

Oscar Leaser  
Mayor

Tommy Gonzalez  
City Manager



CITY COUNCIL  
Peter Svarzbein, District 1  
Alexsandra Annello, District 2  
Cassandra Hernandez, District 3  
Joe Molinar, District 4  
Isabel Salcido, District 5  
Claudia L. Rodriguez, District 6  
Henry Rivera, District 7  
Cissy Lizarraga, District 8

## **NOTICE OF WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO**

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**June 21, 2022**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 300 N. CAMPBELL AND VIRTUALLY  
9:05 AM**

**THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THE USE OF  
MASKS IN ALL CITY FACILITIES AND INDOOR SPACES**

**Teleconference phone number 1-915-213-4096**

**Toll free number: 1-833-664-9267**

**Conference ID: 707-337-420#**

Notice is hereby given that a Work Session of the City Council of the City of El Paso will be conducted on June 21, 2022 at 9:05 A.M. Members of the public may view the meeting via the following means:

Via the City's website. <http://www.elpasotexas.gov/videos>

Via television on City15,

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofelpasotx/videos>

In compliance with the requirement that the City provide two-way communication for members of the public, members of the public may communicate with Council during public comment, and regarding agenda items by calling the following number:

1-915-213-4096 or Toll free number: 1-833-664-9267

**At the prompt please enter Conference ID: 707-337-420#**

The public is strongly encouraged to sign up to speak on items on this agenda before the start of this meeting on the following links:

<https://www.elpasotexas.gov/city-clerk/meetings/city-council-meetings>

AND

<https://elpasotx.seamlessdocs.com/f/SpeakerSignUpFormItem>

**The following member of City Council will be present via video conference:**

## **Representative Peter Svarzbein**

**A quorum of City Council must participate in the meeting.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Discussion and action on a Resolution calling for additional school safety measures to protect schools from violence through additional funding for training, hiring retired military or law enforcement officers, and calling for minimum safety standards and protocols for all Texas schools in response to the Uvalde, Texas school shooting. [22-824](#)  
**All Districts**  
Members of the City Council, Representative Claudia L. Rodriguez, (915) 212-0006
2. Discussion and action on a Resolution that the City Council of the City of El Paso stands in solidarity with the community of Uvalde, strongly urges and advocates for the Texas State Legislature to finally act responsibly to address the mass gun violence issue and prevent the continued horrific acts of violence from occurring in Texas cities, urges the Texas Governor to call for a Special Legislative Session to address gun violence, and directs the City Manager to work with the El Paso State Delegations, El Paso School Districts and other governmental agencies to enhance these efforts. [22-827](#)  
**All Districts**  
Members of the City Council, Representative Henry Rivera, (915) 212-0007  
Members of the City Council, Representative Cassandra Hernandez, (915) 212-0003  
Members of the City Council, Representative Peter Svarzbein, (915) 212-0003
3. Presentation and discussion by the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Cross-Functional Team providing information on key activities, efforts, and processes. [22-769](#)
  1. Overview (Tommy Gonzalez)
  2. Special Report by Youth Advisory Board Member, recognized with 1st Place at the Business Professionals of America - National Leadership Conference (Jesus Guillermo Perez)
  3. City Attorney Overview (Karla Nieman)
    - a) State Disaster Declaration
    - b) Emergency Ordinances
    - c) Greg Abbott, in his official capacity as Governor of Texas v. City of El Paso and Statewide Mask Mandate Litigation
    - d) Additional Updates
  4. Team Lead Report:
    - a) Health Focus (Hector Ocaranza, M.D.)
    - b) Data Analysis (David Coronado)

5. City Manager Wrap-up (Tommy Gonzalez)

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

4. Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 extending a Disaster Declaration due to a Public Health Emergency. [22-740](#)

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

5. Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019036 instituting emergency measures, as re-enacted, restated and amended by Emergency Ordinance no. 019151; and further re-enacted and amended by Emergency Ordinance nos. 019156, 019169, 019191 and 019284; penalty as provided in section 8. [22-741](#)

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

6. Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019241; allowing temporary uses on the public right of way and private property by suspending various City ordinances; Penalty as provided in Section 6. [22-759](#)

**All Districts**

Capital Improvement Department, Sam Rodriguez, (915) 212-0065

7. Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enactment authorizing the City Manager to assign personnel and resources to assist in addressing the humanitarian and public safety crisis resulting from mass migration through El Paso. [22-792](#)

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

8. Presentation and discussion by the Youth Advisory Board providing an update on their strategic planning document. [22-777](#)

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, K. Nicole Cote, (915) 212-1092

9. Presentation, discussion and action on the FY 2023 preliminary Budget Overview. [22-765](#)

**All Districts**

City Clerk's Office, K. Nicole Cote, (915) 212-1092

10. International Bridges Department Management Update. [22-778](#)

**All Districts**

International Bridges, David Coronado, (915) 212-7505

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The following member of City Council will be present via video conference:**

**Representative Peter Svarzbein**

The City Council of the City of El Paso may retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discussed in Executive Session, but the City Council of the City of El Paso may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act and the Rules of City Council.) The City Council will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward any of the following items for public discussion, as appropriate.

Section 551.071	CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY
Section 551.072	DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
Section 551.073	DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS
Section 551.074	PERSONNEL MATTERS
Section 551.076	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR SECURITY AUDITS
Section 551.087	DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS
Section 551.089	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR SECURITY AUDITS; CLOSED MEETING

### **Goal 6: Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management**

#### **Discussion and action on the following:**

**EX1.** City Attorney and City Manager annual performance evaluations. Matter No. 21-1043-688 (551.071) (551.074)

**[22-798](#)**

City Attorney's Office, Kristen Hamilton-Karam, (915) 212-0033

## **ADJOURN**

### **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:**

If you need Spanish Translation Services, you must email [CityClerk@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:CityClerk@elpasotexas.gov) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**ALL REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDAS ARE PLACED ON THE INTERNET THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT THE ADDRESS BELOW:**

<http://www.elpasotexas.gov/>





Legislation Text

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File #: 22-824, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

Members of the City Council, Representative Claudia L. Rodriguez, (915) 212-0006

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on a Resolution calling for additional school safety measures to protect schools from violence through additional funding for training, hiring retired military or law enforcement officers, and calling for minimum safety standards and protocols for all Texas schools in response to the Uvalde, Texas school shooting.

**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?

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, on August 3, 2019, the community of El Paso and the community of Juarez, faced a horrific tragedy that shocked the city, state, nation and the world when a lone shooter walked into a Walmart store and shot 46 people, killing 23 and injuring 23; and,

**WHEREAS**, after this terroristic act of violence against our community, the Texas Legislature recognized the need to take action on mass violence prevention to prevent future tragedies from happening in Texas and established Mass Violence & Community Safety Committees in both the House and the Senate to address the issue of mass violence caused by mass shootings; and,

**WHEREAS**, before the first committee could even meet and within the same month of the El Paso mass violence attack, another horrifying act of mass violence occurred on August 31 in the Midland Odessa community, where one shooter killed seven people and wounded 25; and,

**WHEREAS**, on October 21, 2019 the Texas State Senate, convened a Senate Committee Hearing on Mass Violence & Community Safety in El Paso to address the issue of mass violence and heard from experts in their respective fields providing valuable information related to the ability to establish realistic risk indicators to help identify potential threats; how to make existing laws more effective and efficient; new legislation that will allow counties to add protocols on how to enforce protective orders that require the surrender of firearms; and the use and role of mental health professionals in identifying risk; and,

**WHEREAS**, before the House Committee could convene and before the year even ended, another senseless act of gun violence towards a Texas Community happened on December 29, 2019 in White Settlement where one shooter killed two people in a church; and,

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2020, the House Committee on Mass Violence & Community Safety also held a hearing in El Paso, once again hearing from experts on identifying ways in which future tragic events that happened in El Paso, could be prevented; and,

**WHEREAS**, despite the Committee hearings on the prevention of mass violence and promises by State leaders to protect Texas communities from mass shootings, only two bills were passed during the 2021 Legislative Session and no significant common-sense laws to address gun violence prevention were passed; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 24, 2022, the deadliest school shooting to occur in Texas and the third deadliest in the nation, occurred in Uvalde where 19 children and two teachers were killed in Robb Elementary School and once again, shocked the city, state, nation and the world.

