



OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
2nd Floor, Main Conference Room
October 22, 2025
3:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Open Space Advisory Board met at the above place and date.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. Chair Joe Garibay present and presiding and the following Commissioners answered roll call.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Board Chair Joe Garibay
Board Vice Chair Mark Wancho
Board Member Tod Grice
Board Member Stephen Tures
Board Member Mike Gaglio
Board Member Alicia Rascon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

NONE

AGENDA

1. Discussion and Action: Changes to the Agenda

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning, noted that there were no changes to agenda.

NO ACTION.

2. Call to the Public (items not listed on the Agenda): *Members of the public will be allowed 3 minutes to present, with additional time granted at the discretion of the presiding officer.*

None

3. Discussion and Action: Minutes for July 7, 2025, Open Space Advisory Board Meeting
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Tures to **APPROVE JULY 7, 2025 MINUTES**, seconded by Board Member Wancho and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

4. **Discussion and Action:** Annual Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning was present and answered questions from the Board.

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Tures to **NOMINATE JOE GARIBAY AS CHAIR**, seconded by Board Member Wancho and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Tures to **NOMINATE MARK WANCHO AS VICE CHAIR**, seconded by Board Member Gaglio and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

5. **Information and Discussion:** Overview of Updated Enabling Open Space Advisory Board Resolution
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning, made a presentation to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

NO ACTION.

6. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of the revised 2025 Open Space Advisory Board meeting schedule
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning, made a presentation to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Wancho to **APPROVE**, seconded by Board Member Grice and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

7. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of the 2026 Open Space Advisory Board meeting schedule
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Tures to **APPROVE**, seconded by Board Member Gaglio and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

8. Information and Discussion: Overview of the City of El Paso Unified Bylaws

Contact: Russell Abeln, City Attorney's Office, abelnrt@elpasotexas.gov

Russell Abeln, City Attorney's Office, made a presentation to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

NO ACTION.

9. Information and Discussion: El Paso Water (EP Water) Quarterly financial report on the 10% annual drainage utility fee revenue and expenses

Contact: Jonathan Persall, El Paso Water, jpersall@epwater.org

Jonathan Persall, El Paso Water, made a presentation to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

NO ACTION.

10. Information and Discussion: Update on the Mountain to River project and the Bear Ridge Trailhead

Contact: Gilbert Guerrero, Capital Improvement Department, guerreroqx@elpasotexas.gov

Gilbert Guerrero, Capital Improvement Department, gave an update to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

NO ACTION.

11. Information and Discussion: Report from the Planning Division, Subdivisions Section, regarding land studies and plats approved in the Mountain and Hillside Development Areas pursuant to the Open Space Advisory Board enabling resolution

Contact: Ismael Segovia, Planning and Inspections, segoviaib@elpasotexas.gov

Ismael Segovia, Chief Planner, made a presentation to the Board and answered questions from the Board.

NO ACTION.

12. Information and Discussion: Update on trailheads proposed by Hunt

Contact: Open Space Advisory Board

Shane Mercer, Hunt Companies and Chair Garibay gave an update on the trailheads.

NO ACTION.

- 13. Information and Discussion:** Update from the Chair on the sale of MLK land
Contact: Open Space Advisory Board

Chair Joe Garibay provided an update regarding MLK land sale.

NO ACTION.

- 14. Information and Discussion:** Update on the remediation efforts at Castner Range
Contact: Open Space Advisory Board

Board Member Mark Wancho gave update regarding North of Castner Range.

NO ACTION.

- 15. Information and Discussion:** Observations from OSAB members of open space areas
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

Chair Garibay opened the floor for bringing items up for discussion in future agenda.

Board Member Tod Grice brought up The Palisades area seems to be shrinking/getting smaller.

Board Member Mark Wancho brought up Northeast lands show signs of ATV's getting stuck up in those areas. Fence in the area needs to be fixed/brought up to avoid off-roading and misuse of the land.

Also brought up item on CPC agenda for Ocotillo Estates Unit Six, may be in conflict of covenant with HOA. EPCAD shows this area as being owned by Franklin Mountain State Park.

NO ACTION.

- 16. Discussion:** Identify items for future agendas

- Struck off Properties List – brought up by Board Member Mark Wancho

CLOSED SESSION

The Open Space Advisory Board of the City of El Paso may retire into CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act. The Open Space Advisory Board will return to open session to take any final action.

SECTION 551.071	CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY
SECTION 551.072	DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
SECTION 551.073	DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS
SECTION 551.074	PERSONNEL MATTERS
SECTION 551.076	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES

SECTION 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

17. Adjournment

ACTION: Motion made by Board Member Tures, seconded by Board Member Garibay and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN**.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Approved as to form:



Kevin W. Smith, Open Space Advisory Board Executive Secretary

