RENARD U. JOHNSON
MAYOR

DIONNE MACK
CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL
ALEJANDRA CHÁVEZ, DISTRICT 1
JOSH ACEVEDO, DISTRICT 2
DEANNA MALDONADO-ROCHA, DISTRICT 3
CYNTHIA BOYAR TREJO, DISTRICT 4
IVAN NIÑO, DISTRICT 5
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

MINUTES FOR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 14, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL AND VIRTUALLY
9:00 AM

9:00 A.M. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Coach Wally Hartley PK-8 School at the Invitation of City Representative Deanna Maldonado-Rocha.

Paloma Weisiger
Cayson Johnson
Harper Wine
Aurora Daniel
Ian Menchin
Darwin Pimentel
Vince Bernal
Valentina Castro
Aliyah Lacka
Kaylee Vu
Isabella Salas
Lux Arenas
Kaylee Cueto
Keanu Curtis

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS

Sexual Awareness Month 2026

Desert Conference of Texas and Gala Days Convocation

Guardians of the Children- Sun City Chapter Day

City of Socorro 40th Anniversary of Incorporation Day

Mission: Save the Earth Month

10:00 AM ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of El Paso met on the above time and date. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Alejandra Chávez was present and presiding, and the following Council Members answered roll call: Deanna Maldonado-Rocha, Cynthia Boyar Trejo, Ivan Niño, Art Fierro, Lily Limón, and Chris Canales. Late arrival: Josh Acevedo at 10:05 a.m. Mayor Renard Johnson requested to be excused.

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INVOCATION BY EL PASO POLICE SENIOR CHAPLAIN DAVID MAYFIELD

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

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The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Carlos Saenz - commented on item 14
2. Mr. Joe Gudenrath - commented on items 23 and 32
3. Ms. Leila Mayorga - commented on item 32
4. Ms. Jimena Guerrero - commented on item 32
5. Mr. Joshua Ruiz - commented on item 32
6. Mr. Carlos Saenz - commented on item 32
7. Ms. Nadia Antowan - commented on item 32
8. Mr. Ricardo Mora - commented on item 32
9. Mr. Manny Rodriguez - commented on item 32

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CALL TO THE PUBLIC (CITY-RELATED NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

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Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **SUSPEND** the rules of order to **ALLOW** all members of the public three (3) minutes each despite having over 20 signed up.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Ms. Elizabeth Crawford
2. Ms. Claudia Contreras Siller
3. Mr. Ron Comeau
4. Ms. Celina Serrano
5. Mr. Leo Arcos
6. Mr. Carlos Saenz
7. Ms. Julia A. Kirton
8. Mr. Wesley Lawrence
9. Ms. Evone Rosales
10. Ms. Jessica Kell
11. Mr. John Camacho
12. Ms. Lola Rosales
13. Mr. Rick Alvarado
14. Mr. Mike Becker
15. Ms. Esperanza Avila
16. Mr. Bruno Vasquez
17. Mr. Aaron Morga
18. Ms. Marcy Chavez
19. Mr. Eddie Chavez
20. Mr. Rene Fierro
21. Ms. Julie Alvarado
22. Ms. Mary Woodruff
23. Ms. Elisa Llamas

The following members of the public commented on behalf of Amanecer People's Project:

24. Mr. Miguel Escoto
25. Mr. Harry White
26. Mr. Alejandro Ruiz
27. Mr. Jay Mania
28. Ms. Ariana Eiker
29. Ms. America Tirado

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Laura D. Prine, City Clerk
- Ms. Karla Nieman, City Attorney

Motion made by Representative Boyar Trejo, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **ALLOW** the City Council to make a comment regarding the YMCA Northeast closure.

Representatives Boyar Trejo, Niño, and Fierro commented.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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*Motion made by Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore Fierro, seconded by Representative Limón, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE, AS REVISED,** all matters listed under the Consent Agenda unless otherwise noted. (Items approved, postponed, or deleted pursuant to the vote on the Consent Agenda will be shown with an asterisk {*}.)

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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1. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 1, 2026, and the Work Session of March 30, 2026.

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CONSENT AGENDA – REQUEST TO EXCUSE ABSENT CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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2. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **EXCUSE** Mayor Renard U. Johnson from the April 14, 2026, City Council Meeting.

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CONSENT AGENDA – RESOLUTIONS:

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3. ***R E S O L U T I O N***

WHEREAS, Rave Marketing & Events LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Grantee") has submitted an application for a Special Event Permit as per Chapter 13.38 (Special Events) of the El Paso City Code, for the use and closure of right-of-way within the City of El Paso's (hereinafter referred to as "the City") for the Sol Summit from 2:30 pm to 10:00 pm on Saturday, May 2, 2026, and 2:30 pm to 10:00 pm on Sunday, May 3, 2026 (hereinafter referred to as the "Event"); and

WHEREAS, The Event will utilize both City and State rights-of-way: and

WHEREAS, The City of El Paso (hereinafter referred to as the "City") has found the Event serves a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas (hereinafter referred to as the "State") owns and operates a system of highways for public use and benefit, including Mesa Street within El Paso, Texas; and

WHEREAS, 43 TAC, Section 22.12 establishes the rules and procedures for the temporary closure of portions of the State Highway System for periods of time exceeding four hours; and

WHEREAS, the State in recognition of the public purpose for the Event, provides a means of cooperating with the City for the temporary closure of State right-of-way, provided the closure is in accordance with the requirements of 43 TAC, Section 22.12 and the City enters into an Agreement for the Temporary Closure of State Right-of-Way for the Event (Form TEA30A).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the closure of right-of-way within the City of El Paso for the Sol Summit from 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 30, 2026 to 8:00 am on Monday, May 4, 2026, serves a public purpose of providing cultural and recreational activities for the residents and visitors of the City of El Paso, and in accordance with 43 TAC, Section 22.12, the City Manager be authorized to sign an Agreement for The Temporary Closure of State Right Of Way (Form TEA30A) by and between the City of El Paso and the State of Texas, acting by and through the Texas Department of Transportation, for the temporary closure and use of State owned and operated street (s) in excess of four hours for a portion of Mesa Street between Franklin Street and Mills Avenue upon the issuance of required permits from the City of El Paso and substantial conformity to the finalized TEA30A agreement between the City of El Paso and State of Texas Department of Transportation.

