

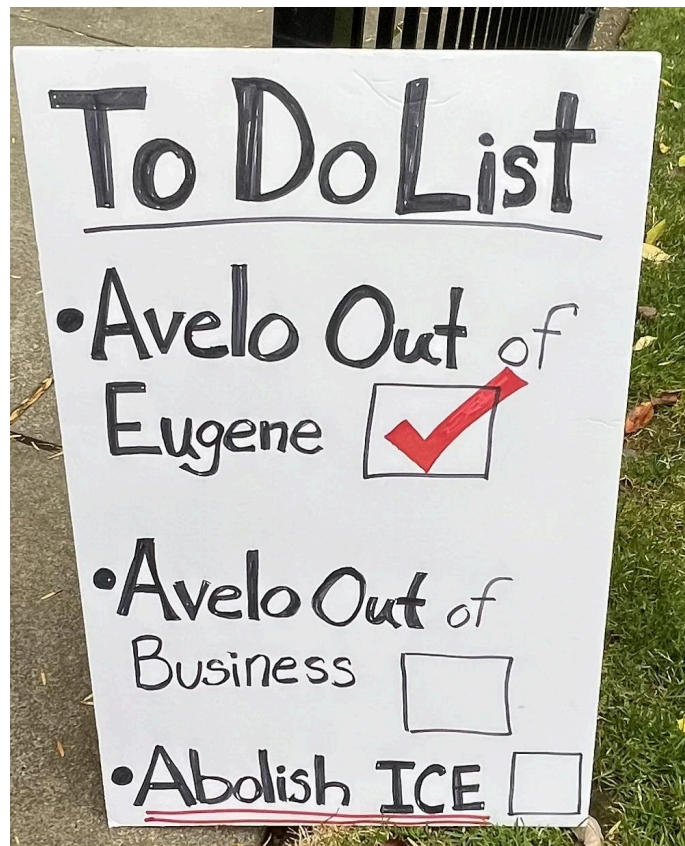
Welcome!

# WE DID IT!

## AVELO IS OUT OF EUG!



Thank you to all who supported this campaign!



We will no longer be updating these pages regularly, but feel free to peruse them (by clicking the tabs to your left) to learn more about what we did from May to October 2025.

We encourage you to get involved with these anti-Avelo campaigns:

- The national Stop Avelo campaign ([stopavelo.org](https://stopavelo.org)) because the airline continues to fly elsewhere in the country and is even adding routes in the east
- The Oregon state Stop Avelo campaign (email us to say you'd like to be invited to the next Zoom call), which is working on state legislation and other efforts to de-ICE Oregon
- Indivisible's Ground Avelo campaign ([groundavelo.org](https://groundavelo.org)), which is working with the national Stop Avelo campaign

We encourage you to become involved with our coalition partners:

- Indivisible Eugene Springfield (<https://www.indivisible-eug-spr.org/>)
- Standing Up for Racial Justice (<https://surj.org/chapter/surj-eugene/>)
- The Party for Socialism and Liberation (Contact: [psleugeneor@gmail.com](mailto:psleugeneor@gmail.com))
- The Immigration Justice Action Group at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene (Contact: [immigrationjustice@uueugene.org](mailto:immigrationjustice@uueugene.org))

There is a wealth of opportunities locally to take action against the federal government's inhumane and illegal actions. We urge you to consider joining these groups:

- Anti-Flock actions: 1) Eyes Off Eugene ([eyesoffeugene.org](https://eyesoffeugene.org)) and 2) Get the Flock out of Eugene/Springfield, a project of the Lane County Immigrant Defense Network of the Party for Socialism and Liberation (<http://tinyurl.com/ImmigrantDefenseToolkit>)
- Rapid Response Lane County: [rrlc.2025@gmail.com](mailto:rrlc.2025@gmail.com)
- Oregon Community Asylum Network: <https://grassrootsconnect.org/ocan>
- Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County/Refugee and Immigrant Services Program (Catholic Community Services): [www.rrclc.org](http://www.rrclc.org)

# Latest News

# Thanks to all who joined our celebration!

The Avelo Out of EUG campaign invites you to our **Farewell, Avelo! Event: Monday, October 20, at 9 a.m. at the Eugene Airport**. We are thrilled to have State Representative Lisa Fragala as our featured speaker, as well as Stop Avelo organizer Matthew Boulay, who will look at the nationwide boycott of the airline, and Avelo Out of EUG organizer Mark Fromuth, who will look back at what we've accomplished. We've invited press to cover the event, which we anticipate will last about 45 minutes.

Please join us to say farewell to the only commercial airline that contracts with ICE to deport people without due process. We'll be there when the last Avelo flight out of Eugene departs at 9:45 a.m. Bring signs!!!

Here are the details:

- Park in the designated lot for the airport; you'll have to pay upon leaving.
- Come to the free speech area outside the terminal on the far right end, which is also near Avelo's counter.

Here are the rules for being in the airport's free speech areas:

"No person may conduct any activity that impairs or interferes with the rights of other persons or the transportation function of the Airport. No person may engage in an activity that physically or verbally obstructs, delays, or interferes with the free movement of any persons, vehicles, or aircraft in, upon, or through the Airport or otherwise prevents the orderly and efficient use of the Airport for its primary purpose.

Designated Free Speech Area. The City will maintain a designated free speech area located at the terminal bag claim area and the terminal north sidewalk. Unless specifically approved by the Airport Director, no Person may:

- 1) Use of sound or voice amplifying equipment for anything other than official airport operations; or
- 2) Use tables, stands, chairs or other structures, provided however that a person whose certified physical disability prevents or makes standing difficult may use a folding chair;"

# More Good News!!

Avelo Airlines will leave the entire west coast on October 20, Avelo has announced. So along with Eugene, service in and out of Medford will also end. Salem service ended in August and Bend/Redmond was due to end shortly.

