

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

AGENDA DATE: September 12, 2023

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

City Representative Aleksandra Annello, 212-0002

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goal 8: Nurture & Promote a Healthy, Sustainable Community

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.

Discussion and action to approve a resolution that recognizes the week of September 10 to September 16, 2023, as "Welcome Week" and directs the City Manager to work with the El Paso Police Department to make any appropriate and necessary policy to ensure all El Paso residents feel safe and protected regardless of their race, nationality, or immigration status.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

N/A

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso has symbolized liberty, security, equality, opportunity for generations of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers by extending compassion and hospitality; and

WHEREAS, the success of the City of El Paso and its residents depends on making sure that all feel welcome here and are a vital part of our community—bringing fresh perspectives and new ideas, starting businesses, contributing to the economy, and creating a vibrant diversity that we all value; and

WHEREAS, regardless of where we are born or what we look like, we are El Pasoans, united in our efforts to build a stronger community, and by recognizing the contributions that we all make to create a vibrant culture and a growing economy, we make our community more prosperous and more inclusive to all who call it home; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the spirit of unity, welcoming, hospitality, diversity, and harmony that is uniting neighbors across the nation this week, and we invite all El Paso residents and organizations to participate in “Welcoming Week” by reaffirming our dedication to our fundamental American values and by acting in the spirit of welcoming; and

WHEREAS, by working together, we can increase prosperity and create an environment where diverse individuals from all over the world can feel valued and want to establish a life, raise a family, and support and contribute to El Paso’s long-term economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the work of creating welcoming and inclusive communities is best shared by all of us—government and civil society, businesses, and nonprofits, at the federal, state, and local level—and we call on our fellow El Pasoans to join and uplift efforts to make ours a welcoming, inclusive place to live.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by City Council of the City of El Paso:

The City of El Paso recognizes the week of September 10 to September 16, 2023, as “Welcome Week” and calls upon the people of the City of El Paso and community organizations to join to build stronger communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City of El Paso is committed to ensure that all El Pasoans feel welcome and safe in our City and the City Council directs the City Manager to work with the Police Department to take necessary and appropriate steps to reinforce constitutional and legal protections for detainees, arrestees, and others, and create any appropriate policy that ensures any stops or arrests made by

an EPPD officer are not made based on suspicion of a person's immigration status and that collaborations between the police department and federal immigration agencies should be limited to criminal cases, and ensuring that all people who are questioned by EPPD officers about their immigration status or country of origin are well-informed, before answering such questions, that they have a constitutional right to remain silent and to refrain from answering such inquiries without retaliation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to work with the Police Department to take necessary and appropriate steps to further ensure that the City's policing resources are prioritized to ensure community policing values and safety, while the collaboration between the police department and federal immigration agencies be limited to criminal cases and not related to immigration status, unless required by law or there is a criminal or public safety concern involved. Any collaboration with federal agencies should be appropriately vetted to ensure minimal community impact in addition to the Police Department preparing a report that describes and analyzes any collaboration between the Police Department and federal immigration agencies each quarter and will make the report available on the El Paso Police Department website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to take necessary and appropriate steps to ensure that the City does not provide sensitive information, for example social security numbers and home addresses, about people without their consent for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement only to the extent such disclosures are reasonable or necessary, or otherwise required by law. Steps taken or implemented should further the City's goals as established by the City budget, the City Comprehensive Plan, and the City's Strategic Plan, and ensure that any request for sensitive information is appropriately vetted, with consideration for the urgency of the request, the City resources required to obtain and provide the information requested, and whether there is a criminal nexus or public safety concern involved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to ensure that the public is informed about the procedures and practices of the El Paso Police Department as they relate to detaining foreign nationals and handling requests for assistance from federal immigration officials, and should inform City Council if additional steps or resources are necessary to educate the public.

(Signatures Begin on Following Page)

APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2023.

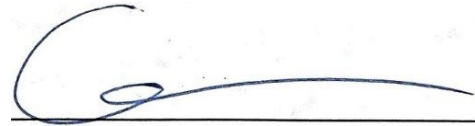
CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carlos L. Armendariz', is written over a horizontal line.

Carlos L. Armendariz
Assistant City Attorney