

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

DEPARTMENT: Mayor & Council

AGENDA DATE: 5.23.23

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

Representative Joe Molinar - 915.212.0004

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 on a Resolution that declares El Paso the Veterans' Capitol of the USA.

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?

The City of El Paso welcomes all Veterans from all over our nation to celebrate and honor their bravery, service, courage, and sacrifices. A monument was installed by the City of El Paso and established several initiatives to support and assist Veterans and their families.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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 welcomes all Veterans from all over our nation to celebrate and honor their bravery, service, courage, and sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, the history that Fort Bliss' 1st Armored Division and City of El Paso share has unified our community with the same mission of supporting our Veteran community and their families; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is the home of approximately 165,000 Service members and Military families; and

WHEREAS, Veterans participate and make a direct economic impact in our community of \$6,000,000,000 each year; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso was ranked 7th nationwide in best cities for Veterans homebuyers and established a rental assistance program in 2020 to assist Veterans and reduced the number of homeless Veterans in the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, it is an honor for the City of El Paso to continue working with Fort Bliss' 1st Armored Division who synchronize resources to provide a good quality of life to men and women that served our country and their families; and

WHEREAS, our Veterans and their families are strong voters, engaged in the community, and always willing to lend a hand to those in need; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso was named as one of only five communities across the nation as a 2023 Great American Defense Communities by the Association of Defense Communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso has increased its support by hiring a Chief Military Officer and developing initiatives that serves and honors the Veteran community; and

WHEREAS, an informative website hosted by the City of El Paso was created to provide valuable information and assist Veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, a Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee was formed to serve and offer services to the city's large Veteran population; and

WHEREAS, a monthly video program is produced known as, "Sun City Bliss" to inform the Veteran and Military community of the services, activities, and events the City and Fort Bliss provides; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso hosts an Annual Veterans Luncheon, for over 700 veteran employees; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, El Paso City Council approved the implementation of the policy “Veteran Employment Incentive” which includes a bonus rebate for companies that hire Veterans and host Veterans job fairs; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss’ 1st Armored Division and the City of El Paso established a partnership and launched “The Bridge Fellowship” that assists military members to transition into successful post-military career; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso installed a monument at Cleveland Square to honor the brave men of Company E who fought in World War II; and

WHEREAS, the voice, sacrifice, and service of our Veterans in our community is highly valued and recognized by the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso fully supports the County of El Paso as the Veterans Capital of the United States of America where every day in the City of El Paso is VETERANS DAY.

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

THAT, EVERYDAY IN EL PASO IS VETERANS DAY.

APPROVED this ____ day of May, 2023.


CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Eric Gutierrez
Assistant City Attorney