

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Noem:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed plan by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to open a processing facility for detained immigrants on the Eastside of the City of San Antonio. This proposed project raises serious concerns, and we demand clear and comprehensive answers from ICE regarding the full scope, timeline, and potential impacts of this facility on our community. Furthermore, we formally request an in-person meeting to discuss these issues and to convey the significant opposition and impact that this project has generated within San Antonio.

It is deeply troubling that ICE has failed to engage with the local community leaders or consult with elected representatives in Congress before moving forward with this plan. When the federal government undertakes actions of this magnitude, states and cities must receive advance notice, meaningful consultation, and clear information about infrastructure demands, emergency preparedness, anticipated capacity, and expected impact on the local community. Clearly, the administration must engage with local government on emergency preparedness, water and sewage infrastructure, electricity usage, traffic management, and public safety resources. The lack of outreach and transparency from this administration has left us with many questions unanswered and shows us that this decision was made without a full understanding of its consequences.

We believe this project is a waste of taxpayer dollars and the failure to involve the community raises serious doubts about the potential effectiveness and appropriateness of this facility. A deportation process that prioritizes speed at the expense of the justice system fails to meet high standards the American people expect from their government. This administration has not provided any specific facts about the process to convert the warehouse into a detention center that houses over a thousand people.

We also request information about any plans ICE has to expand its administrative presence in San Antonio.

We request a meeting that includes not only members of the San Antonio congressional delegation but also local officials. This meeting should serve as a platform to discuss our community's widespread opposition, conduct serious oversight, and gain a comprehensive understanding of the project. San Antonio deserves clarity on these points and a detailed explanation of how ICE plans to address the potential long-term consequences of this project.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response by February 27th and to a more thorough discussion of these important concerns.



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Peter Sakai
Bexar County Judge



Gina Ortiz Jones
Mayor of San Antonio



Tommy Calvert Jr.
Bexar County Commissioner,
Precinct 4