**WHEREAS**, on June 1, 2022, after the mass shooting in Uvalde, Governor Abbott called on the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor to each convene a special legislative committee to review what steps previous legislatures have enacted, what resources the State has made available to local school districts, and make recommendations to the Legislature and the Executive Branch so that meaningful action can be made on, among other things, the following topics to prevent future school shootings; and,

**WHEREAS**, although making schools safer is the Governor’s primary focus of these special legislative committees since during the Governor’s tenure two mass shootings at schools have occurred resulting in 31 deaths and 30 injured, there should be a much broader focus on mass shootings since from the time the Governor assumed office, mass shootings have occurred in places other than school grounds, such as the 2016 Dallas mass shooting that killed five officers and injured 11 others; the 2017 Sutherland Springs shooting that killed 26 and injured 20, the August 2019 El Paso shooting that killed 23 and injured 24, and the August 2019 Odessa Midland shooting that killed 7 people and injured 25; and,

**WHEREAS**, these special legislative committees are similar to the special legislative committees established in 2019 after the El Paso mass shooting incident, where although hours of testimony was taken from the public and subject matter experts, when the Legislature met in the 2021 regular legislative session, no meaningful legislation was passed; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Governor must call a Special Session because the past has shown that convening special committees does not lead to meaningful legislation

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

That the City having gone through a mass shooting event sends its thoughts and prayers to the community of Uvalde and stands in solidarity and strength with the City and people of Uvalde and prays that although lives were shattered on May 24, and the community shocked, saddened and stunned, that the fabric of their community will not be torn.

That through the El Paso community’s resiliency and strong sense of community and strength of community the City was able to endure the horrific event of August 3, 2019 and continue to stand strong despite the senseless attack of violence, and now stands ready to assist the community of Uvalde.

That the State Legislature must finally act responsibly to increase school safety measures and protect schools from violence and prevent the unimaginable pain caused by a senseless act of gun violence so that no other Texas community should have to endure such suffering.

That although the prevention of continued mass violence in our Texas communities is a complicated, complex issue with no simple answer, the Legislature must act to address the issue and prevent the continued horrific acts of violence from occurring in other Texas schools.

That the City strongly urges and advocates for the strengthening of existing legislation to provide stronger ways to more efficiently and effectively protect our schools.

That the Governor call a Special Legislative Session to address gun violence on school grounds.

That during the Special Session, the Legislature passes legislation that will:

- Provide funding for specialized training either through the School Marshal program or other existing programs already available for the School Districts to hire law enforcement officers or peace officers.

- Provide funding to hire military veterans and retired law enforcement officers to implement a School Guardian program similar to that in Florida
- Provide for minimum safety standards and protocols for all Texas schools and provide dedicated funding to implement the standards, to include any required building enhancements, training, or dedicated mental health resources.

That the City Manager be directed to work with El Paso's State Delegation, El Paso School Districts and other governmental entities to enhance the above efforts.

That a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Texas Speaker, and other Texas cities and be included as a priority legislative initiative for the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

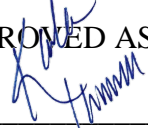
THE CITY OF EL PASO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser, Mayor

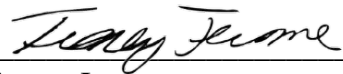
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracey Jerome  
Deputy City Manager



Legislation Text

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File #: 22-827, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

Members of the City Council, Representative Henry Rivera, (915) 212-0007

Members of the City Council, Representative Cassandra Hernandez, (915) 212-0003

Members of the City Council, Representative Peter Svarzbein, (915) 212-0003

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on a Resolution that the City Council of the City of El Paso stands in solidarity with the community of Uvalde, strongly urges and advocates for the Texas State Legislature to finally act responsibly to address the mass gun violence issue and prevent the continued horrific acts of violence from occurring in Texas cities, urges the Texas Governor to call for a Special Legislative Session to address gun violence, and directs the City Manager to work with the El Paso State Delegations, El Paso School Districts and other governmental agencies to enhance these efforts.

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

**DEPARTMENT:** Mayor and Council

**AGENDA DATE:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:**

City Representative Henry Rivera, District 7- 915.212.0007

City Representative Cassandra Hernandez, District 3- 915.212.0003

City Representative Peter Svarzbein, District 1- 915.212.1002

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:**

Goal 2 - Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City

**SUBJECT:**

**APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.**

Discussion and action on a Resolution that the City Council of the City of El Paso stands in solidarity with the community of Uvalde, strongly urges and advocates for the Texas State Legislature to finally act responsibly to address the mass gun violence issue and prevent the continued horrific acts of violence from occurring in Texas cities, urges the Texas Governor to call for a Special Legislative Session to address gun violence, and directs the City Manager to work with the El Paso State Delegations, El Paso School Districts and other governmental agencies to enhance these efforts.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

**Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?**

On May 24, 2022, an 18-year-old armed with an assault weapon murdered 19 innocent children and two teachers and injured 17 others during a mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

**Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?** Yes, on June 7<sup>th</sup> Council approved a resolution condemning the May 24<sup>th</sup> attack.

