

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

AGENDA DATE: June 20, 2023
PUBLIC HEARING DATE: Not Applicable

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Yvette Hernandez (915) 212-1860

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL: No. 2 – Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City
SUBGOAL: 2.3 Increase public safety operational efficiency

SUBJECT: Discussion and action on a presentation of the Public Safety Bond Program

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion and action approving the reprioritizing of bond funding that the City had planned to use on renovation projects to instead be used on new facility construction projects, as needed, to ensure that new facilities are designed and constructed in compliance with best practices. The action is being requested as a result of the escalation in costs of construction and materials due to Covid-19. The original estimates for the program included 30% contingency, however material costs in certain cases have gone up by 50-100% depending on the commodity.

SELECTION SUMMARY: N/A

CONTRACT VARIANCE: N/A

PROTEST: N/A

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

On August 13, 2019, City Council approved an Ordinance ordering a Bond Election be held in the City of El Paso, Texas, on November 5, 2019, for the issuance of \$413,122,650 General Obligation Bonds for Public Safety Facilities including Police Department and Fire Department motor vehicles and equipment.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING: NA

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Capital Improvement

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: El Paso Police and Fire Departments

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



Assistant Director Capital Improvement

Yvette Hernandez, P.E.
City Engineer

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, through a duly-held election, voters in the City of El Paso authorized the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$413,122,650.00 for the purpose of acquiring, planning, designing, constructing, renovating, improving, expanding and equipping public safety facilities, including acquiring land and rights-of-way necessary thereto or incidental therewith, acquiring motor vehicles and equipment for the Police Department and the Fire Department, and acquiring and installing public art related to and being a part of some or all of the foregoing;

WHEREAS, after passage of the bond issuance, the City of El Paso presented a roll-out of the Police Department bond program that included the following projects: construction of a new Eastside Regional Command Center; construction of a new Headquarters; construction of a new Central Command facility; construction of a new Police Training Academy; and renovation of four regional command centers;

WHEREAS, after passage of the bond issuance, the City of El Paso presented a roll-out of the Fire Department bond program that included the following projects: construction of new Fire Stations No. 36, No. 38, and No. 40; construction of a facility for Special Units; and renovation of thirty-four existing fire stations;

WHEREAS, COVID-related market disruptions have resulted in significant escalation of construction material and labor costs;

WHEREAS as a result of said escalations, there is insufficient bond funding to complete all planned construction and renovation projects;

WHEREAS, the City seeks to ensure that newly constructed facilities funded by bond proceeds are designed and constructed in accordance with current public safety best practices;

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

THAT the City Council approves reprioritizing bond funding that the City had planned for use on renovation projects to instead be used on new facility construction projects, as needed, to ensure that new facilities are designed and constructed in compliance with best practices.

(Signatures on the following page)

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.


THE CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:


Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Roberta Brito
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Jerry DeMuro, P.M.P.
Assistant Director – Design
Capital Improvement Department