

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

**DEPARTMENT:** Mayor & Council

**AGENDA DATE:** 10.10.23

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Representative Cassandra Hernandez ~ 915.212.0003  
Representative Henry Rivera ~ 915.212.0007

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All

**STRATEGIC GOAL**

Goal 3 - Promote the Visual Image of El Paso

**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 for the City to declares October 11th of every year is "El Pasoan's Coming Out Day", by listening to the LGBTQIA+ community and working with LGBTQIA+ support organizations, together will foster a model city that is safe to Come Out in.

**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?**

Coming Out Day is observed nationally to celebrate coming out and to raise awareness of when it was first observed on October 11, 1988, on the anniversary of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights that urged Congress to pass protective civil rights legislation. "Coming Out" has been the common term for someone who acknowledges to others that they are LGBTQIA+. However, the term gives the impression that people who do not identify as heterosexual are hiding from society, rather than acknowledging how homophobia and transphobia creates an unwelcoming and unsafe environment to live authentically. Coming Out can be a life changing experience, and for some can lead to family exile, discrimination in the workplace, social shunning and violence.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

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

Yes, there have been past resolutions and proclamations recognizing or bringing awareness to the LGBTQIA+ community.

**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

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

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, Coming Out Day is observed nationally to celebrate coming out and to raise awareness of when it was first observed on October 11, 1988, on the anniversary of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights that urged Congress to pass protective civil rights legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, “Coming Out” has been the common term for someone who acknowledges to others that they are LGBTQIA+. However, the term gives the impression that people who do not identify as heterosexual are hiding from society, rather than acknowledging how homophobia and transphobia creates an unwelcoming and unsafe environment to live authentically; and

**WHEREAS**, Hundreds of LGBTQIA+ El Pasoans come out to their friends and loved ones yearly, not knowing what the response will be; and

**WHEREAS**, Coming Out can be a life changing experience, and for some can lead to family exile, discrimination in the workplace, social shunning and violence; and

**WHEREAS**, while discriminatory policies set by government and public institutions further ostracize and criminalize LGBTQIA+ people, they also have the power to create a public space that is accepting and safe, so that coming out is not done in fear; and

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

Declares October 11th of every year is “El Pasoan’s Coming Out Day”, by listening to the LGBTQIA+ community and working with LGBTQIA+ support organizations, together will foster a model city that is safe to Come Out in.

*Signatures begin on the following page*

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.


**THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leoser  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
Jesus A. Quintanilla  
Assistant City Attorney