

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, Coming Out Day is observed nationally to celebrate coming out and to raise awareness of when it was first observed on October 11, 1988, on the anniversary of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights that urged Congress to pass protective civil rights legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, “Coming Out” has been the common term for someone who acknowledges to others that they are LGBTQIA+. However, the term gives the impression that people who do not identify as heterosexual are hiding from society, rather than acknowledging how homophobia and transphobia creates an unwelcoming and unsafe environment to live authentically; and

**WHEREAS**, Hundreds of LGBTQIA+ El Pasoans come out to their friends and loved ones yearly, not knowing what the response will be; and

**WHEREAS**, Coming Out can be a life changing experience, and for some can lead to family exile, discrimination in the workplace, social shunning and violence; and

**WHEREAS**, while discriminatory policies set by government and public institutions further ostracize and criminalize LGBTQIA+ people, they also have the power to create a public space that is accepting and safe, so that coming out is not done in fear; and

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

Declares October 11th of every year is “El Pasoan’s Coming Out Day”, by listening to the LGBTQIA+ community and working with LGBTQIA+ support organizations, together will foster a model city that is safe to Come Out in.

*Signatures begin on the following page*

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10 day of OCTOBER, 2023.

THE CITY OF EL PASO:



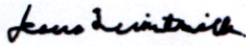
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Jesus A. Quintanilla  
Assistant City Attorney