Keri O'Brien

From:

Sabrina Walsh <sabrinawalsh12@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 30, 2025 3:56 PM

To:

District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI; Mayor E-Mail; PIO EMAIL; Kendal

Harden; District I

Cc:

Keri O'Brien

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Resolution 287g public comment

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Hello, my name is Sabrina Walsh and I live in District 4.

Immigrants are essential members of our community. I want to specifically mention TPS for Haiti, because I know many TPS holders. They entered the country legally and have valid work authorization documents. TPS is Temporary Protected Status, it was granted to many immigrants from Haiti beginning in 2010 after the earthquake. This made it possible for many outstanding and exceptional people to come to the US legally, and live and work legally in Key West. TPS for Haitians is set to be terminated in September.

It is shameful that after years of cooking our food, cleaning our hotel rooms, and making our city run, that we would turn our backs on them when their status is pulled out from underneath them. They do not have time to change status. Conditions in Haiti are not safe for them to return.

During the pandemic, these essential workers followed local laws and biked to work wearing masks in the rain. And now on the crosstown cyclist greenway where you've asked them to commute, you're assisting ICE with laying traps to detain, demand papers, and deport whoever they can.

This strategy does not align with law enforcement's mission to protect public safety. Stopping good people on the way to work may be easy, but it is wrong. My family lives in new town and works downtown; after experiencing one of these stops we are no longer biking to work. This makes me fearful, sick to my stomach, and above all ashamed.

We should claim our values as One Human Family and immediately cease collaboration with ICE. Furthermore, we should look ahead to the coming months when more and more of our community will be made illegal. We must reduce the opportunities for stops by ICE. A great place to start would be replacing stop signs with yield signs for cyclists on the crosstown greenway. Thank you.