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4. ***R E S O L U T I O N**

WHEREAS, **Badass Human LLC** (hereinafter referred to as "Grantee") has submitted an application for a Special Event Permit as per Chapter 13.38 (Special Events) of the El Paso City Code, for the use and closure of rights-of-way within the City of El Paso's (hereinafter referred to as "the City") for the **Badass Human Race 2026 from 5:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday , May 31 2026.** (hereinafter referred to as the "Event"); and

WHEREAS, The Event will utilize both City and State rights-of-way: and

WHEREAS, The City of El Paso (hereinafter referred to as the "City") has found the Event serves a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas (hereinafter referred to as the "State") owns and operates a system of highways for public use and benefit, including **Mesa Street and Texas Avenue** within El Paso, Texas; and

WHEREAS, 43 TAC, Section 22.12 establishes the rules and procedures for the temporary closure of portions of the State Highway System for periods of time exceeding four hours; and

WHEREAS, the State in recognition of the public purpose for the Event, provides a means of cooperating with the City for the temporary closure of State right-of-way, provided the closure is in accordance with the requirements of 43 TAC, Section 22.12 and the City enters into an Agreement for the Temporary Closure of State Right-of-Way for the Event (Form TEA 30A).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the closure of rights-of-way within the City of El Paso for the **Badass Human Race 2026 from 5:30 am on Sunday, May 31, 2026 to 1:00 pm on Sunday, May 31, 2026**, serves a public purpose of providing cultural and recreational activities for the residents and visitors of the City of El Paso, and in accordance with 43 TAC, Section 22.12, the City Manager be authorized to sign an Agreement For The Temporary Closure of State Right Of Way (Form TEA 30A) by and between the City of El Paso and the State of Texas, acting by and through the Texas Department of Transportation, for the temporary closure and use of State owned and operated street (s) in excess of four hours for portions of **Mesa Street and Texas Avenue** upon the issuance of required permits from the City of El Paso and substantial conformity to the finalized TEA30 agreement between the City of El Paso and State of Texas Department of Transportation.

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5. *R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Nahum Avila (hereinafter referred to as “Grantee”) has submitted an application for a Special Event Permit as per Chapter 13.38 (Special Events) of the El Paso City Code, for the use and closure of rights-of-way within the City of El Paso’s (hereinafter referred to as “the City”) for the **Badass Human Race 2026 from 5:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday , May 31 2026.** (hereinafter referred to as the “Event”); and

WHEREAS, The Event will utilize both City and State rights-of-way: and

WHEREAS, The City of El Paso (hereinafter referred to as the “City”) has found the Event serves a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas (hereinafter referred to as the “State”) owns and operates a system of highways for public use and benefit, including **Mesa Street** within El Paso, Texas; and

WHEREAS, 43 TAC, Section 22.12 establishes the rules and procedures for the temporary closure of portions of the State Highway System for periods of time exceeding four hours; and

WHEREAS, the State in recognition of the public purpose for the Event, provides a means of cooperating with the City for the temporary closure of State right-of-way, provided the closure is in accordance with the requirements of 43 TAC, Section 22.12 and the City enters into an Agreement for the Temporary Closure of State Right-of-Way for the Event (Form TEA 30A).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the closure of rights-of-way within the City of El Paso for the **Badass Human Race** **2026 from 7:00 am on Saturday , May 30, 2026 to 5:00 pm on Sunday, May 31, 2026**, serves a public purpose of providing cultural and recreational activities for the residents and visitors of the City of El Paso, and in accordance with 43 TAC, Section 22.12, the City Manager be authorized to sign an Agreement For The Temporary Closure of State Right Of Way (Form TEA 30A) by and between the City of El Paso and the State of Texas, acting by and through the Texas Department of Transportation, for the temporary closure and use of State owned and operated street (s) in excess of four hours for portions of **Mesa Street between Franklin Street and Texas Avenue** upon the issuance of required permits from the City of El Paso and substantial conformity to the finalized TEA30 agreement between the City of El Paso and State of Texas Department of Transportation.

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6. ***R E S O L U T I O N**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to sign an Agreement for Professional Services by and between the City of El Paso, and **LEC Engineering, Inc, dba LOI Engineers, a Domestic For-Profit Corporation**, for a project known as "2026-0189R Geotechnical & Material Testing Services for the All Abilities Playground Project" for an amount not to exceed $79,241.60; that the City Engineer is authorized to approve additional basic services and reimburseables in an amount not to exceed $50,000.00 if such services are necessary for proper execution of the Project and the increased amounts are within the Project budget, for a total budget of $129,241.60; and that the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of the Agreement for Professional Services.

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CONSENT AGENDA – SPECIAL APPOINTMENT:

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7. ***R E S O L U T I O N**

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and Procedures for the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Policy Board (TPB) provides that the City of El Paso's representation on the TPB shall include the mayor or appointee and three elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the TPB's Bylaws and Procedures further provides that representatives of local units of government shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the city councils for the entities they represent; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso City Council desires to appoint District 3 Representative Deanna Maldonado-Rocha as a City representative on the TPB, replacing District 2 Representative Josh Acevedo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That District 3 Representative Deanna Maldonado-Rocha be appointed a City Representative to the Transportation Policy Board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization, replacing District 2 Representative Josh Acevedo, effective immediately.

