

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: August 17, 2021
PUBLIC HEARING DATE: None

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Lilia Worrell, Municipal Court Clerk
Annabelle Casas, Asst Mun Crt Clerk
915-212-5822

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: ALL

STRATEGIC GOAL: Set the Standard for Safe and Secure City
SUBGOAL: 2.7 Maximize Municipal Court efficiency and enhance customer experience

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 regarding the re-appointment of four on-call, part-time Associate Municipal Court Judges pursuant to City Code 2.44: Victor Parra, Jorge Rivas, Cori Harbour-Valdez, and Marina Soto-Chavez.

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?

Council will re-appoint these candidates to serve as Associate Judges in accordance with City Code Chapter 2.44. Although the City Code does not require the recommendation of the Presiding Judge, a recommendation was solicited from the Presiding Municipal Court Judge Robledo. The City Manager reasons that since the Presiding Judge is more familiar with the legal community and since he will supervise the associates, his input is valuable. City Council is not bound by the Judge's recommendation. The recommendation of the Judge is to re-appoint Victor Parra, Jorge Rivas, Cori Harbour-Valdez, and Marina Soto-Chavez. Although the re-appointments can automatically occur by operation of law, the City Council's approval is requested.

These Judges serve as substitutes for the elected municipal court trial judges at trial and other court hearings; they preside over arraignments, and; they serve as magistrates on weekends and graveyard shifts.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

Yes, it is City Council who appoints and re-appoints Associate Municipal Court Judges in accordance with Ordinance 016274 and the City Charter. These Judges were last appointed on September 19, 2017.

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?

The item has been budgeted in the Judiciary budget -
General Fund. Dept # 111
Fund 1000 Division 11060 Account 50100

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? X YES ___ NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Municipal Court
SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: None

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Rita Howell 8/9/01

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

Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager