

Appendix A

Public Meeting Materials

Interactive Poster Boards



Community Meeting Goals & Agenda

Agenda

5:30–5:45 | Registration and Poster Review

5:45–6:05 | Round Table 1

6:05–6:25 | Round Table 2

6:25–6:45 | Round Table 3

6:45–7:00 | Closing and Next Steps

Goals

- Explore the benefits and potential impacts of data center development
- Understand the public's concerns around data center development
- Gather public opinion to inform future planning and policy recommendations



Round Table Discussions

Table 1: Community Benefits Opportunities

How can data centers provide value to the local community?

- Workforce development
- Tax revenue
- Local Partnerships
- Infrastructure investments

Table 2: Common Concerns & Mitigation Strategies

What concerns do you have about...

- Noise
- Energy use
- Water Consumption
- Potential public costs

Table 3: Site Considerations & Building Design

What factors influence site selection and facility design:

- Site access and location
- Architectural design and screening
- Sustainability strategies and environmental performance

What is a Data Center?

Data centers are buildings that house rows of computer servers, data storage systems and networking equipment, as well as the power and cooling systems that keep them running.

Their demand for growth is driven mainly by cloud computing and artificial intelligence.



Hyperscale Data Centers

Warehouse-sized facilities that store advanced servers capable of handling massive processing workloads. This model has been growing in popularity with the emergence of cloud computing services, cryptocurrency mining, and AI workloads for the data center boom.

Colocation Data Centers

Facilities that are rented out to individual businesses.

Types of Data Centers

Enterprise Data Centers

Facilities that are owned and operated by businesses for their private storage and computing needs.

Edge Data Centers

Compact, decentralized facilities that process data closer to end users, reducing latency and boosting speed for real-time applications and local computing needs.

What Brings You to This Gathering Today?

Place a dot or sticky note next to the statement that describes you best!



I am an El Paso City resident
How long have you lived here?

I live in the El Paso region

I go to school here
Which school?

I work at/in (....) industry

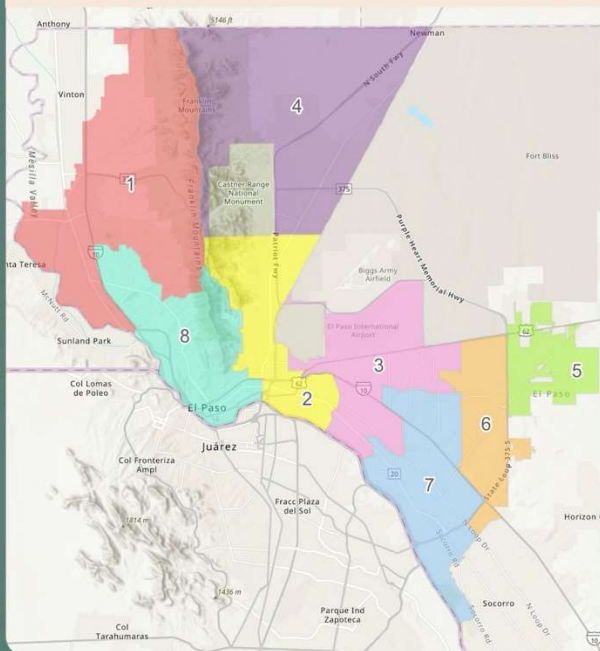
**I want to learn more
about data centers**

**I'm here to voice
my concerns**

Something else

Where do you live?

Record where you live with a dot



Do you live somewhere else?
Use a post-it to tell us where
you're coming from



Any Other Ideas?

Use a "post-it" to write in...

Any Other Concerns?

Use a "post-it" to write in...

**¿Necesita Ayuda
con la Traducción?**

Table 1: Community Benefits Framework



How can data centers contribute to local education, skills training, or youth opportunities?

Are there ways data centers could help improve quality of life in your community?

What partnerships or programs could data centers support that align with community priorities?