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CONSENT AGENDA – BOARD RE-APPOINTMENTS:

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8. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **RE-APPOINT** Benjamin Avalos to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board by Representative Cynthia Boyar Trejo, District 4.

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9. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **RE-APPOINT** Juan Uribe to the City Plan Commission by Representative Ivan Niño, District 5.

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10. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **RE-APPOINT** Francie McIntosh to the City Accessibility Advisory Committee by Representative Alejandra Chávez, District 1.

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CONSENT AGENDA – BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

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11. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **DELETE** the appointment of Antonio Morales to the Building and Standards Commission by Representative Cynthia Boyar Trejo, District 4.

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CONSENT AGENDA - BEST VALUE PROCUREMENTS:

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12. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** Solicitation 2026-0086 Floor Stripping & Waxing Services to Ace Government Services, LLC., for an initial term of three (3) years for an estimated amount of $900,000.00. The award also includes a two (2) year option for an estimated amount of $600,000.00. The total contract time is for five (5) years for a total estimated amount of $1,500,000.

Department:	Parks and Recreation
Award to:	Ace Government Services, LLC.
City & State:	El Paso, TX
Item(s):	All
Initial Term:	3 Years
Option Term:	2 Years
Total Contract Time:	5 Years
Annual Estimated Award:	$300,000.00
Initial Term Estimated Award:	$900,000.00
Option Term Estimated Award:	$600,000.00
Total Estimated Award	$1,500,000.00
Account(s)	451-1000-51230-522060-P5106 451-1000-51260-522060-P5111 451-1000-51270-522060-P5114 451-1000-51295-522060-P5116 451-1000-51240-522060-P5108
Funding Source(s):	General Fund
District(s):	All

This was a Best Value Bid Procurement for a replacement contract.

The Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing and Parks and Recreation departments recommend award as indicated to Ace Government Services, LLC. the highest ranked bidder based on the evaluation factors established in the evaluation criteria for this procurement.

It is requested that the City Manager be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of this award.

In accordance with this award, the City Manager or designee is authorized to exercise future options if needed.

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13. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** Solicitation 2026-0084 Extermination Services to El Valle Pest Control, LLC for an initial term of three (3) years for an estimated amount of $83,457.00. The award also includes a two (2) year option for an estimated amount of $55,638.00. The total contract time is for five (5) years for a total estimated amount of $139,095.00.

Department:	Parks and Recreation
Award to:	El Valle Pest Control, LLC
City & State:	El Paso, TX
Item(s):	All
Initial Term:	3 Years
Option Term:	2 Years
Total Contract Time:	5 Years
Annual Estimated Award:	$27,819.00
Initial Term Estimated Award:	$83,457.00
Option Term Estimated Award:	$55,638.00
Total Estimated Award	$139,095.00
Account(s)	451-1000-51230-522200-P5106
	451-1000-51240-522200-P5108
	451-1000-51260-522200-P5111
	451-1000-51270-522200-P5114
	451-1000-51295-522200-P5116
Funding Source(s):	General Fund
District(s):	All

This was a Best Value Bid Procurement for a replacement contract.

The Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing and Parks & Recreation departments recommend award as indicated to El Valle Pest Control, LLC the highest ranked bidder based on the evaluation factors established in the evaluation criteria for this procurement.

It is requested that the City Manager be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of this award.

In accordance with this award, the City Manager or designee is authorized to exercise future options if needed.

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CONSENT AGENDA – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

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14. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** Solicitation 2026-0132R Public Health Accreditation Consultant to Ascendient Healthcare Advisors, Inc., for an initial term of one (1) year for an estimated amount of $240,000.00. The award also includes a one (1) year option. The total contract time is for two (2) years for a total estimated amount of $240,000.00.

Department:	Public Health
Award to:	Ascendient Healthcare Advisors, Inc.
City & State:	Chapel Hill, NC
Item(s):	All
Term:	1 Year
Option Term:	1 Year
Total Contract Time:	2 Years
Annual Estimated Award:	$240,000.00
Term Estimated Award:	$240,000.00
Option Term Estimated Award:	NA
Total Estimated Award	$240,000.00
Account(s)	341-2140-41330-522150-G4126A2WRK
Funding Source(s):	Public Health Grants
District(s):	All

This was a Request for Proposals Procurement for a new contract.

The Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing and Public Health departments recommend award as indicated to Ascendient Healthcare Advisors, Inc., the highest ranked offeror based on the evaluation factors established in the evaluation criteria for this procurement.

It is requested that the City Manager be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of this award.

In accordance with this award, the City Manager or designee is authorized to exercise future options if needed.

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REGULAR AGENDA – FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

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Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Niño, and unanimously carried that the following Ordinances, having been introduced pursuant to Section 3.9 of the El Paso City Charter, be **ADVERTISED** for public hearing:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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15. An Ordinance authorizing the conveyance of real property owned by the City of El Paso to Martin Armendariz, for the purchase price of $345,000.00; such real property legally described as a portion of Tracts 9 and 10, Bootheville No. 2, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 5, Page 54, Plat Records of El Paso County, Texas.

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16. An Ordinance amending Title 12 (Vehicles & Traffic), Chapter 12.54 (Towing Regulations and Fees) to amend Section 12.54.040 (Penalty) to add additional penalty sections and add Section 12.54.070 (Violations) to prohibit soliciting of towing businesses at the scene of traffic accidents; The penalty as provided by Section 12.54.040 (Penalty) of the City Code.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 28, 2026, FOR ITEMS 15 AND 16

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17. An Ordinance granting Special Permit No. PZST25-00013, to allow for a side setback reduction on the property described as Lot 20, Block 52, Indian Ridge Unit 11, 3305 Hiawatha Dr., City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, pursuant to Section 20.04.260 of the El Paso City Code and imposing a condition. The penalty is as provided for in Chapter 20.24 of the El Paso City Code.

