



CITY OF EL PASO

Open Space Advisory Board Strategic Plan Update

Chair Joe Garibay

Members of the Board

- **District 1, Stephen Tures**
- **District 2, Mark Wancho**
- **District 3, Norma Rivera**
- **District 4, Joe Garibay**
- **District 5, Tod Grice**
- **District 6, Sharon Miles-Bonart**
- **District 7, Isela Castañón-Williams**
- **District 8**
- **Mayor, Romaree Friedman Herbert**

Why this work Matters

- Both **reflective** and **future focused**
- Strategic planning sets the **tone and direction of priorities**
- Requires **disciplined approach**



Approach

August Meeting:

- ✓ **PART ONE:** Began Mission and Vision Development
- ✓ **PART TWO:** Began Identifying Key Priority Areas

October Meeting:

- ✓ **PART THREE:** Finalized Mission and continued Vision Development

November Meeting:

- ✓ **PART THREE (Continued):** Finalized Vision and Begin Strategic Alignment (Priority Mapping)

December Meeting:

- ✓ **PART FOUR:** Finalized Strategic Alignment (Priority Mapping)

January and February:

- ✓ *Reviewed Strategic Planning Process and recommendations with Senior Leadership and OSAB*

NOW: Presentation to City Council by OSAB Chair

Mission Statement:

“To advocate for the acquisition and preservation of sustainable, welcoming, natural open spaces for all to experience and enjoy.”

Vision Statement

The Open Space Advisory Board is committed to increasing the quantity, improving the quality and protecting the integrity of natural open spaces for the El Paso community, where residents and visitors alike can connect with nature and engage in recreation through a variety of diverse landscapes and opportunities, such as year-round activities and access to a first-class trail system

A Change in Focus

- Previous focus was primarily on acquisition of open space.
- Focus on preservation, use and maintenance of open space, *along* with acquisition.
- Advise on relationships with neighboring open space area organizations to maximize the experience for the citizens of El Paso
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife
 - Franklin Mountains State Park
 - Wyler Aerial Tramway
 - DoD Castner Range
 - International Boundary and Water Commission

Top Priorities


- **Revise the enabling ordinance**
- **Prioritize the completion of the Mountain to River trail**
- **Update Open Space Master Plan including public outreach**

Top Priorities

- Advise any and all related city boards, commissions, councils on the integrations of access to natural open spaces
- Creation and maintenance of an open space website

Benefits of Open Spaces and Trails

- **Mental and physical health** – people are more likely to walk and destress if they live close to open spaces and trails.
- **Economic** – Trails bring visitors to El Paso and provide a reason for locals to stay in El Paso. The City uses pictures and videos of mountain bikers, hikers, and trails runners to promote El Paso. OSAB would like to see the City increase support and invest in maintaining open spaces and trails
- **Environmental sustainability** – open spaces support water management and reduce heat island effects associated with cities

A scenic mountain landscape featuring a rocky path leading through green grass and yellow wildflowers. In the background, there are rugged mountains under a dramatic sky with dark, heavy clouds on the left and a bright blue sky with white clouds on the right. The text "Thank you! Any Questions?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Thank you!
Any Questions?