

OSCAR LEESER  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL  
BRIAN KENNEDY, DISTRICT 1  
JOSH ACEVEDO, 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

## SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2024

Center for Civic Empowerment, 304 Texas Ave., 17th Floor, El Paso TX 79901  
9:00 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 9:10 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Josh Acevedo, Joe Molinar, Isabel Salcido, and Henry Rivera. Late arrivals: Chris Canales at 9:12 a.m., Art Fierro at 9:15 a.m., and Cassandra Hernandez at 9:19 a.m. Early departures: Josh Acevedo at 11:24 a.m. and Brian Kennedy at 2:44 p.m.  
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### AGENDA

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1. **ITEM:** Presentations, discussion and action on an update to the Strategic Plan, including, but not limited to, key short term and longer-term priorities and focus areas.

Mayor Leeser welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided opening remarks.

Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager and Ms. Juliana Baldwin-Munoz, Chief Transformation Officer, provided an overview and Strategic Context of the day's events.

During the meeting the participants reviewed the short-term priorities for the next one to three years along with the 30 by 30 Key Strategic Objectives. The main themes discussed throughout the meeting were Customer Service and Financial Sustainability.

Mayor Leeser Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales commented.

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The meeting was **RECESSED** at 10:23 a.m. to allow participants to engage in group activities.

The meeting was **RECONVENED** at 10:54 a.m.

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The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Ellen Smyth, Chief Transit and Field Operations Officer
- Mr. Richard Bristol, Streets and Maintenance Director
- Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager
- Fire Chief Jonathan Killings
- Ms. Dionne Mack, Deputy City Manager
- Mr. Sam Rodriguez, Chief Operations Officer
- Ms. Karla Nieman, City Attorney

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The meeting was **RECESSED** at 11:34 a.m. for lunch and group activities.

The meeting was **RECONVENED** at 1:04 p.m.

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The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Mark Mendoza
2. Ms. Michelle Mergili provided a written statement that was entered into the record.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, and Mr. Roman Sanchez, Chief Innovation Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Financial Focus and Enhancing Customer Service, respectively (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

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The meeting was **RECESSED** at 2:50 p.m. to allow participants to engage in group activities.

The meeting was **RECONVENED** at 3:04 p.m.

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The key takeaways at the conclusion of the meeting included the importance of valuing people, implementing/adding new technologies, striving for excellent customer service, and support of small businesses.

Mayor Leeser thanked everyone for participating.

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

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**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore Molinar, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representatives Kennedy and Acevedo

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk