



OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
2nd Floor, Main Conference Room
January 7, 2026
3:00 P.M.

MINUTES

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

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 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 via TEAMS
Board Member Alicia Rascon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

N/A

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 October 22, 2025, Open Space Advisory Board Meeting
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

ACTION: Motion by Board Member Rascon to **APPROVE OCTOBER 22, 2025 MINUTES**, seconded by Board Member Tures and unanimously carried.

Motion Passed.

4. 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.

- 5. 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.

- 6. Information and Discussion:** Update on trailheads proposed by Hunt
Contact: Open Space Advisory Board

Chair Garibay gave an update on the trailheads.

NO ACTION.

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

Board Member Mark Wancho and Chair Garibay gave update regarding North of Castner Range (not the national monument).

NO ACTION.

- 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:** Update on the appointments to the Open Space Advisory Board
Contact: Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections, SmithKW@elpasotexas.gov

NO ACTION.

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

- Joe Garibay brought up Parks looking for input from OSAB members for 10 year upgrade to existing Parks Master Plan.
- MLK Property is up for 1st review, goes to City Council on January 20, 2026.
- Mark Wancho discussed ordinance found undetonated in Castner Range area.

NO ACTION.

11. Discussion: Identify items for future agendas

- Action on Item 6 - on trailheads proposed by Hunt
 - Update on Item 7 - the remediation efforts at Castner Range
 - Item on transition of board from Planning and Inspections to Parks and Recreation
 - Item in Closed session on Real Estate acquisition
 - Struck off Properties List – brought up by Board Member Mark Wancho
 - Discussion on Annual Report
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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

12. Adjournment

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

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Approved as to form:



Kevin W. Smith, Open Space Advisory Board Executive Secretary