



CITIES OF SERVICE DECLARATION AND UPDATE

Nicole Ferrini
Chief Resilience Officer

Nickole Rodriguez
Community Development Program Manager



What is Cities of Service?

“Cities of Service helps mayors and city leaders tap into the knowledge, creativity, and service of citizens to solve public problems and create vibrant cities”

Cities of Service coalition cities partner with local residents, city agencies, and community organizations to **identify priority challenges** that can be addressed with **help from citizens**.

OUR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MODEL

City leaders can build more vibrant communities with support from their citizens.



START WITH CITY LEADERSHIP

Mayors and other city leaders must be involved for effective and authentic citizen engagement.



IDENTIFY A CHALLENGE

City leaders are uniquely positioned to identify challenges that impact the city at large.



DELIBERATE WITH THE COMMUNITY

Better solutions are unearthed when citizens and city leaders come together.



GET TO WORK

When city leaders and citizens collectively take action, stronger results are generated and trust is built.



SHOW IMPACT

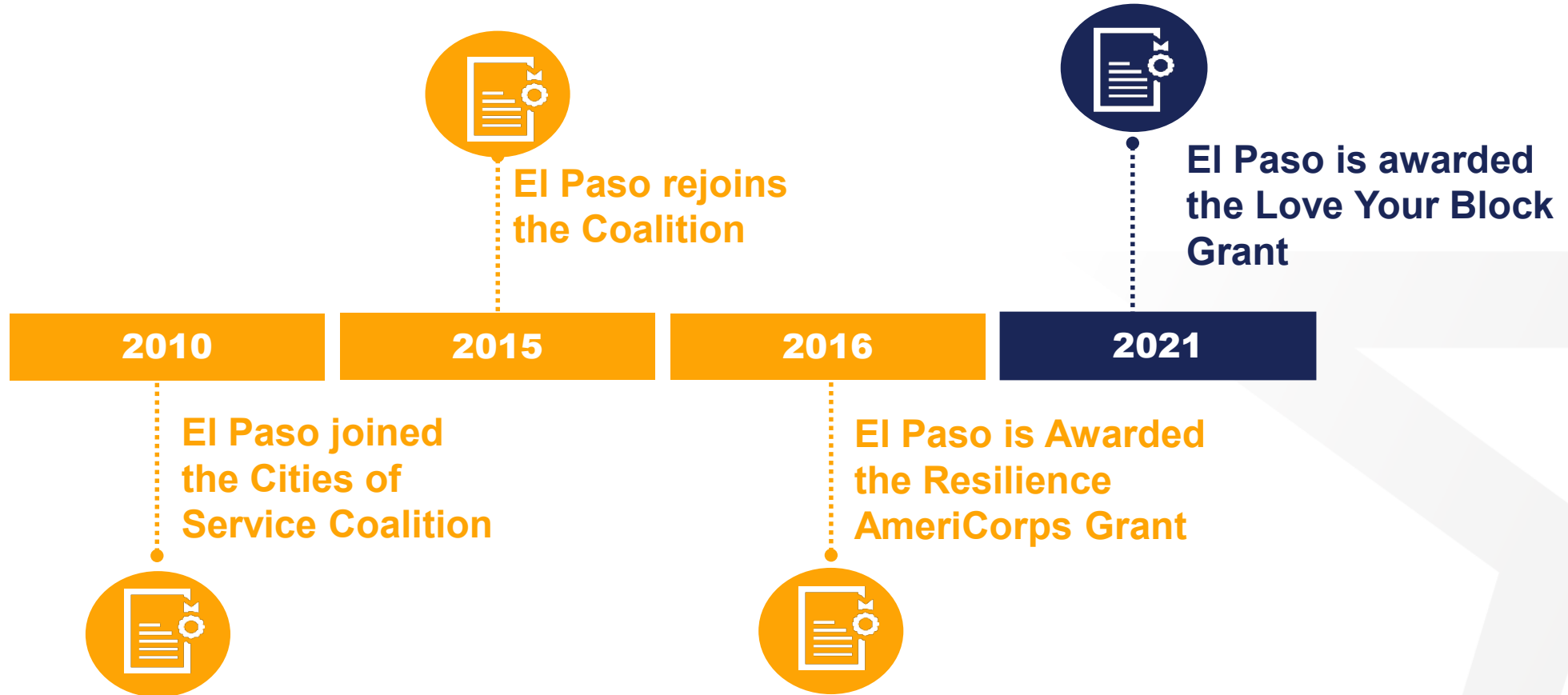
With real results, city leaders can celebrate success and fuel further citizen engagement.

SUSTAIN ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

BUILD TRUST

Cities of Service and **El Paso**

PAST TO PRESENT



Love Your **Block**

REDUCE BLIGHT AND SPUR NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGE

In September 2021, COS announced El Paso was one of 8 cities that will receive a \$100,000 grant over two years to support resident-led efforts to address blight and fund a Love Your Block Fellow

Love Your Block Grant

- Launch of a Mini-Grant competition and activate resident volunteers to address small-scale neighborhood blight
- Hiring of a LYB Fellow drawn from the community, and support from 2 AmeriCorps VISTA service members
- Cities of Service will provide technical support

Recommendation for Action Today

Rejoin the Coalition and sign the Declaration of Service

Declaration of Service

- Developing comprehensive strategies focused on **engaging citizens and established community partners** to the areas of greatest local need to help create safer, healthier, thriving cities;
- Working with mayors and city leaders in other cities to spread best practices that **accelerate citizen engagement, produce real and measurable results, and improve quality of life**; and
- Calling on other mayors and city leaders to join this global movement to **build stronger cities** by changing the way local government and citizens work together.

There is **no cost to join** and level of engagement is at the discretion of the city. By signing the declaration of service, the mayor commits the city to:

- **supporting service** and **volunteerism** in our community
- Developing a service plan and **strategy**
- Working with other mayors to support the service movement
- **Ensuring the voice** of cities is heard in discussions related to service



Mission

Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community



Vision

Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government



Values

Integrity, Respect, Excellence,
Accountability, People