

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

DEPARTMENT:

Mayor and Council

AGENDA DATE:

March 26th 2024

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

Mayor Pro Tem Brian Kennedy 915.212.0001

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:

All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL:

Goal 4

SUBJECT:

Discussion and Action to approve a Resolution recognizing World Down Syndrome and the work being done to facilitate a long and productive life for People with Down Syndrome.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Recognition of the medical advances that have significantly increased the life expectancy of people with Down Syndrome and the Families that provide support and safe environments for people with Down Syndrome to thrive in.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Day is being observed in the City of El Paso, Texas on March 21, 2024, to promote awareness of the many ways that we benefit by ensuring that persons with Down syndrome are supported, encouraged, and included in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Down syndrome, the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition, occurs in individuals who have a full or partial extra copy of chromosome 21; one of every 700 babies born in the United States each year is born with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Medical advances have significantly increased the life expectancy of people with Down syndrome, which is now approaching that of peers without the condition; in addition to the advantages of modern medicine, support groups and other resources are now available in nearly every community in the United States; and

WHEREAS, When provided with quality education programs, a stimulating home environment, good health care, and support from family and friends, people with Down syndrome can lead fulfilling and productive lives; much progress has been made through the vision and hard work of parents, researchers, medical professionals, and other advocates, who have helped secure the rights of people with Down syndrome to live at home, attend schools, access appropriate health care, get married, find work, and contribute to society; while research and early intervention have dramatically improved the life span and quality of life of persons with the condition, more work remains to be done to fully comprehend the causes and to explore potential treatments; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared March 21 as World Down Syndrome Day; this year, the County of El Paso, Texas is joining with other counties, countries around the globe in recognition of this special event, and all citizens of El Paso County are encouraged to take part by helping to build a culture of greater respect and inclusion for those living with Down syndrome;

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of El Paso, Texas hereby recognizes March 21, 2024, as World Down Syndrome Day in the City of El Paso and honors the accomplishments and contributions made by men and women with Down syndrome.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

(signatures continue on following page)

CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Russell Abeln

Russell T. Abeln
Senior Assistant City Attorney