



CITY OF EL PASO

# Median Maintenance Update

Nicholas Ybarra, P.E. – Director

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# Strategic Goal 3

## Promote the Visual Image of El Paso

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# Council Direction 8/19/25

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...to return with a presentation made by city staff regarding the city's current plan for implementing Goal 3 of our Strategic Plan to "Promote the Visual Image of El Paso" for maintenance of medians and other areas specifically addressing overgrowth of weeds and vegetation. The presentation should include the city's existing schedule and priority list for weed abatement, number of crews currently assigned to address these issues and their geographic coverage, estimated timelines for completion citywide, adjustments to staffing, equipment, or contracts that could accelerate cleanup and plans for communication with the public regarding process and expected completion dates. The presentation should be presented to Council within two weeks of this item's approval

# Median Maintenance

ESD maintains the visual image of medians, walking paths, islands, downtown trees and cul-de-sacs

52,800 square feet (SF) ~ 1-mile

## Local and Arterial Roads

- 18.3M SF

## ESD-Maintained State Roads

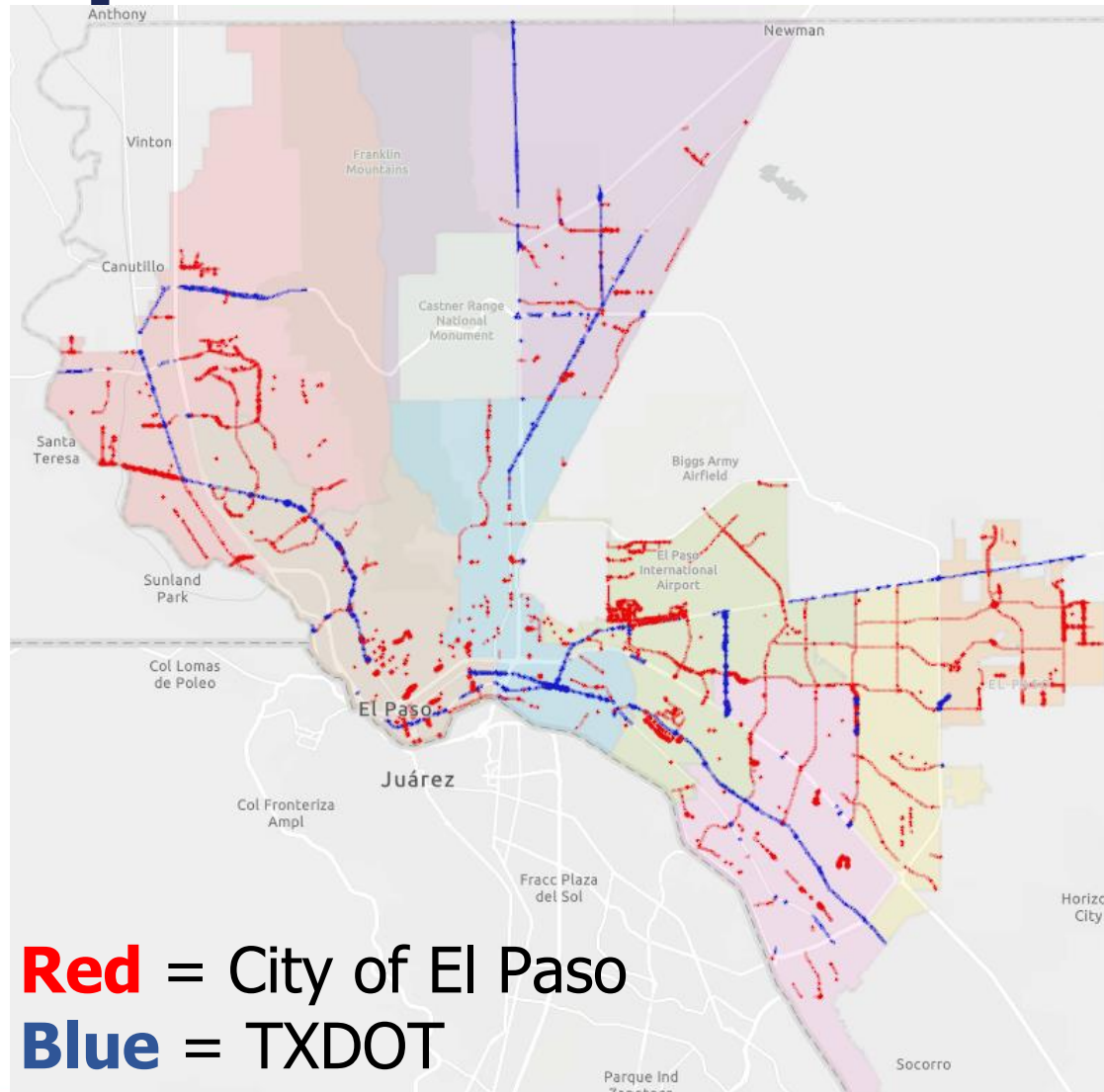
- 6.2M SF

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# Map of Medians



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## TXDOT medians

Alameda

Zaragoza

North Loop

Montana

McRae

Mesa

Dyer

Martin Luther King Jr

Paisano

Copia

Pershing

Delta

Transmountain

Doniphan

Socorro

Westside

# ESD Staffing for Median Maintenance

ESD has **47** Full-time Employees (FTEs) and equipment sufficient to staff **6 crews** deployed across the City to maintain medians across all districts, year-round. These employees are funded through the Environmental Fee.

