CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS AGENDA ITEM AGENDA SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Mayor and Council

AGENDA DATE: December 13, 2022

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: City Representative Peter Svarzbein 915.212.1002

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

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 to recognize The Barbed Wire Open Mic Series (BWOMS), the founders, and all of the community members and organizations that have contributed to more than fifteen years of providing performance spaces for people to freely express their artistic voices and connect with one another through the performing arts.

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?

The Barbed Wire Open Mic Series was founded in 2007 and sponsored by BorderSenses \ with the goal of nurturing local poets, songwriters, musicians, comedians, dancers, and artists from all walks of life by providing them a safe space to explore and develop their artistry before a live audience. In the last fifteen years, has organized over 300 open mic events supporting over 10 local establishments and online platforms, showcasing more than 7,500 performers and holding space for thousands of art appreciating community members.

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? 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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we are here today to recognize and honor the Barbed Wire Open Mic Series, its founders (Verónica Guajardo, Trent Hudley, Amit Ghosh, Roberto A. Santos, and Ricardo Marrufo), and all of the community members and organizations that have contributed to more than fifteen years of providing performance spaces for people to freely express their artistic voices and connect with one another through the performing arts; and

WHEREAS, the Barbed Wire Open Mic Series was founded in 2007 and sponsored by BorderSenses (a literary arts organization) with the goal of nurturing local poets, songwriters, musicians, comedians, dancers, and artists from all walks of life by providing them a safe space to explore and develop their artistry before a live audience; and

WHEREAS, the Barbed Wire Open Mic Series, in the last fifteen years, has organized over 300 open mic events supporting over 10 local establishments and online platforms, showcasing more than 7,500 performers and holding space for thousands of art appreciating community members; and

WHEREAS, the Barbed Wire Open Mic Series enriches our city by providing a creative hub that incubates and amplifies the voices, narratives, experiences, and creativity of our diverse population leading to the communal creation of culture; and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to recognize the contributions of the Barbed Wire Open Mic Series in their generous and continued service to the community and the arts.

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

That December 13, 2022 shall be known as, "Barbed Wire Open Mic Series Day"

APPROVED this <u>day of December 2022</u>.

CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Ignacio R. Troncoso Assistant City Attorney