

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

DEPARTMENT: Mayor & Council

AGENDA DATE: 8.29.23

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 2 - Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City

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.**

Update and discussion on item from June 20, 2023 City Council Meeting Agenda to direct the City Manager and City Attorney to develop a plan to uplift the LGBTQIA+ voices and community by creating a plan to include 4 recommendations to ensure a safe community for everyone, and with particular emphasis on recommendations 3 and 4 in relation to state legislation going into effect on September 1, 2023.

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 June 20, 2023, City Council considered Item 23 to direct the City Manager and City Attorney to develop a plan to uplift the LGBTQIA+ voices and community by creating a plan to include 4 recommendations that are important to ensure a safe community for everyone. 4 motions were made to amend the language of the 4 recommendations, with the 5th and final motion to *direct the City Manager and City Attorney to return within 180 days with a solid ground plan and guidance on how to implement all recommendations listed as follows:*

- 1. To create a City office working in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion and an advisory board on matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*
- 2. To work together in collaboration with the Borderland Rainbow Center and other community stakeholders who prioritize equality and inclusion to create a One El Paso Safer Together campaign.*
- 3. Deprioritize the enforcement of seeking or receiving gender-affirming care in our city limits. Taxpayer Dollars shall not be used frivolously for programs or efforts to criminalize people who seek access to gender-affirming care, city funds shall not be used to solicit, catalog, report, or investigate reports of those seeking gender-affirming care, and police shall make investigating those seeking gender-affirming care their lowest priority.*
- 4. Deprioritize the enforcement of attacks on Drag Performance and local businesses in our city limits.*

From the 88th Texas Legislative Session, there were two bills passed and signed by the governor that will have impact on recommendations 3 and 4. On September 1, 2023 the following aforementioned state bills will go into effect:

SB12 Relating to the authority to regulate sexually oriented performances and to restricting those performances on the premises of a commercial enterprise, on public property, or in the presence of an individual younger than 18 years of age; authorizing a civil penalty; creating a criminal offense.

SB14

Relating to prohibitions on the provision to certain children of procedures and treatments for gender transitioning, gender reassignment, or gender dysphoria and on the use of public money or public assistance to provide those procedures and treatments.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

Yes. City Council Meeting June 20, 2023, Item 23.

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*******