

OSCAR LEESER  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL  
BRIAN KENNEDY, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXSANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
JOE MOLINAR, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
APRIL 10, 2023  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL AND VIRTUALLY  
9:05 A.M.**

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The City Council of the City of El Paso met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Alexsandra Anello, Joe Molinar, Isabel Salcido, Art Fierro, Henry Rivera, and Chris Canales. Cassandra Hernandez requested to be excused.

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**AGENDA**

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1. **Presentation and update from the Medical Center of the Americas describing progress toward the development of biomedical industry cluster-specific programs and infrastructure projects within the Medical Center of Americas area, in accordance with the Chapter 380 Economic Development Program Grant Agreement between the City of El Paso and the Medical Center of the Americas Foundation, as approved on February 7, 2012, and subsequently amended.**

Ms. Elizabeth Triggs, Director of Economic and International Development, introduced the item.

The following member of the Medical Center of the Americas presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office):

- Mr. Carlos Ortega, President and Chief Executive Officer
- Mr. Xavier Cardenas, Senior Director of Engineering and Special Projects
- Ms. Nancy Lowery, Senior Director of Innovation
- Ms. Michaele Linden-Johnson, Senior Director of Clinical Trials and Business Development

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Molinar and Salcido commented.

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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2. **Presentation and discussion providing a report from the following Goal Teams:**  
1. **Vision Block: Vibrant and Regional Economy:**

**Goal 1 (Economic Development) and Goal 3 (Visual Image)  
Director, Elizabeth Triggs  
Assistant Director, Karina Brasgalla**

Ms. Juliana Baldwin-Muñoz, Chief Transformation Officer, introduced the item.

The following City staff members presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office):

- Ms. Elizabeth Triggs, Director of Economic and International Development
- Ms. Karina Brasgalla, Assistant Director of Economic and International Development

Representative Annello commented.

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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**3. Presentation and update on the City of El Paso Downtown and Uptown Master Plan.**

Mr. Joaquin Rodriguez, Transportation Planning Administrator, introduced the item and began the presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

The following staff members from Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. and Economic & Planning Systems continued the presentation:

- Mr. Matthew Prosser, Planner - EPS
- Mr. Nels Nelson, Senior Planner - Stantec
- Mr. Joel Mann, Principal - Stantec
- Mr. David Dixon, Vice President, Urban Places Fellow - Stantec

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Annello and Canales commented.

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried that the City Council **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 12:05 p.m. pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 - 551.089 to discuss the executive session items:

Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY  
Section 551.072 DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Hernandez

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annello, seconded by Representative Rivera, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 12:58 p.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council at which time motions were made:

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Hernandez

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**EX1. Holly Chloe Johnson v. City of El Paso. Matter No. 16-1026-7551 (551.071)**

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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**EX2. Lilia Gutierrez v. City of El Paso; Matter 21-1045-119 (551.071)**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annelo, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried that the City Attorney's Office, in consultation with the City Manager, be **AUTHORIZED** to participate in settlement negotiations in the matter Lilia Gutierrez vs. City of El Paso, Cause No. 2021DCV4109, in Pro Law Matter No. 21-1045-107, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority, should a settlement be reached in the case,

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annelo, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: Representative Canales

ABSENT: Representative Hernandez

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**EX3. Application of El Paso Electric Company for a 10MW Community Solar Expansion and Authority to Modify Schedule No. CS Community Solar Rate, Public Utility Commission of Texas Docket No. 54403. Matter No. 22-1008-205 (551.071)**

This item was **NOT HEARD** in executive session.

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**EX4. Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of ONE Gas Inc., Application to Increase Gas Utility Rates. Matter No. 22-1008-198 (551.071)**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annelo, seconded by Representative Kennedy, and carried that the City **SHALL NOT FILE** an appeal of the Railroad Commission's final decision in the Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of ONE Gas Inc., Application to Increase Gas Utility Rates, filed on June 30, 2022, under the Railroad Commission of Texas, Docket No. 9893, and that the City Attorney, in consultation with the City Manager, be authorized, as determined by the City Attorney, to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annelo, Molinar, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: Representative Salcido

ABSENT: Representative Hernandez

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**EX5. Purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property located in Downtown El Paso HQ#23-452 (551.071) (551.072)**

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Molinar and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annelo, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Representative Hernandez

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk