



AGENDA FOR THE VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**November 21, 2024
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, 300 NORTH CAMPBELL – 2ND FLOOR
10:00 AM**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee will be conducted on the above date and time.

In compliance with the requirement that the City provide two-way communication for members of the public, members of the public may communicate with the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee during public comment, and regarding agenda items by calling the following number:

1-915-213-4096 or Toll Free Number: 1-833-664-9267

At the prompt please enter the corresponding Conference ID: 137-254-606#

If you wish to sign up to speak please contact Paul Albright at AlbrightPD@elpasotexas.gov or (915) 212-1447 no later than by the start of the meeting.

A quorum of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee members must be present and participate in the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA

1. Roll Call. [BC-250](#)
2. Discussion and Action to Approve Minutes of: October 17, 2024. [BC-249](#)
3. Citizen Comment Period: Individuals limited to 3 minutes; no specific action may be taken. [BC-262](#)

4. El Paso VA Health Care Clinic Update - Interim Director - Mark Rielo [BC-251](#)
5. El Paso County Update - Veterans Assistance Program Manager - Antoinette Hunt [BC-252](#)
6. Discussion: Monthly Update from VAAC Sub Committees Chairs. [BC-253](#)
 - a. Roberto Garza - Employment
 - b. Ron Jackson - Homelessness
 - c. Donna Juarez - Mental Health
7. Discussion and Action: Proposed VAAC Bylaw changes addressing the following: [BC-254](#)
 - a. Discussion and Action: Officer term limits
 - b. Discussion and Action: Committee and Sub Committee Attendance
 - c. Discussion: Updated regulatory language to conform with the VAAC Resolution
8. Discussion and Action: Vote to excuse or unexcused absent VAAC members from previous meeting [BC-255](#)
 - a. Melissa Harcrow D8
 - b. Miguel Rosales D7
9. Discussion and Action: Vote to approve 2025 VAAC Meeting Schedule [BC-256](#)
10. Discussion: Changing the Name of the VAAC and establishing a branding logo [BC-257](#)
11. Division of Veteran and Military Affairs Update. [BC-258](#)
12. Announcements: Limited to Veteran and Military events pertinent to the El Paso Region. [BC-259](#)
13. Discussion on proposed agenda items for next meeting. [BC-260](#)
14. Next VAAC Meeting: Thursday January 16, 2025, at 10:00AM. [BC-261](#)

ADJOURN

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Sign language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Requests must be made to Paul Albright at AlbrightPD@elpasotexas.gov a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of this

hearing.

If you need Spanish Translation Services, please email AlbrightPD@elpasotexas.gov at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Posted this _____ of _____ by _____.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-250, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Roll Call.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-249, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion and Action to Approve Minutes of: October 17, 2024.



Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee Minutes

October 17, 2024 Microsoft Teams
Live Streamed via City's website:
<http://www.elpasotexas.gov/videos>
Television on City 15

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofelpasotx/videos>

MINUTES

Members Present

Brian Kanof
Ron Jackson
George Elsaesser
Donna Juarez
Roberto Garza
Don Brown
Ruben Ramirez

Members Absent

Melissa Harcrow

1. **Call to Order.** 10:00 AM
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call.** 6 of 9 - Quorum met.
4. **Discussion and Action:** To approve the minutes of October 17, 2024, Approved
5. **Citizen Comment Period:** Individuals are limited to 3 minutes; no specific action may be taken.
6. **El Paso VA Health Care Clinic Update – Mark Real**
 - a. Flu and Covid drive vaccines, located at the main VA campus parking garage. Receiving veterans in a drive thru style Monday through Friday.
 - b. Las Cruces homeless standown meeting with the partners
 - c. Wednesday November 6th participation at the City of El Paso Veterans Day Luncheon
 - d. Friday November 8th would be holding a last call event on the national cemetery
 - e. Friday November 8th Participation on Fabens Veterans Day Ceremony
 - f. Saturday November 9th Participation on El Paso County Veterans Day
 - g. Tuesday November 12th VA Veterans Day Ceremony at the VA main facility at Piedras with the participation of a two-star general Greer
 - h. Any veteran who is in a behavioral crisis has the ability to go to the VA clinic or dial the 988 number for the Veterans crisis line option 1.
7. **El Paso County update- Antoinette. Hunt**
 - a. On October 1st the Veterans Advisory Board held a votation for the veteran of the year, waiting for the County Court approves this decision
 - b. County will be holding an event called operation green light, expecting resolution



Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee Minutes

8. Discussion.

- a. Roberto Garza-Employment – The employment committee did not have the opportunity to meet- no more comments/ updates
- b. Ron Jackson– Homelessness- The Homelessness committee did not have the opportunity to meet- no more comments / updates
- c. Donna Juarez – Mental Health- working on an outdated tab for mental health at the city website, looking for increasing visibility with the IT department. A proposal schematic was shared at the committee showing the possible tabs at the website where the Veteran in crisis can select from the crisis section such as 911 or 988, or select from 3 local crisis centers asking for assistance. Discussed and met with community partners how to link more veterans with services who are not service connected. Currently meeting with all entities and trying to simplify the information as simple as possible to give access in a clear manner. Donna Juarez met with GI Forum due to a mental health grant which is giving telehelp to Veterans in need.

9. Division of Veteran and Military Affairs Update.

No comments / No updates

10. Discussion and action

Present VAAC members were discussing the votation for the officer and term limits, finding as issue that they were missing the document for revision, deciding at the end that the committee members went over this decision in the last meeting. Ruben Ramirez suggested that there should be a track counting the number of missing meetings that each committee member has been absent.

11. Discussion on Future Agenda Items:

Donald Brown proposed a name change of the committee due to VA confusion so the committee doesn't have to be confused or linked to the VA, the district attorney mentioned that the proposal would have to be approved by the city council since they approved the committee name in the beginning. Also, Donald proposed to have an emblem for the VAAC committee. He proposed a 3rd suggestion as the call in the ride share program with Uber from September 30 asking the revision to the district attorney.

12. Announcements:

October 26th Community volunteer opportunity with motive beautification of flags across America, disabled Veterans would be taking the lead in the event as the Veteran of the year and Ambassador David Garcia

November 7th Immigration Department Health services would be swearing in as Citizens 10th active duty service members

Elks lodge and Flags across America will hold a food drive

October 19th Firefest will be hold at Veterans Park farmers market, free flu shots,



Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee Minutes

helicopter landing, food trucks

- 13. **Next VAAC Meeting:** Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 10:00 AM MDT Hybrid- on person.
- 14. **Adjourn.** 10:43 am

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:

The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee of the City of El Paso may retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discussed in Executive Session, but the Veterans Affairs Advisory Community of the City of El Paso may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meeting Act.) The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward items for public discussion, as appropriate.

- Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY*
- Section 551.072 DELIBERATIONS REGARDING REAL PROPERTY* Section
- 551.073 DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS* Section
- 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS*
- Section 551.076 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES* Section
- 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*

NEGOTIATIONS

Sign Language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Requests must be made to the Community Development department at phone number 915-212-1654 a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting. Copies of these Minutes will be provided in Braille, large print, or audiotape upon request. Requests must be made a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.

POSTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____ AT _____ BY



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-262, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Citizen Comment Period: Individuals limited to 3 minutes; no specific action may be taken.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-251, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

El Paso VA Health Care Clinic Update - Interim Director - Mark Rielo



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-252, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

El Paso County Update - Veterans Assistance Program Manager - Antoinette Hunt



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-253, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion: Monthly Update from VAAC Sub Committees Chairs.

- a. Roberto Garza - Employment
- b. Ron Jackson - Homelessness
- c. Donna Juarez - Mental Health



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-254, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion and Action: Proposed VAAC Bylaw changes addressing the following:

- a. Discussion and Action: Officer term limits
- b. Discussion and Action: Committee and Sub Committee Attendance
- c. Discussion: Updated regulatory language to conform with the VAAC Resolution



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-255, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion and Action: Vote to excuse or unexcused absent VAAC members from previous meeting

- a. Melissa Harcrow D8
- b. Miguel Rosales D7



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-256, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion and Action: Vote to approve 2025 VAAC Meeting Schedule



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-257, Version: 2

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion: Changing the Name of the VAAC and establishing a branding logo



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-258, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Division of Veteran and Military Affairs Update.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-259, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Announcements: Limited to Veteran and Military events pertinent to the El Paso Region.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-260, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion on proposed agenda items for next meeting.



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

File #: BC-261, Version: 1

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

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Next VAAC Meeting: Thursday January 16, 2025, at 10:00AM.