Statement from Stop Avelo (the national anti-Avelo organization):

## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Avelo Airlines to Cease All West Coast Operations on October 20, Six Weeks Earlier than Scheduled**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Matthew Boulay, [info@stopavelo.org](mailto:info@stopavelo.org), 5039919519**

The October closure moves up the airline's original timeline of leaving on December 2nd. The decision to accelerate the shutdown comes after declining economic performance, fueled in part by The Coalition to Stop Avelo's nationwide monthly protests. The coverage generated by the Coalition has intensified pressure. From holding banners outside of airports to flyering inside terminals, organizers have increased nationwide attention to Avelo's contract. Actions like these have undermined demand for Avelo's ultra-low cost flights.

"The Coalition is pleased to hear of this news, as it is a win for all the organizers, protestors, and community members involved. Avelo has never directly stated that these airport pullouts are due to the work of the Coalition. It is in moments like these that we see glimpses of our effect on Avelo's bottom line," said a spokesperson for the Coalition to Stop Avelo.

Since May of 2025, the Coalition has hosted over 70 protests on the coordinated national days of action to draw attention to Avelo's deportation flights and ICE contract. The Coalition to Stop Avelo hopes to protest against Avelo sales, with the goal of ultimately ending Avelo's partnership with ICE.

News articles on this change:

<https://app.lookouteugene-springfield.com/story/avelo-airlines-will-end-flights-out-of-eugene-earlier-than-expected/content.html>

<https://ktla.com/news/california/avelo-leaves-california-market/>

# Good News!

The Avelo Out of EUG coalition has learned that Avelo Airlines will leave Eugene on October 20, six weeks earlier than planned. We are delighted that the airline is leaving early and will be holding a farewell gathering at the airport on Monday morning, October 20. Stay tuned for details, including the time.

The only commercial airline that contracts with ICE has no business flying in and out of a sanctuary state like Oregon, and we are very pleased that after Avelo leaves Eugene on October 20, the only airport it will operate out of in the state will be Medford, and only until late November (unless it decides to leave there early, too).

We believe our airport protests helped educate passengers about the inhumane work Avelo does and cut into the airline's profit margin, forcing it out sooner than planned. Thank you to all who came out to support the campaign and to all who wrote letters and emails, appeared at meetings, and spread the news about the airline.

Avelo still operates out of other U.S. airports and it still flies deportation flights for ICE. We look forward to the day that all airports say farewell to commercial airlines that are complicit in deporting people without due process in clear violation of the U.S. Constitution.

## September Updates

The Avelo Out of EUG campaign launched on May 31 with the goal of getting Avelo Airlines out of Eugene. With the airline's announcement in July that they are leaving the west coast, that goal has been accomplished! December 1 will be their last flight out of Eugene Airport. (Please read to the end of this announcement for news about our December 1 celebration at the airport.)

Going forward, our campaign will focus on two projects (if you want to be involved with either, please email us to let us know):

- State legislation: We're urging Oregon legislators to draft legislation to ensure that the battle we fought with Avelo doesn't have to be fought again—with another airline or with other businesses.
- UO Boycott Avelo campaign: We're working with students at the University of Oregon to urge them to boycott Avelo for the next three months (until the airline leaves on Dec. 1). We may also organize another airport action around the UO's Fall Family Weekend in late October. (With the announcement on Sept. 23 that Avelo is leaving early, we will not be conducting this campaign.)

We encourage you to become involved with these anti-Avelo-focused campaigns:

- The national Stop Avelo campaign ([stopavelo.org](http://stopavelo.org)) because the airline continues to fly elsewhere in the country and is even adding routes in the east



- The Oregon state Stop Avelo campaign (email us to say you'd like to be invited to the next Zoom call), which is working on state legislation and other efforts to de-ICE Oregon
- Indivisible's Ground Avelo campaign ([groundavelo.org](https://groundavelo.org)), which is working with the national Stop Avelo campaign

In addition, we encourage you to become involved with our coalition partners:

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And there is a wealth of opportunities locally to take action against the federal government's inhumane and illegal actions. We urge you to consider joining these groups:

- Anti-Flock actions: 1) Eyes Off Eugene ([eyesoffeugene.org](https://eyesoffeugene.org)) and 2) Get the Flock out of Eugene/Springfield, a project of the Lane County Immigrant Defense Network of the Party for Socialism and Liberation (<http://tinyurl.com/ImmigrantDefenseToolkit>)
- Rapid Response Lane County: [rrlc.2025@gmail.com](mailto:rrlc.2025@gmail.com)
- Oregon Community Asylum Network: <https://grassrootsconnect.org/ocan>
- Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County/Refugee and Immigrant Services Program (Catholic Community Services): [www.rrclc.org](http://www.rrclc.org)

Finally, **save the date** for our Good Riddance, Avelo! Party at the Eugene Airport the morning of Monday, December 1 (exact time to come), the last day Avelo will fly in and out of Eugene. We'll send details at the end of November.

# Oregon Attorney General Speaks Out Against Avelo

On July 28, Oregon Attorney General Day Rayfield wrote to Avelo CEO Andrew Levy to express his concern over the airline's actions.

Thanks to all of you who wrote to ask Rayfield to speak out. You can find the letter here:

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Avelo-Air-letter-AG-Rayfield.pdf>

## **Avelo Announces: Airline Will Leave Eugene in December!**

On July 14, Avelo Airlines announced they will terminate all west coast service, including flights to and from all Oregon cities where they currently fly. That means Eugene! (See below for media coverage of the announcement.)

However, our work isn't done.

We continue to urge our local and state officials to speak out about businesses that contract with ICE, including asking our state legislators to enact legislation, as has occurred in other states, to prohibit public subsidies for such businesses. We want to send a clear message to other businesses that Eugene and Oregon are not friendly to such firms. Check back here for more information on how you can help.

News stories about Avelo's announcement:

<https://lookouteugene-springfield.com/story/justice/2025/07/15/budget-carrier-avelo-pulls-the-plug-on-all-west-coast-flights/>

<https://www.klcc.org/transportation/2025-07-14/avelo-airlines-is-leaving-eugene>

<https://www.salemreporter.com/2025/07/14/avelo-pulls-out-of-salem/>

<https://oregonbusiness.com/avelo-airlines-will-leave-oregon/>

<https://airlinegeeks.com/2025/07/14/avelo-closes-base-cuts-routes/>

<https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/local/2025/07/14/avelo-airlines-discontinues-service-eugene-oregon-after-deportation-protests/85199556007/>

### **July 14 statement by the national Stop Avelo campaign:**

**Salem, OR** — Under mounting financial strain and intensifying local resistance, Avelo Airlines confirmed today that it will end all commercial service to Salem, Bend/Redmond, and Eugene, Oregon. The Eugene service, scheduled to cease in December, follows the same statewide retreat fueled by months of protest.

