

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

AGENDA DATE: July 19, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING DATE: N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Karina Brascalla, 915-212-1570
Elizabeth Triggs, 915-212-0094

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goal 7: Enhance and Sustain El Paso's Infrastructure Network

SUBGOAL: 7.1 Provide reliable and sustainable water supply and distributions systems and stormwater management

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 on a Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of El Paso to sign Letters of Support, on behalf of the City Council, in support of El Paso Water Utilities – Public Service Board ("EPWater") pursuit of specified funding opportunities, provided the project does not conflict with City programmatic priorities; and requiring EPWater to coordinate with the City Manager and Mayor prior to requesting Letters of Support.

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?

This resolution is a process improvement intended to produce efficiencies in the timely submittal of grant applications and increased alignment and integration between the City and EPWater by encouraging advanced notice of grant application or other comparable funding efforts by EPWater to the City; and authorizing the Mayor to sign, on behalf of the City Council, a letter of support in support of the specified projects to strengthen EPWater's grant applications and other comparable funding efforts. The specific projects and applications included in this resolution are:

Federal:

- US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Flood planning and flood control projects
 - Water, wastewater and stormwater projects
- US Bureau of Reclamation
 - Water resource projects including desalination and reuse
 - Drought projects
 - Water / energy efficiency projects
- US Department of Defense
 - Water, wastewater and infrastructure benefitting Fort Bliss
- US Economic Development Administration
 - Water and wastewater projects for economic development Purposes
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - Water, wastewater, stormwater resilience and hazard mitigation (Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA))

- North American Development (NAD) Bank / Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Border Environmental Infrastructure Fund
 - Water, wastewater and stormwater

State:

- Texas Military Preparedness Commission
 - Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant Program (DEAAG)
- Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
 - First-time water and wastewater service (Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP))
 - Flood planning and flood control projects (Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF))
 - Aging infrastructure and water supply projects (88th Legislative Session)

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

The current process requires each Letter of Support come before City Council for approval, delaying the timely submittal of the grant or other funding application/document

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?

This item does not have any cost associated with it and is limited to letters of support that do not require a financial commitment from the City.

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? __X__ YES ___ NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Economic and International Development

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: N/A

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Elizabeth Triggs



for Elizabeth Triggs

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the El Paso Water Utilities – Public Service Board (“EPWater”) routinely submits grant applications and similar documents in search of grant funding and other comparable funding for various EPWater projects; and

WHEREAS, grant funding and other comparable funding provides the opportunity to supplement local dollars to complete water, wastewater and stormwater projects for the benefit of City of El Paso residents; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of El Paso, Texas (“City”) has identified, through its Strategic Plan, that the provision of reliable and sustainable water supply and distribution systems, wastewater collection and treatment, and stormwater management is a policy area of interest and focus supporting the enhancement and sustainment of El Paso’s critical infrastructure network; and

WHEREAS, EPWater periodically requests Letters of Support from the City to strengthen its grant applications and other comparable funding efforts;

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

THAT, to facilitate the timely and efficient submission of grant funding applications and other comparable funding documents and/or efforts, the El Paso Water Utilities – Public Service Board will notify and coordinate with the Mayor and City Manager upon requesting Letters of Support from the City Council of the City of El Paso for the below-authorized water, wastewater, or stormwater management projects with the below-authorized entities; and

THAT, the Mayor of the City of El Paso is authorized to sign a Letter of Support for the project on behalf of the City Council specific to the below-listed Federal and State entities in support of EPWater’s pursuit of the below-specified funding opportunities, or other comparable funding opportunities as they may arise, provided the project does not conflict with City programmatic priorities:

- Federal:
 - US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Flood planning and flood control projects
 - Water, wastewater and stormwater projects
 - US Bureau of Reclamation
 - Water resource projects including desalination and reuse
 - Drought projects
 - Water / energy efficiency projects
 - US Department of Defense
 - Water, wastewater and infrastructure benefitting Fort Bliss

- US Economic Development Administration
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- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
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APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2022.

CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Juan S. Gonzalez
Senior Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Elizabeth K. Triggs, Director
Economic & International Development