Subject Property: 3305 Hiawatha Dr.
Applicant: Vista del Sol Architectural
Case Number: PZST25-00013

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18. An Ordinance changing the zoning of all of Lots 1-16 and 21-32, and the Vacated Alley in Block 72, Cotton Addition, 210 Lee Street, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas from M-1 (Light Manufacturing) to C-4 (Commercial). The penalty is as provided for in Chapter 20.24 of the El Paso City Code.

Subject Property: 210 Lee Street
Applicant: Rescue Mission of El Paso Inc.
Case Number: PZRZ25-00020

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PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON MAY 12, 2026, FOR ITEMS 17 AND 18

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19. An Ordinance vacating a portion of a 60 foot road out of O.A. Danielson Survey No. 310, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas.

Subject property: West of Zaragoza Rd. and North of Interstate 10 Hwy.
Applicant: Jorge Sanchez
Case Number: SURW25-00012

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PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 28, 2026, FOR ITEM 19

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REGULAR AGENDA – PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:

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20. **ITEMS 20 AND 21 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER**

ORDINANCE 019857

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF EL PASO TO MEP ELECTRIC CONTRACTING INC, FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE OF $22,000.00; SUCH REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 11, BLOCK E, SANTA FE ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

Representative Canales commented.

21. **ORDINANCE 019858**

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF EL PASO TO MEP ELECTRIC CONTRACTING INC., FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE OF $22,000.00; SUCH**

REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 10, BLOCK E, SANTA FE ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.

Motion duly made by Representative Canales, seconded by Representative Fierro, and carried that the Ordinances be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinances which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinances, the same be and the same are hereby **ADOPTED**.

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22. ORDINANCE 019859

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF EL PASO TO VICTOR HUGO DURAN SALCEDO AND MARICRUZ MORENO SANCHEZ, FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE OF $39,228.00; SUCH REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 14 AND 15, BLOCK 3, MAP OF HUGHES SUBDIVISION OUT OF BLOCK 2, ALAMEDA ACRES, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

Motion duly made by Representative Acevedo, seconded by Representative Maldonado-Rocha, and carried that the Ordinance be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinance which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinance, the same be and the same is hereby **ADOPTED**.

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23. ORDINANCE 019860

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 12 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) TO ADD CHAPTER 12.57 (ELECTRONICALLY OPERATED PARKING CONTROL SYSTEMS), OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE TO PERFORM THE FOLLOWING: ADD SECTION 12.57.010 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 12.57.020 IMPOSITION AND AMOUNT OF CIVIL PENALTY, SECTION 12.57.030 ENFORCEMENT AND PROCEDURES, SECTION 12.57.040 ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION HEARING, SECTION 12.57.050 AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, SECTION 12.57.060 APPEAL, AND SECTION 12.57.070 ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGEMENT; THE PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.57.030.**

Mr. Steve Alvarado, Code Enforcement Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Maldonado-Rocha and Canales commented.

Mr. Paul Stresow, International Bridges Assistant Director, commented.

Mr. Jose Gaston Barriga, citizen, submitted a statement in oposition

Motion duly made by Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore Fierro, seconded by Representative Boyar Trejo, and carried that the Ordinance be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinance which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None
NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Acevedo

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinance, the same be and the same is hereby **ADOPTED**.

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24. **ORDINANCE 019861**

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 12 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), CHAPTER 12.88 (SCHEDULES), SECTION 12.88.150 (SCHEDULES XIV - SPEED LIMITS), SUBSECTION H (FORTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR), TO DELETE ITEM: 14. MCCOMBS STREET FROM DYER STREET TO DALHART DRIVE, AND TO ADD ITEM: 40. MCCOMBS STREET FROM DYER STREET TO A POINT 3.70 MILES NORTH OF DYER STREET; AND AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 12 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), CHAPTER 12.88 (SCHEDULES), SECTION 12.88.150 (SCHEDULES XIV - SPEED LIMITS), SUBSECTION J (FIFTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR), TO DELETE ITEM: 5. MCCOMBS STREET FROM DALHART DRIVE TO ITS TERMINUS AT FM 3255, AND TO ADD ITEM: 10. MCCOMBS STREET FROM A POINT 3.70 MILES NORTH OF DYER STREET TO STAN ROBERTS SR. ROAD. THE PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN 12.84.010 OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE.**

Mr. Joshua Lerma, Streets and Maintenance Planner, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representative Boyar Trejo commented.

Mr. Randy Garcia, Streets and Maintenance Director, commented.

Motion duly made by Representative Boyar Trejo, seconded by Representative Canales, and carried that the Ordinance be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinance which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinance, the same be and the same is hereby **ADOPTED**.

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REGULAR AGENDA – INTRODUCTION AND PUBLIC HEARINGS OF ORDINANCES:

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25. ITEMS 25 THROUGH 27 WERE DISCUSSED AND PRESENTED TOGETHER

ORDINANCE 019862

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS, GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $71,140,000; LEVYING A CONTINUING DIRECT ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS; AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE SUCH ISSUANCE, INCLUDING THE DELEGATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS TO AN AUTHORIZED CITY OFFICIAL WITHIN CERTAIN SPECIFIED PARAMETERS.**

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, and Canales commented.

Motion duly made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Canales, and carried that the Ordinance be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinance which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinance, the same be and the same is hereby **ADOPTED**.