“Avelo continues to be a poorly financed, poorly managed company,” said Matthew Boulay of the Oregon-based Stop Avelo Coalition. “They took the ICE contract out of desperation—and now it’s backfiring, because passengers and cities want nothing to do with them.”

Since May, Oregonians have held weekly protests in Salem, Redmond, Medford, and Eugene, calling on Avelo to cancel its secretive deportation contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Through the [Stop Avelo campaign](#), activists have urged local governments to sever ties, end subsidies, and prevent public airports from supporting deportation flights.

These efforts have begun impacting policy. In Salem, several City Councilors opposed renewing the city’s contract with Avelo. In Eureka, California, the City Council unanimously ended all city-funded travel with the airline. In Connecticut, Attorney General William Tong launched an investigation into Avelo’s deportation flights. And in New York, State Senator Fahy introduced legislation to bar public funding for airlines involved in ICE operations.

“These protests are working,” Boulay added. “Communities across Oregon—and nationwide—are standing up to Avelo. And now we’re seeing the consequences.”

The Stop Avelo Coalition says its work in Oregon is far from over. Organizers are urging Eugene, Medford, and other cities to formally reject contracts with Avelo and ensure no public funding supports deportation operations. They are also calling on Governor Tina Kotek and Attorney General Dan Rayfield to speak out and are working with state legislators to draft Oregon-specific legislation—modeled on New York’s—prohibiting public subsidies for airlines engaged in deportation efforts.

The coalition also offered heartfelt thanks to the many Oregonians who fueled this movement. From airport rallies to testimony at council meetings, their determination is turning protest into policy. Inspired by New York’s example, statewide organizing continues—and won’t stop until Avelo cancels its ICE contract and Oregon airports are no longer complicit.

**Thank you for all you have done to put pressure on this airline and cause them to rethink their business model. We are very excited to see how activism changes things!**

**Take Action!**



# TAKE ACTION!

ALL ACTIONS ARE NOW LISTED UNDER  
THE “PAST CALLS FOR ACTION” TAB.

# Campaign Background

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## AVELO OUT OF EUG

### **EUGENE RALLY KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN TO PROTEST AVELO AIRLINES Avelo Out of EUG's May 31 Action Was One of Dozens Across the U.S. Against the Airline, Which Profits from Family Separation**

On Saturday, May 31st, local political and social action organizations held a rally at the Eugene Federal Building to protest Avelo Airlines' operation of flights in and out of Eugene Airport while flying deportation flights for the Trump administration. The event, organized by the coalition Avelo Out of EUG, was one of dozens organized in cities and towns across the country on that day by independent, grassroots organizations in response to Avelo's [new \\$150 million partnership with Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#).

Avelo, the only commercial airline currently contracted with ICE, operates regular flights between Eugene and Burbank, California. Organizers drew attention to the airline's business practices that they believe do not align with those of the Eugene community or the airport's stated values.

Since Avelo's ICE contract was exposed by the Yale Daily News on April 8, organizers associated with Avelo Out of EUG have been working to build a campaign of pressure against the city to cut ties with the airline unless they cut ties with ICE. The rally was the kickoff of a summer long campaign.

Avelo Out of EUG is a coalition of grassroots organizations that includes [Indivisible Eugene-Springfield](#), [Party for Socialism and Liberation \(PSL\)](#), [Showing Up for Racial Justice \(SURJ\) of Springfield-Eugene](#), and the [Immigration Justice Action Group at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene \(UUCE\)](#). The May 31 rally was endorsed by [United for Immigrant Justice](#), the [Oregon Community Asylum Network](#), and [Eugene PeaceWorks](#).

"Eugene Airport's [Belonging and Mission Statement](#) speaks about the core value of integrity: 'We align our conduct with what we know to be excellent, always seeking to reflect ethical standards and to do the right thing regardless of the circumstances,'" says Anne Bridgman, an organizer with Indivisible Eugene-Springfield and co-chair of UUCE's Immigrant/Refugee Justice Action Group, quoting from the airport's statement. "Well, these are the circumstances, and it is time to do the right thing. We stand with our immigrant neighbors and ask all travelers to boycott a firm that profits from immigrant detention, family separation, and the rejection of due process. Avelo should end its alliance with ICE or stop flying in and out of Eugene."

Speaking to the strategic motivation of the campaign, Rob Fisette, an organizer with the PSL, added, "Avelo has chosen to engage in human trafficking for millions of dollars in profit, but Avelo also has regular, public-facing business with ordinary travelers. They require the use of state and local public resources like Eugene Airport to function. So they are open to boycott and public pressure in ways that other companies in the detention and deportation machine are not. This is a concrete way that people and officials in places like Oregon, that value strong sanctuary protections, can fight back against these Trump administration policies that we all abhor."



Now that the movement is [nationwide and growing](#), Avelo Out of EUG sees this campaign as a prime opportunity to educate the community about the role private companies and city governments play in carrying out the Trump administration's policies—and, hopefully, get them to change. “The May 31 day of action kicks off a summer of organized action against Avelo until they end their ICE contract or until airport executives and local officials do the right thing,” added Laura Adams, an organizer with Showing Up for Racial Justice of Springfield-Eugene. “We all need to show up as allies to stand with immigrants and undocumented people in opposing these clear violations of their human rights. We will extend the boycott, pressure the city council to end their support and go to the Airport Advisory Board as well.”

