

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

DEPARTMENT:

AGENDA DATE:

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:

STRATEGIC GOAL:

SUBJECT:

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

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?

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, October is known as breast cancer awareness month, an annual campaign to raise awareness about the impact of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, an estimated 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer were diagnosed in women in the United States as well as 48,530 new cases of non-invasive breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, in October 2020, during a worldwide pandemic, more commonly known as COVID-19, Esther Melendez a then 37-year-old, mother, daughter, sister, friend, cheer coach and wife was diagnosed with STAGE 3 breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, Esther Melendez began her journey with treatment that included 6 weeks of radiation followed by 5 years of treatment at the El Paso Texas Oncology clinic with the support from her family and friends, staying strong under the constant reminder, prayer This Too Shall Pass; and

WHEREAS, Esther Melendez, a strong, Latina, female presence in the City of El Paso, a resident of District 6, a Montwood alumni and a woman who has committed to giving back to her community when she first started her team Cheer Force back in 2018 when she was first approached by the City of El Paso's Parks and Recreation department, to start a city team; and

WHEREAS, upon accepting to volunteer her time as a cheer coach, Esther began to cultivate and grow the program at Marty Robbins Rec Center, where the success of the program out grew the space available for young cheer athletes and coach Esther had to move the team to a larger facility to keep up with the demand in growth for aspiring young cheer leaders, in the Cheer Force program grew to over 100 athletes from the original 12; and

WHEREAS, Esther has always been about giving back to the community either by being a devoted coach or by being an involved leader, Esther has taught her team about the importance of giving back to the community through the means of volunteering by hosting an annual can food drive during the month of November; and

WHEREAS, even through her battle with cancer, and the challenges that chemotherapy brings about, Esther a 37-year-old young mother, young wife, and a young coach, persevered and pushed forward for the success of those around her including her children, her husband but especially for the young cheer athletes she proudly serves; and

WHEREAS presently even though Esther is still in battle with breast cancer, she is letting cancer know that she is not a victim of cancer but instead proudly stands with the thousands of women across our country to tell her story and to let her cancer know that it will not stop her from living her life to the fullest, she will not give up and she will prevail!

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

1. Recognizes the month of October as breast cancer awareness month; and
2. Thanks, Esther Melendez, for her service to El Paso Parks and Recreation by investing and devoting herself to Cheer Force athletics; and
3. Stands with Esther Melendez in her battle to beat breast cancer. God Bless you and congratulations, you already won!

APPROVED this _____ day of _____ 2022.

THE CITY OF EL PASO:

ATTEST:

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FOR CONTENT:



Karla M. Nieman
City Attorney