26. ORDINANCE 019863

The City Clerk read an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS, GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2026, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $435,355,000, FOR DEBT SERVICE SAVINGS; LEVYING A CONTINUING DIRECT ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS; AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE SUCH ISSUANCE; INCLUDING THE DELEGATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS TO AN AUTHORIZED CITY OFFICIAL WITHIN CERTAIN SPECIFIED PARAMETERS.**

Motion duly made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Niño, and carried that the Ordinance be **ADOPTED.**

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that a vote be taken on the passage and adoption of the Ordinance which when so done resulted as follows:

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Mayor ordered that, the vote having been cast in favor of the Ordinance, the same be and the same is hereby **ADOPTED**.

REGULAR AGENDA – OTHER BUSINESS:

27. A RESOLUTION authorizing the redemption of certain outstanding obligations of the City; directing authorized City officials to effectuate the redemption of such obligations; resolving other matters incident and related thereto; and providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, pursuant to an ordinance passed and adopted by the City Council (the "City Council") of the City of El Paso, Texas (the "City"), the City has heretofore issued and there are currently outstanding certain obligations more particularly described as follows: "City of El Paso, Texas, General Obligation Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 2014," dated April 1, 2014 (the "Bonds");

WHEREAS, the Bonds are subject to redemption prior to their maturity, at the option of the City; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 1207, as amended ("Chapter 1207"), the City is authorized and empowered to deposit funds and/or securities directly with the place of payment for the Bonds, or other authorized depository, and enter into an escrow or similar agreement with such place of payment for the safekeeping, investment, reinvestment, administration, and disbursement of such deposit of funds, and such deposit, when made in accordance with Chapter 1207, shall constitute the making of firm banking and financial arrangements for the discharge and full payment of the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to redeem the Refunded Bonds (as hereinafter defined) as herein provided in order to reduce the City's aggregate debt service requirements on such Refunded Bonds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

SECTION 1: The Bonds maturing on August 15 in each of the years 2027 and 2039, in the aggregate principal amount of $1,375,000 (the "Refunded Bonds"), shall be redeemed on June 23, 2026, or such other date (the "Redemption Date") as may be determined by an Authorized Official (defined herein), as set forth in this Resolution. The City Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem, the City Manager, or the Chief Financial Officer (each, an "Authorized Official") to transfer lawfully available funds of the City to Computershare Trust Company, N.A., the paying agent/registrar for the Refunded Bonds (the "Paying Agent/Registrar), in an amount sufficient to pay (i) all interest due and owing on the Refunded Bonds on their Redemption Date, (ii) the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds due and owing on their Redemption Date, and (iii) the associated costs and expenses of such redemption. Upon the making of such deposit, the Refunded Bonds will be defeased and, as a result, discharged and no longer considered outstanding obligations of the City in accordance with applicable Texas law.

SECTION 2: To the extent necessary to effectuate the redemption of the Refunded Bonds in accordance with the terms hereof, each Authorized Official is hereby authorized to enter into a deposit or escrow agreement (the "Agreement") with the Paying Agent/Registrar for the final payment and discharge of the Refunded Bonds on their Redemption Date, in a form acceptable to the Authorized Official, for and on behalf of the City and as the act and deed of the City Council of the City; and the Agreement as executed by an Authorized Official shall be deemed the Agreement approved by the City Council of the City.

SECTION 3: The sufficiency of the deposit with the Paying Agent/Registrar, or the fund established pursuant to the Agreement, to accomplish such redemption shall be certified to the City by the City's municipal advisor (the "Municipal Advisor"), the Paying Agent/Registrar, or another qualified financial institution.

SECTION 4: The Refunded Bonds shall be called for redemption on the Redemption Date as set forth in the notice of redemption, at the price of par plus accrued interest to the Redemption Date. The City Clerk or any Authorized Official is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this Resolution, together with the suggested form of notice of redemption to be sent to Bondholders, with the Paying Agent/Registrar, in accordance with the redemption provisions applicable to such Refunded Bonds; such suggested form of notice of redemption being attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference as a part of this Resolution for all purposes.

SECTION 5: Each Authorized Official is authorized to provide certifications or other evidence of adoption of this Resolution and to do any and all things necessary or convenient to effect the redemption described herein and otherwise give effect to the intent and purpose hereof, including the execution of the Agreement.

SECTION 6: The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Resolution for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the judgment and findings of the City Council.

SECTION 7: Though such parties may be identified, and the entry into a particular form of contract may be authorized herein, the City Council hereby delegates to each Authorized Official the authority to independently select the counterparty to any agreement with the Paying Agent/Registrar, or any other contract that is determined by such Authorized Official, the City's Municipal Advisor, or Bond Counsel to be necessary or incidental to carry out the provisions of this Resolution, as long as each of such contracts has a value of less than the amount referenced in Section 2252.908 of the Texas Government Code (collectively, the "Ancillary Contracts"); and, as necessary, to execute the Ancillary Contracts on behalf and as the act and deed of the City Council. The City Council has not participated in the selection of any of the business entities which are counterparties to the Ancillary Contracts.

SECTION 8: If any provision of this Resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Resolution and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the City Council hereby declares that this Resolution would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

SECTION 9: It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Resolution is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Resolution, was given, all as required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, as amended.

SECTION 10: This Resolution shall be in force and effect from and after its passage on the date shown below.

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS,
SERIES 2014
Dated April 1, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the bonds of the above series maturing on August 15 in each of the years 2027 and 2039 and aggregating in principal amount $1,375,000 (the “Bonds”) have been called for redemption on [June 23], 2026 (the “Redemption Date”), at the redemption price of par and accrued interest to the date of redemption (the “Redemption Price”), such Bonds being identified as follows:

Maturity Date	Outstanding Principal Amount ($)	Principal Amount to be Redeemed ($)	CUSIP No.
August 15, 2027	535,000	535,000	283734UK5
August 15, 2039	840,000	840,000	2837347Q8

All of such Bonds shall become due and payable on the Redemption Date, and interest thereon shall cease to accrue from and after the Redemption Date, and payment of the Redemption Price of such Bonds shall be paid to the registered owners of the Bonds only upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds to Computershare Trust Company, N.A. at its designated offices at the following address:

By Registered or Certified Mail Computershare Trust Company, N.A. 1505 Energy Park Drive
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

By Hand or Overnight Mail Computershare Trust Company, N.A. Corporate Trust Operations
1505 Energy Park Drive St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

THIS NOTICE is issued and given pursuant to the terms and conditions prescribed for the redemption of such Bonds and pursuant to a resolution by the City Council of the City of El Paso, Texas.

COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY, N.A., as Paying Agent/Registrar

Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Boyar Trejo, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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The Regular City Council Meeting was **RECESSED** at 12:55 p.m. for lunch.

The Regular City Council Meeting was **RECONVENED** at 1:59 p.m. Late arrivals: Representatives Fierro at 2:03 p.m. and Maldonado-Rocha at 2:08 p.m.

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REGULAR AGENDA – MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

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28. **R E S O L U T I O N**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

THAT the City Council authorizes the expenditure of District 2 discretionary funds in an amount not to exceed TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($2,500.00) to be used towards the expenses for hosting the annual "Pride Event" in the City Hall parking lot along with Destination El Paso, and El Paso Sun City Pride on June 27, 2026, and

THAT the proposed expenditures would go towards the cost of security, sound, stage rental, lighting, decorations, street closures, and the application fee to for the permit, and

THAT the City Council declares the expenditure of said discretionary funds serve the municipal purpose of promoting the visual image of El Paso, as well as promoting the community as a welcoming place for all people, and

THAT the City Manager or designee is authorized to accept donations for sponsorship of the event, to negotiate and sign contracts as approved by the City Attorney, to execute any related documents, to effectuate any budget transfers and to appropriate and ensure that the funds are properly expended for the municipal purpose.

Motion made by Representative Acevedo, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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REGULAR AGENDA - OPERATIONAL FOCUS UPDATES:

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29. Presentation and discussion by the Capital Improvement Department on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Mid-Year update for active, programmed and completed capital projects for FY 2026 to include Quality of Life, Public Safety and Community Progress Bonds, and Capital Programs.

Ms. Yvette Hernandez, Deputy City Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office)

Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, and Niño commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer
- Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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30. Presentation and discussion on a report by Forvis Mazars, LLP on the financial and grants audit of the City of El Paso ("City"). The report to the City Council will include the audit opinion regarding the City financial statements and a brief overview of the financial results for the City for the fiscal year that ended August 31, 2025.

Ms. Margarita Marin, Comptroller, and Ms. Rachel Ormsby, Forvis Mazars, LLP Partner, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Chávez, Maldonado-Rocha, Niño, and Canales commented.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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REGULAR AGENDA – OTHER BUSINESS:

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31. **R E S O L U T I O N**

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2022, as part of the 2022 Community Progress Bond, City of El Paso voters approved three bond propositions, including funding for climate action; and

WHEREAS, in January 2024, the City of El Paso commenced to develop the Climate Action Plan for El Paso including the commitment to prioritize vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso has identified clean energy generation and energy costs as priorities during the development of the Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, City facilities are large users of energy and have potential to implement energy efficiency and solar energy projects; and

WHEREAS, City staff has identified a priority list of projects and facilities in need and with potential to save energy and costs; and

WHEREAS, $5,200,000.00 of the 2022 Community Progress Bond were approved for Climate planning and implementation programs and the proposed activities are consistent with the bond proposition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

THAT, the City Council approves the priority project list attached as Exhibit "A" of this Resolution and authorizes implementation of energy and sustainability projects and planning activities in a manner consistent with the language of the 2022 Community Progress Bond totaling $5,200,000; and further, that the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to effectuate any budget transfers and execute any contracts and/or related documents necessary to ensure that the funds are properly expended.

EXHIBIT "A"

PROJECT	BUDGET
1. Solar lights	$ 2,385,697.64
2. Solar PV: Safety Complex	$ 1,312,500.00
3. Green infrastructure	$ 264,775.45
4. Planning - CAP	$ 987,599.00
5. Art plan	$ 104,000.00
6. Contingency	$ 145,427.91
Total	$ 5,200,000.00

Mr. Fernando Berjano, Senior Climate Programs Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, and Canales commented.

Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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32. **R E S O L U T I O N**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager be authorized to sign a Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by and between **CITY OF EL PASO** (City), the **COUNTY OF EL PASO** (County), and the **DOWNTOWN DECK PLAZA FOUNDATION** (DDPF) in support of an opportunity to incorporate structural elements and future-proofing infrastructure to support a deck plaza (Downtown Deck Plaza) over a portion of the Texas Department of Transportation Downtown 10 project.

Mr. Ian Voglewede, Strategic and Legislative Affairs Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Karla Nieman, City Attorney
- Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer/Deputy City Manager
- Mr. Joaquin Rodriguez, CID Grant Funded Programs Director

- Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager

Ms. Tracy Yellen, Chair of the Downtown Deck Plaza Foundation, commented.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Bruno Vasquez
2. Mr. Wesley Lawrence
3. Mr. Matthew Guzman
4. Ms. Nicole Ruiz

The following members of the public submitted statements in opposition:

1. Jenny Solo
2. Rudy Guzman III
3. Larry Blankenship
4. Marifi Caton
5. Christina C. Frescas
6. Elizabeth Gallagher
7. Ashley Gonzalez
8. Amanda Crawford
9. Lisa Enriquez
10. Michelle Flores
11. WE HIKE ADVENTURE
12. Mildred Bailes
13. Lisa Hwang
14. Chantel Mercardo
15. Michael Clark
16. Carmen Rodriguez

The following member of the public submitted a statement in support:

1. Andrew Bustamante

Representatives Limón and Canales requested that an abstract of their statements be attached to the minutes (see attachments A & B).