To join the campaign, please email [AveloOutofEUG@gmail.com](mailto:AveloOutofEUG@gmail.com)

## OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Eugene Airport Advisory Committee “develops recommendations for airport staff by providing an ongoing citizen perspective.” More information on this advisory body is available here: <https://www.eugene-or.gov/1064/Airport-Advisory-Committee>

On June 18th the Airport Advisory Committee held a public meeting. Several individuals appeared at the meeting to speak against Avelo Airlines and demand the committee and individual committee members, who generally represent business leaders in the travel industry, speak out firmly against the actions of Avelo Airlines and their failure to meet the ethical bar set by the airport's Belonging and Mission Statement. We thank those who came out to speak, all who presented powerful testimony!

After public comment was given, committee member Eric Dziura spoke out in favor of issuing such a statement. Most other committee members remained silent. Several spoke to say they felt no such statement was necessary. And finally, Brittany Quick-Warner, committee chair, President and CEO of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, spoke out to abdicate the committee's responsibility to do or say anything, quickly assumed consensus, and moved the meeting along.

Actions such as this, even when they are not successful in achieving the stated demand, are nonetheless often clarifying about one's allies and opponents and the tactics and lines that the opponents will use to “politely” defeat the campaign. We thank Eric Dziura for his support in the meeting, and will continue to engage the Airport Advisory Committee on this issue. **The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for September 17th at 12pm.**

# National Campaign

# National Stop Avelo Campaign

Avelo Out of EUG is part of a larger, national campaign, Stop Avelo, that is organizing anti-Avelo protests in US cities where Avelo flies, and pressuring city and state officials to review, suspend, and terminate Avelo contracts and subsidies.

For more information about the national campaign, see [stopavelo.org](http://stopavelo.org).

# ICE Air in the Media

# ICE Air in the Media

**April 1, 2025.** ProPublica: [Inside ICE Air: Flight Attendants on Deportation Planes Say Disaster Is “Only a Matter of Time”](#)

**April 7, 2025.** AZFamily: [Ex-Avelo flight attendant sounds alarm on deportation flights contract](#)

**April 8, 2025.** Yale Daily News: [Avelo to carry out deportation flights, citing poor performance at Tweed in internal email](#)

**April 17, 2025.** KEZI: [Avelo Airlines faces backlash in Eugene over contract with ICE to facilitate deportation flights](#)

**April 21, 2025.** Simple Flying: [Here's What This Former Avelo Airlines Flight Attendant Has To Say About Its Deportation Flights](#)

**April 25, 2025.** ProPublica: [ICE Air Has a New Contractor. This State Is Asking How It Will Protect the Detainees on Board.](#)

**April 30, 2025.** National Public Radio (NPR): [Budget airline Avelo faces backlash for signing up to fly deportation flights for ICE](#)

**May 14, 2025.** Reuters: [Avelo Airlines faces backlash over Trump deportation flight contract](#)

**May 15, 2025.** truthout: [Activists Are Fighting Tax Subsidies for Airline Running ICE Deportation Flights](#)

**May 20, 2025.** Yale Daily News: [Avelo flight from ICE base lands in Guatemala](#)

**May 23, 2025.** New Hampshire Union Leader: [NH lawmaker sues Avelo over ICE deportation flights. First Amendment rights](#)

**May 27, 2025.** CT Mirror: [Avelo Airlines begins flights from Arizona to Guatemala](#)

**May 28, 2025.** Al-Jazeera: [Houston-based Avelo Airlines faces backlash for deportation flights. The first commercial airline to use its planes to deport migrants says contract ‘too valuable not to pursue’.](#)

**June 14, 2025.** KLCC: <https://www.klcc.org/transportation/2025-07-14/avelo-airlines-is-leaving-eugene>

**June 14, 2025.** Register Guard:

<https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/local/2025/07/14/avelo-airlines-discontinues-service-eugene-oregon-after-deportation-protests/85199556007/>

**June 14, 2025.** Salem Reporter:

<https://www.salemreporter.com/2025/07/14/avelo-pulls-out-of-salem/>

**June 14, 2025.** Airline Geeks:

<https://airlinegeeks.com/2025/07/14/avelo-closes-base-cuts-routes/>

**June 15, 2025.** Lookout:

<https://lookouteugene-springfield.com/story/justice/2025/07/15/budget-carrier-avelo-pulls-the-plug-on-all-west-coast-flights/>

**August 23, 2025,** Jacobin:

[https://jacobin.com/2025/08/ice-uses-celebrities-loophole-to-hide-deportation-flights?fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMZihNleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHn3sAa\\_zpZGYwvi6VxZ2bMNINcLrFlgfl3my7\\_554LJW3cQnrHuC7JdSi65j\\_aem\\_7nvAMh49nmom0L4p5bJ7JA](https://jacobin.com/2025/08/ice-uses-celebrities-loophole-to-hide-deportation-flights?fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMZihNleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHn3sAa_zpZGYwvi6VxZ2bMNINcLrFlgfl3my7_554LJW3cQnrHuC7JdSi65j_aem_7nvAMh49nmom0L4p5bJ7JA)

**September 25, 2025,** KFLA:

<https://ktla.com/news/california/avelo-leaves-california-market/>

**September 25, 2025,** Lookout:

<https://app.lookouteugene-springfield.com/story/avelo-airlines-will-end-flights-out-of-eugene-earlier-than-expected/content.html>

**October 20, 2025, Register-Guard:**

<https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/local/2025/10/20/eugene-last-avelo-flight/86796822007/?gnt-cfr=1&gca-cat=p&gca-uir=true&gca-epti=z114630p000550c000550e003800v114630b0046xxd004665&gca-ft=135&gca-ds=sophi>

May 31st Rally

# May 31st Rally

On May 31, 2025, [dozens of cities and towns](#) where Avelo flies (and some cities and towns where they don't) mobilized to demand an end to Avelo's ICE contract and an end to Avelo's presence in their city. This included three cities in Oregon: Medford, Salem, and Eugene! This page is a report back on the Eugene protest.