Monday-Friday 6:00AM-4:30PM

Voluntary Overtime: Saturday 6:00AM-4:30PM

**Additional ESD crews** activated, as well as a **third-party contractor**.

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# Regular Maintenance Activities

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- Cut grass
- Pull weeds
- Remove dead plants
- Collect trash/debris
- Prune/trim trees & bushes
- Perform minor repairs to rock walls
- Blow out landscaping rock and collect debris
- Inspect and repair irrigation
- Spray herbicide (spring/summer)
- Spray pre-emergent (fall/winter)



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## Two Spraying Units

### Restrictions

- Wind speed over 10-mph
- Rainfall forecasted



# Additional Median Maintenance Activities

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- Vehicle accident cleanup (~2/week)
- Visual obstruction removal (VO)
- Post-weather-event cleanup
- Illegal dumping abatement
- Downtown trees management (~200 trees)
  - Trim
  - Weed abatement
  - Watering



# ESD Beautification Staff

**26 FTEs**

- 6 crews of 4
  - 2 crews perform property cleanups (post Code-Enforcement inspection)
  - 1 crew performs bulk pickups
  - **3 crews assist with median maintenance**

Monday-Friday 6:00AM-4:30PM

Voluntary Overtime: Saturday 6:00-2:30

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# Additional Assistance - Contractor

3rd Party vendor is contracted to maintain the medians on the **top 20** traveled roads

- 5.0M SF
- Contracted for 4 cycles annually
- Historically able to complete 3 to 3.5 cycles annually

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# Top 20 Traveled Roadways

- Alabama/Fred Wilson
- Country Club
- Edgemere
- George Dieter
- Hawkins
- Lee Trevino
- McCombs
- Montwood
- Pellicano
- Redd
- Resler
- Rich Beem
- Saul Kleinfeld
- Sean Haggerty
- Shadow Mountain
- Sunland Park
- Tierra Este
- Viscount
- Westwind
- Yarbrough

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# District Breakdown

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District	Maintenance Area	District	Maintainenace Area
1	2.5 M SF	5	1.8 M SF
2	1.4 M SF	6	1.8 M SF
3	3.5 M SF	7	2.0 M SF
4	3.4 M SF	8	1.8 M SF



# Current Cleanup Locations

## ESD Median Crews

- Alameda/Delta
- Edgemere/Rich Beem
- Stiles/Boucher
- Silver Springs
- Dyer
- Copia
- Watering Downtown trees

## ESD Beautification Crews

- Fairbanks
- Angora Loop to Railroad
- Magnetic to Hondo Pass

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Vendor

- Hawkins
- Shadow Mountain

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# Overall City Abatement

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It takes ESD staff approximately **1.5 - 2 weeks** to complete **1 mile** (52,800SF) of cleanup



# Responsibilities for Parkway Upkeep

- **Property owners and occupants are responsible for maintaining parkways and sidewalks abutting their property.**
- All sides of a residential property, including parkways and sidewalks, must be kept free of trash, debris, overgrown vegetation, and weeds over 12 inches.
- Double frontage properties – typically located on street corners or between two streets – must maintain parkways on all sides of the property even if a wall separates the property from the street.

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# Communication

## SIX MONTH COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

**Duration:** March to August

New public awareness campaign to encourage public participation in enhancing the visual image of El Paso.

### Key Highlights

- City code regulations for maintenance of double frontage lots
- Community tool sheds
- ESD special collection services, Citizen Collection Stations & Country store
- Median maintenance activities
- ESD cleanups coordinated with NAs and Council
- Yard maintenance City code regulations

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### Communication Tactics

- Email blasts to Neighborhood Associations, city employees, community partners
- Guest speakers for City Rep meetings and community partners
- Info shared at city facilities, such as rec centers, community events and with education partners
- News releases, photo ops
- Paid media
- Social media

## MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

## VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.

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## VALUES

Integrity, Respect, Excellence,  
Accountability, People

## MISIÓN



Brindar servicios excepcionales  
para respaldar una vida y un  
lugar de alta calidad para  
nuestra comunidad

## VISIÓN



Desarrollar una economía regional  
vibrante, vecindarios seguros y  
hermosos y oportunidades  
recreativas, culturales y educativas  
excepcionales impulsadas por un  
gobierno de alto desempeño

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## VALORES

Integridad, Respeto, Excelencia,  
Responsabilidad, Personas