RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, El Paso, Texas, is home to Fort Bliss, which is the second-largest military installation in the U.S., is the single largest employer in the region, and is home to more than 2.5 million people; and

WHEREAS, a substantial part of El Paso's outreach strategy is guided by the landmark El Paso Veterans Needs Assessment that was launched in 2020, which shares the story of military life beyond installation fence lines and is imperative to the 'One Community' mission; and

WHEREAS, the City's Military and Veteran Affairs Department sets a high standard with an impressive collection of outreach programs designed to meet the needs of military veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso and Fort Bliss partnered to create "Sun City Bliss", which provides updates, resources and city happenings to veterans, military families and residents in the El Paso region and airs on the city's social media, City TV, and Fort Bliss platforms; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Defense Communities is a 300 plus member organization dedicated to building strong communities that support America's military in every defense community/state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Defense Communities hosts the Great American Defense Communities (GADC) program which recognizes and celebrates communities with an exceptional commitment to improving the lives of service members, veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, with great honor, the Association of Defense Communities has recognized the City of El Paso, Texas, as one of its 2023 Great American Defense Communities; and

WHEREAS, City Representative Cassandra Hernandez wishes to promote this honorable distinction by allocating \$1,000 to support the placement of recognition banners along Airway Boulevard leading to the El Paso International Airport.

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

That the City of El Paso proudly accepts the recognition as a Great American Defense Community; authorizes that the City's Chief Military Officer facilitate the placement of banners along Airway Boulevard, and that the City Council of El Paso declares that the expenditure of District 3 discretionary funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 to support the placement of recognition banners along Airway Boulevard leading to the El Paso International Airport serves the public purpose of honoring servicemembers and supporting the Fort Bliss vision and economic development efforts. Further, the City Manager is authorized to execute any related agreements,

amendments to such agreements, and documents necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13rd

day of __

2023

THE CITY OF EXPASO:

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Raura D. Prine

Laura D. Prine City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Josette Flores

Sr. Assistant City Attorney