## Rally Photos and Video

Movement photographer Robert Scherle (IG: @rscherle) joined to take photos of the event. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/robertscherle/albums/72177720326547219/>

The event was played live on the air from about 11:15 am to noon on Saturday; see Northwest Mix listing in archive for May 31 at that time. Also on KEPW's YouTube channel at [https://www.youtube.com/live/o3T7i1f2y5s?si=lvoVKUy\\_HJo91zWG](https://www.youtube.com/live/o3T7i1f2y5s?si=lvoVKUy_HJo91zWG)

Movement videographer Todd Boyle was on the scene to record the rally, and his edited video is available on his YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGGkzJuN9OI&ab\\_channel=ToddBoyle](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGGkzJuN9OI&ab_channel=ToddBoyle)

## Media Coverage

**May 30, 2025.** Register Guard: ['Avelo Out of EUG': Protesters call for airline to leave Eugene](#)

**June 1, 2025.** KEZI: [Eugene protestors speak out against Avelo Airlines over "ICE Flights"](#)

**June 1, 2025.** Lookout Eugene-Springfield: [Protesters ask Eugene Airport to cut ties with ICE Air contractor](#)

**June 3, 2025.** Whole Community News: [KEPW joins local groups endorsing Avelo boycott](#)

**June 3, 2025.** [The Rachel Maddow Show.](#)



# Sponsoring Organization Statements

# PSL STATEMENT

*Statement published by the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL) Eugene on April 19th, 2025*

Contact: [psleugeneor@gmail.com](mailto:psleugeneor@gmail.com)

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Share on [Facebook](#)

Avelo Airlines has [recently contracted with ICE to facilitate deportation flights out of Arizona](#) beginning on May 12th 2025 and is the only private airline that has announced such a contract. It is the obligation of all people of conscience to reject this barbaric and greedy decision! Avelo operates regular flights between the Eugene Mahlon Sweet Field and the Los Angeles Burbank (BUR) airports. We call upon all travellers to refuse to support a company that actively profits from family separation and to demand **Avelo Out of EUG!**

Despite public backlash, [Avelo CEO Andrew Levy has defended this decision, prioritizing corporate "stability" over human rights, saying](#) "We realize this is a sensitive and complicated topic. After significant deliberations, we determined this charter flying will provide us with the stability to continue expanding our core scheduled passenger service and keep our more than 1,100 Crewmembers employed for years to come." We reject this attempt to pit the interests of Avelo workers against the interests of immigrants; we know that workers win only through solidarity, when we realize our interests are aligned against the owners, executives, and politicians harming all of us.

Deportation flights are not "sensitive and complicated"—they are violent, inhumane, and part of a system that criminalizes and dehumanizes immigrants. By partnering with ICE, Avelo is complicit in this system of displacement and destroying people's lives. Avelo has further attempted to skirt responsibility by acknowledging that it has operated deportation flights under both the Biden and Trump administrations. No matter who the President is and which party is facilitating horrific anti-immigrant policies and practices, we refuse to support or allow an airline that is complicit in these policies and practices to operate in our community. **Stand with our immigrant neighbors and demand that Avelo end its collaboration with ICE or get out of Eugene!**

Eugene Assistant Airport Director Andrew Martz [recently told KEZI](#), "Currently, Avelo is just operating as normal here in Eugene, so we don't really feel like there's actions needed." This cowardly evasion by Martz pretends that Avelo's complicity in ICE's destruction of families and communities is none of Eugene's business. **We know that threats to our immigrant neighbors are ALWAYS our business!** Martz and all airport leaders should reflect on the [Eugene airport Belonging and Mission Statement](#)'s words about the core value of integrity "We align our conduct with what we know to be

excellent, always seeking to reflect **ethical standards** and **to do the right thing regardless of the circumstances.**”

Since the city and airport refuse to act on their own, we call on the Eugene community to take action: Boycott Avelo Airlines and contact Eugene Airport and City leadership to let them know you want ***Avelo out of EUG!***

# Immigration Justice Action Group of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene

## Mission Statement:

The Immigration Justice Action Group welcomes and pursues opportunities to work with immigrants and refugees, and with people and groups who value the role of immigrants and refugees in U.S. life by:

- Educating ourselves and others about pressing issues related to refugees, immigrants, migrants, and others new to our community, issues that have gained urgency this year;
- Providing needed support to immigrants and refugees, both direct and indirect;
- Speaking publicly in support of immigrants and refugees; and
- Working for public policy that treats immigrants and refugees in accordance with our UU values.

We also view engagement with immigrant and refugee communities as one way of addressing race-based disparities and promoting a culture of equity that values the inherent worth and dignity of all people.

## Speech by Rev. Jen Youngsun Ryu, Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene, at May 31 Rally

My name is Jen Youngsun Ryu. I am a Unitarian Universalist minister. I am your neighbor. And I am an immigrant.

When I was six years old, I flew from Seoul to Los Angeles to Dallas. That flight was scary and exciting! It was the beginning of a new life that would offer every member of my family education and fulfilling careers.

One memorable day in 1975, my dad took me out of school for an appointment at the federal building in Toledo, Ohio. That was the day I became a United States citizen.

Lately, I've been wondering if the American dream is still alive. But then I watch clips from naturalization ceremonies—and I come to gatherings like this one—and I say: Yes, we can still be the people we say we are.

I believe that most of our neighbors are decent people. A lot of them are overwhelmed and stressed by the velocity of news, so they may be unaware, and misinformed.

But most of us agree that everybody—regardless of citizenship status—possesses inherent worth. Everybody deserves compassion, mercy, and dignity, because we are all human beings, born of this earth and endowed with inalienable rights.

Eugene is a community that strives to welcome everybody. But when Avelo Airlines—the only commercial airline contracted to fly deportation flights for ICE—operates out of our airport, that welcome rings hollow.

Avelo is profiting from deporting people—many in shackles—before their asylum claims are even heard. While these deportation flights don't depart from Eugene, Avelo's partnership with ICE betrays the values of our city and the values clearly stated by this airport.

We say: Not in our town. Not in our airport. Not in our name.

Whether you are a person of faith or no faith, this is a moral moment.

Let this moment not be just a protest—but a promise: A promise not to turn away. A promise not to let cruelty become normal. A promise to act.

We unite in solidarity with our immigrant neighbors. We unite for human dignity. And we will not be silent!

