

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM



DEPARTMENT / COUNCIL OFFICE: Strategic and Legislative Affairs

AGENDA DATE: 3/17/26

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

CONTACT PERSON NAME: Ian Voglewede

PHONE NUMBER: 915-299-9409

2nd CONTACT PERSON NAME: Omar Martinez

PHONE NUMBER: 915-479-0341

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: all

**AGENDA ITEM:**

Discussion and action on a Resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar requesting funds from the Community Project Funding program in the amount of \$3,209,778.12, with a \$802,444.53 match from the City, for the CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project.

**ISSUE STATEMENT:**

This action asks City Council to approve the City's application for federal funding through the U.S. House Community Project Funding process, which allows members of Congress to request appropriations for eligible local projects. If approved, the City will pursue these federal funds by submitting the CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project through the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar for consideration in the annual appropriations process. This step positions the project to compete for federal funding and includes outreach to community and institutional partners for letters of support, demonstrating broad local backing and shared investment in advancing the initiative.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Sun Metro CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project is a capital initiative to replace aging natural gas-powered compressors with high-efficiency electric compressors, associated infrastructure, and related appurtenances to improve the reliability and performance of Sun Metro's CNG fueling operations. The City has identified the need to modernize critical transit support infrastructure to prevent service interruptions and ensure buses can be fueled consistently to meet daily operational demand. This item authorizes submission of a Community Project Funding (CPF) request for FY27 through the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar to support the CNG station upgrades.

The required local match, will be implemented upon City Council approval and administered under the direction of the City Manager and the Grants Administration Division, using identified City departmental or capital improvement resources, subject to appropriation. Approval at this time is necessary to meet federal appropriations timelines and the Congresswoman's established submission deadlines. Securing federal funding would advance Council priorities related to infrastructure modernization, environmental sustainability, and reliable public transportation service, while reducing reliance on local funds. Potential community considerations include construction-related impacts during equipment replacement and long-term maintenance and energy cost implications. The attached resolution provides formal authorization for application submission and acceptance of funds, if awarded. +

**COUNCIL OPTIONS:**

I make a motion to authorize the submission of an application to the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar requesting funds from the Community Project Funding program in the amount of \$3,209,778.12, with a \$802,444.53 match from the City, for the CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project.

**COMMITTEE REVIEW AND/OR RECOMMENDATION:**

n/a

**COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH (if applicable, as an attachment) – please include:**

Supporting partners include the Paso del Norte Community Foundation, the Rio Grande Council of Governments, and representatives of the state delegation that have signed letters of support for this particular project.

**RELATED CITY POLICIES:**

City of El Paso Grants Management Policy

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

In 2025, City Council authorized the submission of five applications to the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar requesting funds from the Community Project Funding. See items: 25-617, 25-582, 25-526, 25-525, and 25-524.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

- Legal counsel reviewed as a part of Council packet*
- Legal counsel reviewed in advance of packet as an individual item*

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Total of \$4,012,222.65, with the federal government contributing \$3,209,778.12 and a \$802,444.53 match from the City.

**REPORTING OF CONTRIBUTION OR DONATION TO CITY COUNCIL:**

NAME	AMOUNT (\$)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Omar Martinez

915-479-0341

[martinezol@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:martinezol@elpasotexas.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**SIGNATURE:**

Stephen Ian  
Voglewede



Digitally signed by Stephen Ian  
Voglewede  
Date: 2026.03.03 09:35:01 -07'00'

(If Agenda Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, members of the U.S. Congress may request funding to support specific community projects within their districts as part of the annual federal appropriations process; and

**WHEREAS**, such funding is referred to as “Community Project Funding” within the U.S. House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar is currently accepting Community Project Funding requests; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso has identified the Sun Metro CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project (the “Project”) as worthy of funding through the Community Project Funding process.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance No. 016016, the City Council previously designated the City Manager as the authorized signatory for City grant applications and acceptances in the interest of efficiency of administrative governmental operations.

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

**THAT** City staff is authorized to submit an application to the Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar requesting funds from the Community Project Funding program in the amount of \$3,209,778.12, with a \$802,444.53 match from the City, for the Sun Metro CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project.

1. **THAT**, the City Council, through the City Manager, has authorized the Grants Administrator as the City’s Authorized Official for purposes of compliance with grant application, administration, and reporting requirements with the authority to apply, submit, accept, reject, alter, or terminate grant applications, agreements, and related documents on behalf of the City.
2. **THAT** the Grants Administrator is authorized to prepare and submit, on behalf of the City of El Paso, an application to the Community Project Funding Program seeking financial assistance for the Sun Metro CNG Refueling Station Upgrade Project.
3. **THAT**, the City of El Paso shall provide all matching funds for the Grant, in the amount of \$802,444.53.
4. **THAT**, in the event of loss or misuse of said grant funds, the City of El Paso agrees to return all such funds for said grant to the Community Project Funding program in accordance with applicable grant requirements.
5. **THAT**, the City Council, through the City Manager, hereby designates the Grants Administrator as the City’s Financial Officer for purposes of compliance with grant requirements imposed by the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas and other

applicable state granting authorities, either of whom is authorized to submit financial and programmatic reports and to perform grant-related actions on behalf of the City.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** the City Council, through the City Manager, hereby designates the Grants Administrator, as the City’s Financial Officer who is authorized to execute any related documents to carry the intent of this Resolution, including but not limited to the grant agreement, the authorization of budget transfers, and/or revisions to the operation plan, as well as any grant amendments, corrections, or extensions of the grant agreement that increase, decrease, or de-obligate program funds, provided that no additional City funds are required.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of March 2026.

**CITY OF EL PASO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Renard U. Johnson  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce Garcia  
Assistant City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
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Ian Voglewede, Director  
Strategic and Legislative Affairs