shafii and Councilwoman Martin, Absent (1).

Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

Reconsideration of Councilwoman Martin NO vote. Yeas (4) Nays (0), Absent (1).

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Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To remove the item off the table. Yeas (3), Councilwoman Manica, Councilwoman Martin and Council President Thomas, Nays (1) Councilman Ash Shafii, Absent (1).

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Moved by Councilwoman Manica
Supported by President Thomas

To approve the resolution. Yeas (4), Nays (1) Councilman Ash Shafii, Absent (1).

ENGINEERING DEPT:

VI a- 3-2-26

The following resolution was received for approval.

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION FOR FEDERAL AID FUNDING FROM WAYNE COUNTY FEDERAL AID COMMITTEE FOR FY 2029 STP-U 9 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM-URBAN FOR THE REPAIR OF GLENDALE AVENUE BETWEEN CITY BOUNDARY AND HAMILTON AVENUE.

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department received a notice of available infrastructure funding from the Wayne County Federal Aid Committee for a community request of local matching funding for eligible roads within the City of Highland; The City of Highland Park received \$4.20 million in funding through FY2022, FY2023, and FY2025 STP-U programs; is awaiting funding for \$2.50 million through FY2026 and FY2027 STP-U programs; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application, the City of Highland Park may be able to receive up to 81.85% federal aid and 18.15% local match for road repair; and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park is to submit final plans to Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for obligation by February 1, 2029 and proof of 18.15% local match. If funding cannot be matched, a grace period of one month will be provided to the city. Therefore, the funding may be reallocated to alternate city projects; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department is requesting approval to submit for funding for the federal aid eligible road due March 31, 2026; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council APPROVES the submission of the Wayne County Federal Aid FY2029 STYP-U Funding project application and commitment, attached to this resolution and will comply with its terms. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1).

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VI-b 3-2-26

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

Moved by Councilman Ash Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION FOR FEDERAL AID FUNDING FROM WAYNE COUNTY FEDERAL AID COMMITTEE FOR FY2029 STP-U (SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM-URBAN) FOR THE REPAIR OF OAKMAN BOULEVARD BETWEEN CITY BOUNDARY AND HAMILTON AVENUE

WHEREAS, THE Engineering Department received notice of available infrastructure funding from the Wayne County Federal Aid Committee for a community request of local matching funding for eligible roads within the City of Highland Park. The City of Highland Park received \$4.20 million in funding through FY2022, FY2023, and FY2025 STP-U programs; is awaiting funding for \$2.50 million through FY2026 and FY2027 STP-U programs; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application, the City of Highland Park may be able to receive up to 81.85% federal aid and 18.15% local match for road repair; and

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park is to submit final plans to Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for obligation by February 1, 2029 and proof of 18.15% local match. If funding cannot be matched, a grace period of one month will be provided to the city. Thereafter, the funding may be reallocated to alternate city projects; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department is requesting approval to submit for funding for the federal aid eligible road due March 31, 2026; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council APPROVES the submission of the Wayne County Federal Aid FY2029 STYP-U Funding project application and commitment, attached to this resolution and will comply with its terms. Yeas (4), Nays (0), Absent (1).

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

VII. a 3-2-26

Moved by Councilman Ash Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT IMMIGRATION DETENTION HOLDING, PROCESSING, AND STAGING FACILITIES; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT

City Council Sponsor
Councilman Ash Shafii

Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilman Ash Shafii

That this ordinance be placed on 1st reading. Councilman Ash Shafii rescinded his support.

Moved by Councilman Ash Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To move this ordinance to a workshop on March 16, 2026. Yeas (3), Nays (1) Councilwoman Martin, Absent (1).

The Ordinance:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

This Ordinance is adopted to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the City of Highland Park, and to ensure that no property in the City is used for immigration detention, civil immigration holding, processing, or staging activities inconsistent with City policy and land use intent.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO DEFINITIONS (CHAPTER 1230-DEFINITIONS)

The City of Highland Park Zoning Ordinance includes Chapter 1230; Rules of Construction and Organization and Definitions.

Chapter 1230.02 (Definitions) is hereby amended by adding the following definitions in alphabetical order:

A. CIVIL IMMIGRATION DETENTION FACILITY

A building, structure, premises, property, or portion thereof used for the confinement, detention, restraint, or custody of individuals for civil immigration enforcement purposes, including but not limited to detention pending immigration proceedings deportation, removal, or transfer.