## **SURJ - S/E**

### **Showing Up for Racial Justice - Springfield/Eugene**

Showing Up for Racial Justice - Springfield/Eugene (SURJ - S/E) is a local chapter of the national organization, which mobilizes white people for justice across the country. Through campaigns, education, and action opportunities, we call people in to reject racism and complicity—and to join movements for change.

Now more than ever, it is important to work toward building a multi-racial democracy based in economic and racial justice. That means keeping our neighbors safe and includes white people organizing against anti-immigrant racism.

The Springfield/Eugene local chapter supports the Avelo Out of EUG campaign in condemning Avelo Airlines' collusion with ICE in running deportation flights. Immigrants and refugees deserve decent treatment and opportunities to live their lives freely as part of social fabric. We stand with them!

# Indivisible Eugene Springfield

## Our Mission at Indivisible Eugene Springfield

**Our democracy is under threat. But we will not yield to fascism.  
We will stand together and we'll fight back in defense of our  
rights, our communities, and our values.**

At Indivisible Eugene/Springfield, we believe our collective voice is strongest when we come together as a community. Our mission is to mobilize grassroots action right here in Lane County to champion bold, progressive policies, support the election of leaders who reflect our values, and push back against regressive agendas that threaten our democracy. We work to foster a truly inclusive and equitable society by taking action locally, building shared purpose, and making meaningful change through civic engagement and community collaboration.

# Past Calls for Action

# Past Calls for Action

## Email Eugene's Mayor & City Council

With the news that Avelo is leaving Eugene in early December, and with City Council member Lyndsie Leech's public comment at the 7/14 City Council meeting condemning the airline's involvement in deportations, here is a new script to use to contact the Mayor and City Council to ask them to speak out—and to take it a step farther to discourage other ICE-contracted airlines and businesses to come to Eugene.

If you're in Leech's ward, send her an email to let her know you appreciate her comments.

No matter what ward you're in, you can email the Mayor and whole City Council by sending your message to [mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov](mailto:mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov)

Feel free to adapt this script to use your own wording; additional ideas follow this basic script.

Dear Mayor and City Council:

Now that Avelo Airlines has announced that they're pulling out of Eugene as of October 20, I urge you to speak out about their contract with ICE. Why is this important now? Because with billions of dollars in the big, not-so-beautiful bill for ICE, other businesses will almost certainly be contracting with ICE to facilitate deportations.

Because Oregon is a sanctuary state and I value our immigrant neighbors, I urge you to speak out now to send a message to businesses considering partnering with ICE that they will not be welcome in Eugene and that they will be denied access to city resources.

[Your name, address, and ward number]

Here are some additional ideas to include in your email:

- Even though Avelo has decided to stop flying in and out of Eugene by October 20, the Eugene City Council should speak out about the inhumanity of Avelo flying deportation flights without due process.
- The Eugene City Council should speak out against having ICE-contracted businesses in Eugene and in support of our state's sanctuary status, which members of the Eugene community value.
- The Eugene City Council should state publicly that they are uncomfortable with/troubled by any businesses that profit from or formally work with ICE and that they will not knowingly support them, especially with funding.
- Avelo may be leaving, but the Big Ugly Bill has billions of dollars for ICE, so it is probable that other businesses will enter into contracts that facilitate deportations. The Eugene City Council should stay ahead of the game and send a clear message that those businesses are not welcome here.

## Email Your State Legislators

Below is a letter encouraging state legislators to draft legislation to ensure that the battle we fought with Avelo does not have to be fought again. Please send this letter—or a version of it, using your own words—to your state representative and your state senator. To find out who they are and how to reach them:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/districts-initial.html>



After you've done so, please email [StopAveloOregon@proton.me](mailto:StopAveloOregon@proton.me) if you hear back from your legislator and if you are offered a meeting or phone call; we'll try to have someone accompany you if you wish.

In addition, please forward this email to local activists you know, including local groups (e.g., Indivisible, SURJ, 350), to encourage their members to write their state legislators. And using this intro, ask them to let us know at [StopAveloOregon@proton.me](mailto:StopAveloOregon@proton.me) if they receive a response or set up meetings.

### LETTER TO OREGON STATE LEGISLATORS

Dear [Your Legislator's Name]:

As you know, after several months of protests against Avelo Airlines, the company announced in July that it is leaving the west coast this year. Also in July, Attorney General Dan Rayfield released a letter sent to Avelo CEO Andrew Levy expressing his concern over the airline's actions regarding its contract with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) (<https://www.doj.state.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Avelo-Air-letter-AG-Rayfield.pdf>).

I write today to ask you and your colleagues in the Oregon State Legislature to keep up the momentum by drafting or supporting a bill to prohibit Oregon public entities from doing business with companies that facilitate deportations conducted without adhering to full due process legal requirements or that cooperate with DHS in any other actions. This will send a message to other airlines and companies that they are not welcome here if they contract with DHS.

In doing so, you would not be acting alone. At least two states have introduced bills that target private businesses that aid in deportations:

- In Connecticut, the Act Concerning the Trust Act and Prohibited State Contracts ([https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=HB07212&which\\_year=2025](https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB07212&which_year=2025)) is aimed at protecting immigrants and targeting companies aiding deportations (such firms could see their subsidies revoked under the bill). The bill ensures that those receiving state funds (e.g., state contractors, state recipients of grants and state funding) are not engaging or assisting in immigration activities with those funds.

- In New York, the State Airport Facilities Enforcing Accountability in Immigration Removals (SAFE AIR) Act (<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S7960>) prohibits public entities from contracting with airlines that transport individuals who have been detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) without being afforded due process rights, and prohibits certain sales and use tax exemptions on fuel sold to an

airline that transports individuals who have been detained by ICE without being afforded due process rights.

Of course, it is up to you and your colleagues to work with legislative counsel to determine the specifics of an Oregon bill, but we ask you to consider these suggestions:

- Target businesses that enter into contracts with DHS or otherwise engage in immigration activities or that violate the U.S. Constitution's due process and/or Oregon's sanctuary status;
- Prohibit subsidies, tax abatements or other breaks, or other payments to targeted companies;
- Include in new state contracts a clause stating that if a company enters into a contract with the state of Oregon and subsequently agrees to assist in deportations in any way, that will void the contract, and
- Codify in state contracts the values inherent in Oregon's status as a sanctuary state.

