

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

DEPARTMENT: Mayor & Council

AGENDA DATE: December 14, 2021

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

City Representative Henry Rivera, 915.212.0007
City Representative Peter Svarzbein, 915.212.0001
City Representative Cassandra Hernandez, 915.212.0003

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: 1, 3, 7

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goal 4 - Enhance El Paso's Quality of Life through Recreational, Cultural and Educational Environments

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 formally commending and congratulating the Eastwood, Riverside and Canutillo High School football teams for being the only three El Paso area high school football teams to advance to the 'Sweet 16' of the Texas High School state playoffs.

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?

On Friday, November 19, 2021, the Eastwood, Riverside and Canutillo High School football teams each won their playoff games, making them the only three El Paso area high schools to advance to the regional semifinals.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? N/A Has the item been budgeted? N/A If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer? N/A

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on Friday, November 19, 2021, the Eastwood, Riverside and Canutillo High School football teams each won their playoff games, earning them trips to the regional semifinals; and

WHEREAS, for the first time since 2014, three El Paso high school football teams were still playing in round three of the UIL Texas state playoffs; and

WHEREAS, the Eastwood Troopers remained in the regional semifinals for the first time in school history and were the only area Class 6A squad left in the playoffs after their wins against Abilene and Saginaw Boswell; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside Rangers won a District 1-4A Division I title after defeating Big Spring and Lake Worth in the playoffs, marking the first time since 2004 that the Rangers play in the third round; and

WHEREAS, the Canutillo Eagles defeated Canyon Randall, 27-24, to win its second playoff game this year and set up a matchup with Wichita Falls Rider in the regional semifinals; and

WHEREAS, on November 27, 2021, in a Class 6A Division II regional semifinal against Prosper High School, the Eastwood Troopers fought to the wire and ended their victorious season with an 8-5 record under long-time coach Julio Lopez; and

WHEREAS, Riverside's successful football season came to end on November 27, 2021 against Springtown in the Class 4A Division I regional semifinals, with an 11-2 record under third-year coach Gary Recoder; and

WHEREAS, on November 26, 2021, after falling to Wichita Falls Rider in the Regional Semifinals of the Class 5A Texas high school football state playoffs, the triumphant Canutillo Eagles football season ended with an 11-2 record under head coach Scott Brooks; and

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

1. Commends and congratulates the Eastwood, Riverside and Canutillo High School football teams being the only three El Paso area high school football teams to advance to the 'Sweet 16' of the Texas High School state playoffs;
2. Recognizes the many achievements of the coaches and players of the Eastwood Troopers, Riverside Rangers and Canutillo Eagles;
3. Recognizes the fans of the Eastwood Troopers, Riverside Rangers and Canutillo Eagles and the people of El Paso for their dedication and support; and
4. Respectfully requests that the City Clerk submit an executed copy of this resolution to—
 - a. the head coach of the Eastwood High School football team, Julio Lopez;
 - b. the head coach of the Riverside High School football team, Gary Recoder;and

c. the head coach of the Canutillo High School football team, Scott Brooks.

Dated this _____ day of December, 2021.

CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura Prine, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kristen L. Hamilton-Karam
Senior Assistant City Attorney

THREE EL PASO TEAMS REMAIN IN THE PLAYOFFS; HERE'S HOW THEY WON

Felix F. Chavez

El Paso Times



Three El Paso high school football teams remain in the playoffs and will play in regional semifinal matchups this week.

It is the first time since 2014 that three teams are still playing at this time of the season. On Friday, Canutillo, Eastwood and Riverside all won playoff games. In 2014, it was Canutillo, Eastlake and Del Valle, which earned trips to the regional semifinals.

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL KEEPS ON ROLLING

Expectations were high for the Rangers entering this season and they've more than fulfilled those expectations.

The Rangers are 11-1, won a District 1-4A Division I title and have defeated Big Spring and Lake Worth in the playoffs.

Lake Worth was a serious test for the Rangers on Friday night in Odessa with its big play ability, strong run game and athleticism.

But Riverside was physical upfront on both sides of the ball, ran the ball effectively, was efficient in the passing game and clutch on third and fourth downs to pull out the win.

Riverside, which is the lone Class 4A team remaining in the playoffs, looks to make a regional final for the first time in school history with a win against Andrews or Springtown. Friday's scheduled game between the Mustangs and Porcupines was postponed because of a bus crash involving Andrews ISD students.

The Midland Reporter-Telegram reported the game could be played on Monday. The bus crash killed at least three people, which was carrying band members to the playoff game in Sweetwater.



EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL WITH IMPROVED PLAY

After a 59-41 loss to Eastlake in District 1-6A play on Oct. 15, the Troopers have really made a big improvement on defense. The Troopers ended the

regular season strong, including a win-and-get-in game against Americas in which they allowed eight points.

In two playoff wins, the Troopers defense has been steady, coming up with big plays at key times in wins against Abilene and Saginaw Boswell.

The Troopers made adjustments scheme wise and the team's personnel has really taken it to heart to improve.

The Troopers are in the regional semifinals for the first time in school history and are the only area Class 6A squad left in the playoffs. Next up for the Troopers is a matchup with Prosper at 1 p.m. next Saturday at Plains Capital Park in Lubbock.



CANUTILLO HIGH SCHOOL MAKES NOISE AGAIN

It wasn't long ago that Canutillo was the talk of the town. In 2013, the Eagles won two playoff games and in 2014 advanced to the state semifinals in Class 5A Division II.

On Friday, the Eagles defeated Canyon Randall, 27-24, to win its second playoff game this year and set up a matchup with Wichita Falls Rider in the regional semifinals. In 2013, Canutillo eliminated Randall, which has been a

nemesis to El Paso teams in recent years including a last second win against Parkland in 2020.

Canutillo had to overcome the absence of longtime head coach Scott Brooks, who was in quarantine after it was confirmed he tested positive for COVID-19. Brooks said Saturday he hopes to be back next week to help the Eagles prepare for a matchup with Wichita Falls Rider.

The Eagles jumped out to an early 14-0 lead and held off a late Randall rally for the win. Canutillo's LJ Martin threw, rushed and caught a touchdown in Friday's win. The Eagles defense also came up with a late stop to seal the win.

Canutillo's 11-1 record is impressive and its only loss was to Eastlake, which won 10 games and a playoff game.

The Eagles have made tremendous progress on both sides of the ball and the future sets up well with a lot of underclassmen returning and a talented freshman class set to move up to varsity in the future.



SO LONG COOP

Andress' Jeremiah Cooper played his final high school football game Friday in a 37-13 loss to Wichita Falls Rider. The Iowa State commit caught two

touchdown passes and will go down as one of the top high school players to come out of El Paso in recent years and maybe of all time.

He was on varsity all four years and was a standout receiver and defensive back. Cooper comes from a talented family of athletes and will look to continue the family tradition of Division I athletes. His sister Hannah currently plays basketball at Oral Roberts and his brother Tristan played defensive back at the University of Arizona.

More: [See the Friday, Nov. 19 scoreboard](#)

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