B. CIVIL IMMIGRATION HOLDING FACILITY

Any use, facility, location, or portion of a building where individuals are held temporarily or otherwise restrained for civil immigration enforcement purposes, including “temporary holding,” “booking,” “intake,” “processing,” or “transport waiting”

C. IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ENTITY

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Border Patrol, and any agent, contractor, affiliate, or entity acting on behalf of such agencies for immigration enforcement operations.

D. IMMIGRATION PROCESSING FACILITY/STAGING AREA

Any facility, use, location, or portion of a building used for immigration enforcement activity including but not limited to; processing, booking, intake, transport coordination, deployment staging, interviewing, interrogation, administrative operations, or other activity supporting immigration detention or removal.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITED USES – ALL ZONING DISTRICTS (CHAPTER 1250)

Chapter 1250 of the Zoning Ordinance governs zoning districts and permitted/special uses.

A new subsection is hereby added to Chapter 1250.04 (permitted and Special Uses).

1250 PROHIBITED USES IMMIGRATION DETENTION AND HOLDING

1. Prohibited Citywide. The following uses are hereby declared prohibited within the City of Highland Park and shall not be permitted in any zoning district as a principal use, temporary use, special land use, conditional use, or by variance.

- a. Civil Immigration Detention Facility
- b. Civil Immigration Holding Facility.
- c. Immigration Processing Facility / Staging Area.

2. No Workaround Allowed. The prohibited uses listed above shall not be allowed under any other use classification, including but not limited to “office”, “warehouse”, “public safety”, “institutional”, “government services”, “transportation”, “temporary use”, or “essential services.”

3. Industrial/Warehouse Clarification. For avoidance of doubt, the prohibited uses in this section are not allowed in any district including industrial, warehouse, manufacturing, or transportation-related districts.

SECTION 4. LIMITED EXEMPTIONS (EXISTING LOCAL FACILITIES ONLY)

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to prohibit:

1. The continued operation of the Highland Park Police Department holding facility, solely for lawful detention of individuals under local criminal jurisdiction; and

2. The continued operation of the existing juvenile justice detention center in the city, solely for the lawful juvenile justice detention purposes.

SECTION 5 FIREWALL -NO FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS FROM EXEMPT FACILITIES

Even where the limited exemptions in Section 4 apply:

1. No portion of either exempt facility may be used by an Immigration Enforcement Entity for any purpose, including but not limited to:

civil immigration holding or detention

processing, staging, booking, interviews, interrogation

administrative operation or transport operations

2. No City approvals (including occupancy, business licensing, certificates, contracts, or agreements) shall be issued that allow prohibited immigration enforcement operations to occur from the exempt facilities.

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT

1. Any use established or operated in violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a zoning violation subject to enforcement through all lawful remedies including but not limited to civil infraction, injunctive relief, or any remedy authorized by the City Code and state law.

2. The Zoning Administrator is hereby directed not to issue any permit, approval, or occupancy determined that would allow prohibited use under this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict are repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect after adoption and publication as required by law.

**VII-b
3-2-26**

The following resolution was submitted for approval.

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Martin

To refer to the City Attorney to approve the resolution as to form. Attorney Bosnic was the attorney for the meeting and approved the resolution as to form.

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Moved by Councilwoman Martin
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN WEEK PARADE ROUTE ON
WOODWARD AVENUE**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Week Parade is a longstanding community tradition celebrating civic pride culture, the history of our state, and the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the Parker Pride Alumni Foundation has requested approval to return the Michigan Week Parade to Woodward Avenue for the year 2026; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route on Woodward Avenue will provide greater visibility, accessibility, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, THE Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) requires a minimum of sixty (60) days advance notice following formal City Council approval in order to coordinate logistics, public safety, traffic control, and permitting; and

WHEREAS, time is of the essence, and approval is needed immediately to meet the required sixty (60) day submission timeline:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Park City Council hereby approves the Michigan Week Parade on Woodward Avenue, between 6 mile and Tennyson subject to all required permits, coordination with public safety officials, and compliance with applicable laws and ordinances. If not approved by MDOT, the Parker Pride Alumni Foundation may revisit the parade on Hamilton the same as previously.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to provide written confirmation of this approval so that the Parker Pride Alumni Foundation may immediately submit the required documentation to the appropriate agencies within the mandated sixty (6) day timeframe. Yeas (3) Councilwoman Manic & Martin, Council President Thomas, Nays (1) Councilman Ash Shafii, Absent (1).

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Councilman Ash-Shafii
Supported by Councilwoman Manica

To adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. motion carried.