Although I know the Oregon legislature doesn't meet again in regular session before January, having this bill in motion will send an important signal to Avelo, which operates in many other U.S. cities and states, about contracting with DHS. It will also send a message to other airlines and businesses considering contracting with DHS. The national Stop Avelo coalition plans to hold a press conference this fall to announce that Oregon is leading the way in preventing such businesses from coming to our state.

Sincerely,

[Your Name, Address, Contact Information]

## Send Letters to Avelo Leadership

Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) has launched a one-click letter writing campaign: With one click you can send letters to numerous individuals on Avelo's executive team. The campaign has generated more than 64,000 letters and aims to get to 100,000.

Here's the link, which you should feel free to share widely:

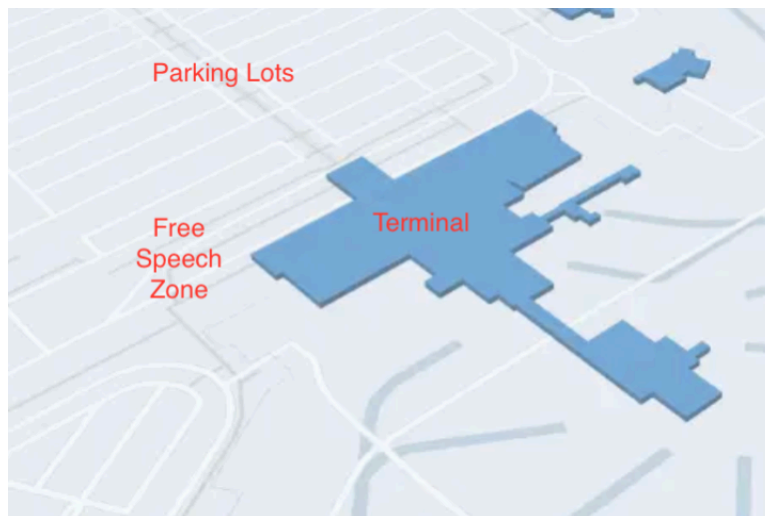
[https://actionnetwork.org/letters/boycott-avelo/?link\\_id=2&can\\_id=18094bbc576ca81a422ed20ed59b9394&source=email-whats-happening-during-this-weeks-avelo-action&email\\_referrer=email\\_2838283&email\\_subject=whats-happening-during-this-weeks-avelo-action&&](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/boycott-avelo/?link_id=2&can_id=18094bbc576ca81a422ed20ed59b9394&source=email-whats-happening-during-this-weeks-avelo-action&email_referrer=email_2838283&email_subject=whats-happening-during-this-weeks-avelo-action&&)

# August Anti-Avelo Airport Actions

In August, we are meeting at the airport to engage with Avelo passengers to let them know what the airline does when it flies deportation flights, its name painted over, out of Mesa, AZ, and to encourage them to boycott the airline. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Avelo had to leave Eugene early? Or, if they are committed to staying until December, if they began to fly empty or almost-empty airplanes?

**Our next action is Sunday, August 31, when we will meet at 8:30 a.m.** at the Eugene Airport. The airport has two free speech zones. The plan is as follows:

- Park in the designated lot for the airport; you'll have to pay upon leaving (\$3/hour).
- Come to the free speech area outside the terminal on the far right end, which is also near Avelo's counter. You will see us there with signs and we will stay to engage with passengers arriving for the 10:15 flight to Burbank. (See map below for location of meeting spot.)



- Some of us will break off around 9:15 to go to the baggage claim area to engage with passengers coming off the flight from Burbank, which arrives at 9:30 (though it has been coming in much earlier).
- We'll be monitoring flight arrival and departure information while at the airport so the timing of our actions may change depending on these. NOTE: Avelo schedules have been running early so we are adjusting our time accordingly.

You're encouraged to carpool. Bring signs; we'll supply the flyers and buttons for you to wear. We aim for our engagement with Avelo passengers to be peaceful and friendly. We will ask them if they wish to know more about Avelo and offer them a flyer with information.

We are allowed only in the two free speech areas; please do not go to other areas (e.g., the main part of the terminal, from where passengers without luggage may leave). In addition, we will adhere to Eugene Airport's rules regarding the two free speech areas:

"No person may conduct any activity that impairs or interferes with the rights of other persons or the transportation function of the Airport. No person may engage in an activity that physically or verbally obstructs, delays, or interferes with the free movement of any persons, vehicles, or aircraft in, upon, or through the Airport or otherwise prevents the orderly and efficient use of the Airport for its primary purpose.

Designated Free Speech Area. The City will maintain a designated free speech area located at the terminal bag claim area and the terminal north sidewalk. Unless specifically approved by the Airport Director, no Person may:

- 1) Use of sound or voice amplifying equipment for anything other than official airport operations; or

- 2) Use tables, stands, chairs or other structures, provided however that a person whose certified physical disability prevents or makes standing difficult may use a folding chair;"

## Attend / Speak September 8th Eugene City Council Meeting

Come to the next meeting of the Eugene City Council on Monday, September 8, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is at 500 East 4th Ave. Parking is free in the City Hall lot and there are signs to the meeting. At the meeting, which opens to public comment after business is finished, you can speak for 2-1/2 minutes.

Why is it important to speak to our elected officials about Avelo when the airline has announced it will leave on December 1? Because after fighting the fight against Avelo, we want to avoid having another airline with an ICE contract come to Eugene. We want to urge City Counselors to condemn Avelo's ties to ICE to send a message to others, airlines as well as other businesses, that if they contract with the Department of Homeland Security, they are not welcome here. At the last City Council meeting, one member (Lyndsie Leech) condemned Avelo; it's time for the others to do so.

Ideas for your talk (but please speak from your heart in your own words):

- Even though Avelo has decided to stop flying in and out of Eugene by Dec. 1, the Eugene City Council should speak out about the inhumanity of Avelo flying deportation flights.
- The Eugene City Council should speak out against having ICE-contracted businesses in Eugene and in support of our state's sanctuary status, which members of the Eugene community value.
- The Eugene City Council should state publicly that they are uncomfortable with or troubled by any businesses who profit from or formally work with ICE and that they will not knowingly support them, especially with funding.
- Avelo may be leaving, but the Big Ugly Bill has \$350 billion for ICE, so it is probable that other businesses will enter into contracts that facilitate deportations. The Eugene City Council should stay ahead of the game and send a clear message that those businesses are not welcome here.

If you would prefer not to speak, you can attend the meeting in support and wear an Avelo Out of EUG button (available at the door while supplies last). And we urge you to contact your City Council member (see the action above this one), even if you have done so in the past.

## Contact Oregon's Attorney General

Using the following letter as a guide,

- Email him at [AttorneyGeneral@doj.oregon.gov](mailto:AttorneyGeneral@doj.oregon.gov)
- Call him at 503-378-6002
- Or write to him at the address below

**The Honorable Dan Rayfield**

Attorney General of Oregon

Oregon Department of Justice

1162 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Attorney General Rayfield,

I am writing as a concerned Oregon resident to urge you to take a public stand against Avelo Airlines' reported contract to operate deportation flights for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). As you may know, Connecticut's Attorney General William Tong recently issued a powerful letter to Avelo, calling attention to the inhumane practices associated with these flights, practices that include forcibly separating families; shackling passengers in handcuffs, waist chains, and leg irons; denying bathroom access; and deporting individuals to dangerous conditions in defiance of court orders.

These flights are not about public safety or effective immigration enforcement. They are about cruelty and profit. No business operating in Oregon should be complicit in such human rights violations. Avelo's choice to participate in these deportations stands in direct opposition to the values that many Oregonians, including myself, hold dear: compassion, fairness, and the belief that every person deserves dignity and due process under the law.

I urge you to follow Attorney General Tong's example and issue a public statement urging Avelo to end its involvement in deportation flights immediately. Oregon has long been a leader in standing up for immigrant rights, and your voice as Attorney General carries immense weight in signaling that we will not tolerate complicity in inhumane policies that tear families apart and endanger lives.

I also encourage your office to explore whether state contracts, incentives, or partnerships with Avelo should continue in light of these reports. Oregon taxpayers should not subsidize or support a company that profits from the suffering of vulnerable people.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to justice. I respectfully request your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your action.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

# Contact

## Eugene's Mayor and City Council

### Email and phone script

City Hall phone number: 541-682-5010

Email:

Eugene Mayor and City Council: [mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov](mailto:mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov)

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live \_\_\_\_\_. I am writing because I am appalled that Avelo Airlines continues to operate out of Eugene while they cynically profit from the suffering of others by running deportation flights for ICE. Hosting Avelo Airlines in Eugene is a slap in the face to the families and children whose loved ones are being abducted by ICE, and to the people of our community who value our strong sanctuary protections.

The Eugene Airport's Belonging and Mission Statement states: "Team EUG is committed to creating a welcoming and safe community for everyone and a place where every person can experience a sense of belonging." It also commits to "reflect ethical standards and to do the right thing regardless of the circumstances."

These are the circumstances where you must do the ethical and right thing! In response to requests from the community to evict Avelo Airlines, airport directors and city attorneys have responded with excuses and claims that there is nothing that they can do. Respectfully, while I appreciate that the FAA may have rules that technically make it difficult to physically evict Avelo, the claim that there is **nothing** the City and airport can do is plainly false. At a minimum, the City and airport can:

- Publicly condemn Avelo's contract with ICE;
- Publicly acknowledge that Avelo's ICE contract violates the airport's Belonging and Mission Statement and principles against human trafficking;
- Publicly recognize that mass deportations violate the sanctuary values of Eugene;

In short, there are many actions that you as leaders and executives could take if you chose. Do not hide behind FAA regulations to simply do nothing.

# Contact

## EUG Airport Officials

### Email and phone script

EUG Airport phone number: 541-682-5430

**Emails:**

**Airport Administration:** [pwairport@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:pwairport@ci.eugene.or.us)

**Cathryn Stephens, Airport Director:** [cat@flyeug.com](mailto:cat@flyeug.com)

**Andrew Martz, Assistant Airport Director:** [andrew.w.martz@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:andrew.w.martz@ci.eugene.or.us)

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live \_\_\_\_\_. I am writing because I am appalled that Avelo Airlines continues to operate out of Eugene while they cynically profit from the suffering of others by running deportation flights for ICE. Hosting Avelo Airlines in Eugene is a slap in the face to the families and children whose loved ones are being abducted by ICE, and to the people of our community who value our strong sanctuary protections.

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In short, there are many actions that you as leaders and executives could take if you chose. Do not hide behind FAA regulations to simply do nothing.



# Avelo Out of Eugene Petition

On June 18th, 2025 Avelo Out of Eugene created a petition addressed to: Mayor Kaarin Knudson, City Manager Sarah Medary, and City Council Members: Eliza Kashinsky, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Lyndsie Leech, and Randy Groves demanding the City of Eugene condemn Avelo Airlines' actions and make a statement affirming that Avelo's actions violate the Eugene Airport's Belonging and Mission Statement that declares the airport's conduct of integrity will always "seek to reflect ethical standards and to do the right thing regardless of the circumstances"

In under 1 month the petition gathered nearly 1000 signatures.

## **Petition Statement**

We are deeply concerned about the actions of Avelo Airlines and their involvement in deportations. Individuals with deep roots in their communities are being removed from their families and deported, often even without a fair hearing or proper legal proceedings, which is a serious violation of human and constitutional rights. As members of the Eugene community, we believe that families belong together, that people have a right to safety, and that no one should be removed from their community especially without legal counsel or a fair trial.

We demand that the City of Eugene condemn Avelo Airlines' actions and make a statement affirming that Avelo's actions violate the Eugene Airport's Belonging and Mission Statement that declares the airport's conduct of integrity will always "seek to reflect ethical standards and to do the right thing regardless of the circumstances."