

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

DEPARTMENT: Mayor & Council

AGENDA DATE: 9.26.23

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Representative Cassandra Hernandez ~ 915.212.0003
Representative Isabel Salcido ~ 915.212.0005

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL

Goal 3 - Promote the Visual Image of El Paso

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 approve a resolution recognizing Saúl Armendáriz, better known as Cassandro for his illustrious 35-year career in lucha libre, becoming one of the foremost exótico luchadores in the world and to commend Cassandro for sharing his life story which contributes to the vibrant culture shared by the sister cities of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez.

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?
Saúl Armendáriz, affectionately known as Cassandro El Exótico, is one of lucha libre's most celebrated figures. Cassandro was born in El Paso, Texas and often shuttled between El Paso and his family's hometown, Ciudad Juarez. The life story and career of Cassandro has now been captured on the silver screen in the film named, "Cassandro", which premiered September 2023.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

Yes, Council has previously honored numerous community members by resolution.

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*****

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the electrifying world of lucha libre carries a legacy dating back to 1863, transcending borders and cultures to become an iconic part of Mexican and Mexican-American heritage and captivating fans worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Saúl Armendáriz, affectionately known as *Cassandro El Exótico*, graced the world of lucha libre as one of its most celebrated figures; and

WHEREAS, much like the border presence of lucha libre, Cassandro was also on the ropes of two nations, born on May 20, 1970 in El Paso, Texas and often shuttled between El Paso and his family's hometown, Ciudad Juárez; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 15, Cassandro embarked on his wrestling journey, training lucha libre in Ciudad Juárez. He made his professional debut in 1988 under various ring personas, including the masked Mister Romano and Rosa Salvaje, ultimately embracing the iconic identity of Cassandro; and

WHEREAS, Cassandro's courageous path as an openly gay luchador stands as a shining testament to the resilience and perseverance of a trailblazer; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary life story and career of Cassandro has now been captured on the silver screen in the film so aptly named, "Cassandro".

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

That the City Council recognize Cassandro for his illustrious 35-year career in lucha libre, becoming one of the foremost *exótico luchadores* in the world and commend Cassandro for sharing his life story which contributes the vibrant culture shared by the sister cities of El Paso and Ciudad Juárez.

(Signatures begin on 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:



Carlos L. Armendáriz
Assistant City Attorney