Environmental Sustainability

Local Hiring and Workforce Development

Community Integration

Wild Card

Community Infrastructure

Economic Growth and Diversification

Local Business Sourcing and Contracting

Table 2: Common Concerns and Mitigation Strategies



Follow instructions on handout and write your feedback on a post-it

Environmental Impact

Energy Demand and Grid Strain

Water Supply

Land Use and Historical Preservation

Noise and Visual Disruption

Transparency and Oversight

Economic Impact
(Jobs, taxes, infrastructure)

Zoning

Wild Card

Table 3: Site Considerations and Building Design



Land Use Adjacencies

Facade / Design Detailing

Screening / Buffers

Public Amenities

Community Engagement Overview Leaflet

DATA CENTER POLICY FRAMEWORK: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

CITY COUNCIL DIRECTION

On February 17, 2026, El Paso City Council authorized the City Manager to develop a proposed Data Center Policy Framework for the City of El Paso.

As directed by Council, the framework shall:

- Prioritize community engagement, utility providers, and local, state, and regional government in implementation considerations
- Evaluate long-term impacts on infrastructure and utilities

Council also directed the City Attorney to conduct a legal analysis of 380 agreements with data centers to identify best practices, lessons learned, and opportunities to develop a new framework.

This work is also part of the City's Climate Action Plan, which identifies the need to evaluate data center policy through environmental, community, and economic development considerations.

The Council direction is focused on developing a policy framework to guide future decisions.

It does not direct staff to reconsider, reopen, cancel, or void any existing agreement.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD SO FAR

Residents have raised significant concerns, particularly related to the META project in Northeast El Paso. Key themes include:

- **Opposition to Data Center Development:** Requests to cancel existing agreements and avoid future data center projects
- **Environmental Concerns:** Water use, air quality, noise, energy demand, and impacts to wildlife and surrounding neighborhoods
- **Transparency:** A desire for earlier, clearer communication before large-scale projects move forward
- **Community Benefit and Cost:** Questions about whether data centers could increase utility costs or provide enough benefit to the community in return

PROCESS

The City is using a community-informed process to develop the proposed framework. The City cannot build a meaningful framework without community input.

- **Community Meetings:** Open-house meetings are being held across the City to gather direct public input. This format allows residents to attend during the meeting window, speak directly with staff, ask questions, and share feedback in a more accessible, less formal setting focused on listening, not formal action.
- **Community Survey:** The City is also developing a survey to give residents another way to share input, especially those who may not be able to attend an in-person meeting.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** The City is meeting with utility providers and local and regional partners as part of implementation considerations.
- **Public Information Hub:** A dedicated FAQs can be found on the City's website to provide updates, facts, and information related to data center development: ElPasoTexas.gov/Data-Centers/
- **Draft Framework and Continued Engagement:** Community input gathered now will help shape the first draft of the framework. Once a draft framework is developed, the City anticipates additional community meetings and opportunities for public review before final recommendations are presented to City Council.
- **Final Recommendations:** Community input, technical analysis, and legal review will be compiled into recommendations for City Council consideration.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU TODAY

We are here to listen. Community input is essential to shaping a policy framework that reflects El Paso's priorities.

We want to hear from you about:

- The protections you believe are most important for infrastructure, utilities, and the environment
- The standards and opportunities that should be considered in any future framework
- The lessons the City should take from existing agreements as it develops a new approach

Your feedback will help inform the recommendations presented to City Council.

Community Benefits Opportunities

What types of community investments would you like to see as part of a data center project?

- How can data centers contribute to local education, skills training, or youth opportunities?
- Are there ways data centers could help improve the quality of life in your community?
- What partnerships or programs could data centers support that align with community priorities?

Directions:

1. Discuss potential community benefits on the poster and place ideas discussed under the correct category
2. Vote using sticker dots for your top 3 priorities
3. Discuss the results at the table



Community Benefits Opportunities

What types of community investments would you like to see as part of a data center project?

- How can data centers contribute to local education, skills training, or youth opportunities?
- Are there ways data centers could help improve the quality of life in your community?
- What partnerships or programs could data centers support that align with community priorities?

Directions:

1. Discuss potential community benefits on the poster and place ideas discussed under the correct category
2. Vote using sticker dots for your top 3 priorities
3. Discuss the results at the table



Site Considerations & Building Design

What should data centers in El Paso look like?

- What building design features would make a data center more compatible with its surroundings (e.g., landscaping, screening, building materials, etc.)?
- What factors are most important when choosing a data center site (e.g., distance from homes, access to power infrastructure, environmental sensitivity)?
- How can data centers contribute to environmental sustainability through their design?

Directions:

Place sticky notes on images that you like or dislike, with comments explaining why

