

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



DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

AGENDA DATE: 4/28/25

PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/28/25

CONTACT PERSON NAME: Roman Sanchez

PHONE NUMBER: 1-915-549-7905

2nd CONTACT PERSON NAME: Denice Sepulveda

PHONE NUMBER: 1-915-291-8484

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL:

Goal 4: ENHANCE EL PASO'S QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH RECREATIONAL,
CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS

SUBGOAL:

4.1 Create innovative recreational, educational
and cultural program

SUBJECT:

Presentation, discussion, and action to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of El Paso, Texas, pursuing designation as a United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Child Friendly City and authorizing city staff to initiate the formal application process in partnership with UNICEF.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Presentation will be presented prior to the action.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH:

No outreach.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

No.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

No need for funding has been identify at this time.


REPORTING OF CONTRIBUTION OR DONATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

N/A

NAME	AMOUNT (\$)

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



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

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS, PURSUING DESIGNATION AS A UNICEF CHILD FRIENDLY CITY, AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO INITIATE THE FORMAL APPLICATION PROCESS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNICEF.

WHEREAS, by resolution dated December 17, 2019, the City Council of the City of El Paso enacted a Resolution Establishing a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) for the purpose of promoting regular and active civic engagement among the youth of the city; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Board remains an active and vital platform for youth voices to influence city policy and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso currently has over 14 departments with dedicated youth programming, with an estimated 360 youth programs collectively serving young people across the city, and;

WHEREAS, A local steering committee is in place and coordinates a comprehensive child rights situation analysis with broad youth and community engagement.

WHEREAS, the City will develop and implement a Child Friendly City Action Plan that reflects local needs and aligns with the City's strategic goals, guided by UNICEF's framework.

WHEREAS, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched the Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) in 1996, applying a framework informed by the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to support local governments in realizing children's rights in urban settings and elevating youth voices in local government; and

WHEREAS, the vision of CFCI is that every child and young person enjoys their childhood and youth, and reaches their full potential through the equal realization of their rights within their cities and communities; and

WHEREAS, the CFCI Framework for Action includes five core goal areas:

1. Every child is valued, respected, and treated fairly;
2. Every child's voice is heard in public decisions;
3. Every child has access to quality essential services;
4. Every child lives in a safe and clean environment;
5. Every child enjoys family life, play, and leisure; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is committed to equity, quality of life, and community trust, as reflected in its Strategic Plan goals to enhance public safety, increase access to services, promote transparent communication, and support youth engagement; and

WHEREAS, pursuing recognition as a UNICEF Child Friendly City supports the City of El Paso's mission to create a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable community for all residents, especially children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso remains one of the largest binational communities in the world, sharing a larger community with Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in which language, culture, education, work, and family are shared; and

WHEREAS, the CFCI process requires meaningful youth participation, a thorough child rights situation analysis, the co-creation of a Child Friendly City Action Plan, cross-sector collaboration, and a commitment to equity and non-discrimination; and

WHEREAS, achieving recognition as a Child Friendly City will connect El Paso to a global network of cities, of which only three are in the United States, committed to child well-being and provide access to technical resources, best practices, and use of the CFCI brand.

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

1. That the City of El Paso formally expresses its commitment to pursue UNICEF Child Friendly City designation.
2. That the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to initiate the formal application process with UNICEF, including engaging with key stakeholders and beginning preparations for a Memorandum of Understanding.
3. That the City of El Paso commits to ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and transparency throughout the CFCI process and future recognition cycles.
4. That the City of El Paso affirms its commitment to advancing the rights and well-being of children and youth by supporting the principles of the UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI); and recognizing the unique challenges and strengths of our binational, bilingual, and bicultural identity as a borderland community, the City will work collaboratively across departments and with community partners to center children in urban planning, public policy, and civic life - ensuring that every child in El Paso, regardless of zip code or background, has the opportunity to grow up safe, healthy, educated, and empowered.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

(signatures continue on following page)

CITY OF EL PASO:

Renard U. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Jesus A. Quintanilla
Assistant City Attorney