Motion made by Representative Canales, seconded by Representative Fierro, and carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, and Canales
NAYS: Representative Limón

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33. **ITEM:** Discussion and action on the award of Task Order #10A-1 for Solicitation 2025-0087 Horizontal On-Call, Cedar Grove Improvements to Amstar, LLC. For a total estimated award of $1,600,000.00.

Mr. Javier Acosta, Capital Improvement Department Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representative Maldonado-Rocha commented.

Motion made by Representative Maldonado-Rocha, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** the Task Order.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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34. **R E S O L U T I O N**

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2025, pursuant to Section 7.3D of the City of El Paso municipal code, the City Council approved the FY2026 City budget by resolution (“Budget Resolution”); and

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the FY2026 Budget Resolution authorizes the City Manager or designee to make budget transfers between departments and/or non-enterprise funds or reprogram funds within an enterprise department, not to exceed $100,000, to the extent permitted by law and budget transfers between departments and/or non-enterprise department funds exceeding $100,000 requiring City Council approval; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Improvement and Zoo Departments, require a budget transfer in excess of $100,000, which in accordance with Section 6 of the FY2026 Budget Resolution, requires City Council approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

THAT, the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to effectuate a budget transfer as respectively listed and referenced below:

1. To allocate Quality of Life (“QOL”) investment interest for the Zoo portfolio: identified projects to meet Association of Zoo’s and Aquarium (“AZA”) standards, Asian Forest Complex and South American Pavilion; and transfer from project savings for Sea Lion exhibit upgrade;

2. To allocate Quality of Life (“QOL”) investment interest to Armijo Library, Clardy Fox Library, Doris Van Doren Library, Memorial Park Library, and Sergio Troncoso Library; and

3. Transfer projects savings to Doniphan Dr., Bird Avenue, and Doniphan Dr. & West Green Avenue traffic signalization.

BT Number	Fund	Project	Increase /(Decrease)
2026-0577	4800	PCP13ZOOD11I	805,485.61
2026-0577	4800	PCP13ZOOD12I	220,448.63
2026-0577	4800	PCP13ZOOA10I	206,758.86
2026-0577	4800	PCPBALANCE	(62,145.77)
2026-0577	4800	PCP13ZOOA09	62,145.77
2026-0578	4800	PCP13LIBA01I	249,832.53
2026-0578	4800	PCP21LIBA04I	286,453.79
2026-0578	4800	PCP21LIBA01I	182,176.86
2026-0578	4800	PCP13LIBA11I	463,520.70
2026-0578	4800	PCP13LIBA14I	462,217.78
2026-0579	4743	PCPBALANCE	(327,918.17)
2026-0579	4743	PCP17ST028	154,518.26
2026-0579	4743	PCP17ST031	173,399.91

Mr. Javier Acosta, Capital Improvement Department Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Limón, and Canales commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Yvette Hernandez, Deputy City Manager
- Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager

Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

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REGULAR AGENDA - MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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ADD1. **R E S O L U T I O N**

WHEREAS, The City of El Paso, through the El Paso Public Library and Parks and Recreation Departments, is dedicated to emphasizing the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Research demonstrates that children who participate in cultural and linguistically diverse literacy activities are more successful readers and the City of El Paso is dedicated to support healthy minds and healthy bodies; and

WHEREAS, Many of El Paso' s children face greater challenges in developing strong literary skills due to the lack of access to resources and books to use at home; and

WHEREAS, on "Dia de los Ninos Dia de los Libros," the El Paso Public Library and the Parks and Recreation Departments will give away free books to City residents at Washington Park. These expenditures serve the municipal purpose of providing educational and cultural activities to the residents of and visitors of the City of El Paso, which benefits the community, instills community pride, and aligns with the vision of the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, the Representative of District 7 desires to use discretionary funds to support the Library's event, Dia de Los Ninos, Dia de Los Libros, held on April 25, 2026.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

THAT City Council declares the expenditure of District 7 discretionary funds, in an amount not to exceed $1,000.00 for the Library's event, Dia de Los Ninos, Dia de Los Libros, which serves the municipal purpose of fostering community and encouraging literacy within the El Paso children's population.

THAT the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to effectuate any budget transfers and execute any contracts and/or related documents necessary to ensure that the funds are properly expended for the municipal purpose.

Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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Motion made by Representative Limón, seconded by Representative Maldonado-Rocha, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 5:24 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales
NAYS: None

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT "A"

Transcript of Rep. Canales's Comments on Item #32 re: Downtown Deck Plaza

Representative Chris Canales:
I make it a point to explain any and every vote that anyone asks me for an explanation of and also to explain publicly my opinion on anything or any topic I guess that is of any particular public interest. I wrote an op-ed published by El Paso Matters almost exactly a year ago in April of 2025. El Paso Matters still has that online. It's available on my website as well. Anybody who wants to know my full opinion, I will spare people today, but they can read it there.

I would imagine that the Downtown Deck Plaza Foundation may at times view me as a bit of a thorn in the side of their work, because I've openly spoken about the challenges associated with the project and not just the benefits. I think we owe that explanation to our constituents, and I want to be clear, I've voted against some funding for the deck plaza in the past and then I've also voted in favor of other aspects of the project at other times. I am going to read just brief just one quick excerpt from that op-ed that I wrote a year ago that was true a year ago and I think is true now. It reads as such:

"I want to be clear again: I am not advocating against the deck plaza. But I do believe strongly that if it continues to be advanced, it must only be done in a way that is realistic, responsible, and sustainable. That means every level of government involved in this conversation has to proceed with eyes wide open to the trade-offs involved and also has to be willing to acknowledge that the most responsible course of action may ultimately be not to do it at all. A lot will depend on where the puzzle pieces outside of our control ultimately fall."

