

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-029

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING THE LOCATING OF A UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT PROCESSING OR DETENTION FACILITY IN WAREHOUSES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2025, the Washington Post published an article in which it was indicated that the federal government produced a draft solicitation that may seek private detention contractors for the renovation and use of industrial warehouses to process and detain U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees; and

WHEREAS, according to the Washington Post article, the Township of Roxbury was identified as a potential municipality wherein there may be a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility having between 500 to 1,500 beds; and

WHEREAS, neither the Township of Roxbury, nor its officials have been informed, approached, inquired or solicited by the federal government for the placement of such a facility within the Township of Roxbury; and

WHEREAS, given the lack of any communication or contact regarding the realistic potential of a plan to convert an industrial warehouse or warehouses into a detainee processing facility within the Township, it is impossible for the Township Council to make informed policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Roxbury is a predominately residential community located in the western part of the County of Morris and subject to the New Jersey Highlands Act, with limited water, sewer and other public resources and municipal services; and

WHEREAS, the prior approvals of the existing industrial warehouses within the Township were, in part, based upon the limited demand such facilities have for water and sewer, and upon other public resources and services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Roxbury is committed to adhering to the laws of the State of New Jersey and the Township's ordinances, inclusive of those governing the use of lands; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of industrial warehouses within the Township would place unanticipated demands upon the Township's water, sewer, public safety services, and other public resources in structures and areas not intended for human occupancy; and

WHEREAS, it is a primary objective of the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury to ensure the public safety and welfare of its residents, business community and visitors to the Township; and

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury that the Township of Roxbury is not an appropriate municipality for the placement of a detainee processing facility.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Roxbury, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, hereby unequivocally opposes the conversion of existing industrial warehouses within the Township for the creation of a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility, or any other facility that disregards the Township's land use and regulatory ordinances and creates unanticipated burdens upon the Township's infrastructure, resources and services.

ADOPTED: January 13, 2026

Attest:

Amy E. Rhead, RMC
Township Clerk