Statement from Mayor John Stephens and Mayor Pro Tem Manuel Chavez on federal immigration actions

Amid the anxiety and fear that some in our community are experiencing because of recent Federal immigration and deportation actions, the City of Costa Mesa is committed to the safety of all our residents.

We stand firmly by our core values of inclusivity and compassion for all members of our diverse community.

The City of Costa Mesa is dedicated to giving peaceful demonstrators a safe environment to exercise their First Amendment rights. While the city supports the public's right to assemble and demonstrate, it does not tolerate violence, vandalism, or destruction of property. Anyone committing criminal activity will be held accountable.

The Costa Mesa Police Department cannot and will not enforce immigration laws nor investigate immigration status. If there is a crime that needs to be reported or if you are in need of an officer assistance, our Police Department is here for you regardless of immigration status – do not hesitate to call for help.

We encourage our residents to know all their rights when interacting with Federal immigration officials.

- You are not required to answer questions or open your door unless presented with a warrant signed by a judge, with your name on it.
- Do not sign anything or provide false information.
- Stay calm, stay safe, and look out for one another.

Being informed is a vital part of protecting yourself and your loved ones.