So, if the deck plaza is to proceed, I believe that that it will rely very heavily if not entirely on both state and federal funding and outside grants as well as private philanthropic contributions, and this MOU allows for that possibility. I still maintain the position that I've held from the start, that this would be a very good and very nice public amenity if the burden for it doesn't fall on El Paso taxpayers. I'll keep my comments short, but I do want to close with some rapid-fire type questions for you to make sure that everyone who is watching is completely clear on what the MOU is and what it isn't, and what the MOU does and what it doesn't do. It will repeat some of your presentation, but I think it's important to lay it out as simply as possible.

The memorandum of understanding we're considering today is non-binding. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
Okay. The MOU is primarily about outlining the roles and responsibilities of the different entities moving forward, including coordination of the design and future operations and maintenance roles so that everyone is on the same page. Is that accurate?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
This agreement does not commit the City to spend any money. Correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
This item does not propose using any local taxpayer funds for construction of the deck plaza. Correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
Under the framework in the MOU, the Downtown Deck Plaza Foundation would be responsible for raising private funds for construction and future phases. Correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
The expectation is that philanthropic contributions along with potential state and federal grants would likely be the primary funding sources for the project. Is that right?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
The Downtown Deck Plaza Foundation would also fund and perform park operations and maintenance. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
Yes, that is a key feature.

Representative Chris Canales:
The City's financial participation is capped for current phases and subject to future approvals by the Council. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
Any future commitments will require Council approval.

Representative Chris Canales:
There's a timeline consideration for TxDOT's separate highway project. So, if funding for support structures is not secured by October 2026, the deck plaza would likely not be able to move forward because TxDOT needs to know whether they're incorporating the 'future proofing' into their planning. Is that accurate?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
We are operating under that assumption today. Yes.

Representative Chris Canales:
Okay. The MOU makes it clear that advancement beyond the current phases requires secured funding, demonstrated financial capacity from the Downtown Deck Plaza Foundation, and then execution of the required agreements in the future for actually obligating the money. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
Approving the MOU doesn't obligate the City to fund or construct any deck plaza infrastructure at any point in the future. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
Okay. And then one more that's kind of separately from the MOU specifically, but I think is important to clarify. For whatever reason, I hear time and again this notion out there – it's floating around – that there was a bond election at which voters declined to approve funding for the deck plaza. Bond funding has never been considered by the City Council. So, to put it as clearly as possible, this issue has never appeared on the ballot in front of El Paso voters. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
Not to my knowledge.

Representative Chris Canales:
Okay. Lastly, we heard from a few public commenters this morning that *nobody* supports this project. We then heard from other commenters who did support it, so I think that already is not true. But some of my constituents who are not in support, they don't believe me when I say that I hear from kind of a mix of people who are in support and who are in opposition. So, I'll start with the disclaimer that social media doesn't reflect the will of the whole world, but FitFam, which I think I can safely say is El Paso's largest social media account and kind of a decent indication of El Paso sentiment, shared really great, accurate information last night with the public and they put out a poll to their 662,000 followers asking, "Do you support the Downtown El Paso Deck Plaza?" From 3,701 responses as of a few minutes ago, the results came back as follows: Yes, 42%. Yes, but only if local taxpayers don't fund it, 25%. Neither for nor against it, 5%. And no, 28%. So, that's a total of 67% support if the project isn't funded with local taxpayer money, and about 28% opposition. Of course, that doesn't mean that those in opposition have an invalid opinion, but I think they need to realize that we as representatives of everyone in our districts have to listen to all of our constituents when we're making a decision, and that there's no single opinion of the community on this project. Opinion is split, and at least on this forum, there is pretty significant support for this project. Again, it's important for us to be realistic about this, but I think the MOU is a step that helps us to reach a project that ultimately is a good way to proceed with a deck plaza that doesn't burden the taxpayer. If it doesn't work out, then it doesn't work out, but this MOU doesn't bind us to anything that would lead directly to the taxpayers being on the hook for anything. Is that correct?

Ian Voglewede, Director of Strategic and Legislative Affairs:
That is correct.

Representative Chris Canales:
Okay, so I do plan to support the MOU today. I think it's a fairly simple ask of the Council to enter into this kind of agreement so that we have clearly defined roles and expectations among the different parties who are collaborating on the project.

Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem.

ATTACHMENT "B"

From: Guerrero, Camila
To: Prine, Laura D; District #7
Cc: Nunez, Diana; Rosas, Adriana; Limon, Lilia B.
Subject: RE: abstract for item 32
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2026 9:50:20 AM

Good morning Ms. Prine,

Please find the transcript of Representative Limón's remarks below:

"We don't need this. We don't want this. We don't want our tax dollars to go up. We don't want our utilities to go up. (...) This MOU may not bind the city financially today, but it binds us to a naive, unrealistic dream. This gives the taxpayers the message that we are willing to gamble their hard-earned money on something that needs a miracle to work. (...) I cannot in good conscience support this. With the passage of this MOU, this council is writing a blank check for future councils to carry the financial responsibility for years to come. My vote is a resounding no."

Thank you,

Camila Guerrero
Administrative Secretary
City of El Paso - District 7

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Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2026 8:38 AM
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Subject: abstract for item 32

Good morning Representative Limón please send us the abstract from your statement on item 32 that you would like us to include in the meeting minutes.

Thank you

Laura