**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? N/A**

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

## RESOLUTION

CITY CLERK DEPT  
2022 JUN 16 AM 11:09

**WHEREAS**, on August 3, 2019, the community of El Paso and the community of Juarez, faced a horrific tragedy that shocked the city, state, nation and the world when a lone shooter walked into a Walmart store and shot 46 people, killing 23 and injuring 23; and,

**WHEREAS**, after this terroristic act of violence against our community, the Texas Legislature recognized the need to take action on mass violence prevention to prevent future tragedies from happening in Texas and established Mass Violence & Community Safety Committees in both the House and the Senate to address the issue of mass violence caused by mass shootings; and,

**WHEREAS**, before the first committee could even meet and within the same month of the El Paso mass violence attack, another horrifying act of mass violence occurred on August 31 in the Midland Odessa community, where one shooter killed seven people and wounded 25; and,

**WHEREAS**, on October 21, 2019 the Texas State Senate, convened a Senate Committee Hearing on Mass Violence & Community Safety in El Paso to address the issue of mass violence and heard from experts in their respective fields providing valuable information related to the ability to establish realistic risk indicators to help identify potential threats; how to make existing laws more effective and efficient; new legislation that will allow counties to add protocols on how to enforce protective orders that require the surrender of firearms; and the use and role of mental health professionals in identifying risk; and,

**WHEREAS**, before the House Committee could convene and before the year even ended, another senseless act of gun violence towards a Texas Community happened on December 29, 2019 in White Settlement where one shooter killed two people in a church; and,

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2020, the House Committee on Mass Violence & Community Safety also held a hearing in El Paso, once again hearing from experts on identifying ways in which future tragic events that happened in El Paso, could be prevented; and,

**WHEREAS**, despite the Committee hearings on the prevention of mass violence and promises by State leaders to protect Texas communities from mass shootings, only two bills were passed during the 2021 Legislative Session and no significant common-sense laws to address gun violence prevention were passed; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 24, 2022, the deadliest school shooting to occur in Texas and the third deadliest in the nation, occurred in Uvalde where 19 children and two teachers were killed in Robb Elementary School and once again, shocked the city, state, nation and the world.

**WHEREAS**, on June 1, 2022, after the mass shooting in Uvalde, Governor Abbott called on the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor to each convene a special legislative committee to review what steps previous legislatures have enacted, what resources the State has made available to local school districts, and make recommendations to the Legislature and the Executive Branch so that meaningful action can be made on, among other things, the following topics to prevent future school shootings; and,

**WHEREAS**, although making schools safer is the Governor's primary focus of these special legislative committees since during the Governor's tenure two mass shootings at schools have occurred resulting



in 31 deaths and 30 injured, there should be a much broader focus on mass shootings since from the time the Governor assumed office, mass shootings have occurred in places other than school grounds, such as the 2016 Dallas mass shooting that killed five officers and injured 11 others; the 2017 Sutherland Springs shooting that killed 26 and injured 20, the August 2019 El Paso shooting that killed 23 and injured 24, and the August 2019 Odessa Midland shooting that killed 7 people and injured 25; and,

**WHEREAS**, these special legislative committees are similar to the special legislative committees established in 2019 after the El Paso mass shooting incident, where although hours of testimony was taken from the public and subject matter experts, when the Legislature met in the 2021 regular legislative session, no meaningful legislation was passed; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Governor must call a Special Session because the past has shown that convening special committees does not lead to meaningful legislation and the Governor must broaden the focus to include meaningful gun legislation that will protect people not only on school grounds, but everywhere;

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

That the City having gone through a mass shooting event sends its thoughts and prayers to the community of Uvalde and stands in solidarity and strength with the City and people of Uvalde and prays that although lives were shattered on May 24, and the community shocked, saddened and stunned, that the fabric of their community will not be torn.

That through the El Paso community's resiliency and strong sense of community and strength of community the City was able to endure the horrific event of August 3, 2019 and continue to stand strong despite the senseless attack of violence, and now stands ready to assist the community of Uvalde.

That the State Legislature must finally act responsibly to prevent the unimaginable pain caused by a senseless act of gun violence so that no other Texas community should have to endure such suffering.

That although the prevention of continued mass violence in our Texas communities is a complicated, complex issue with no simple answer, the Legislature must act to address the issue and prevent the continued horrific acts of violence from occurring in other Texas cities.

That the City strongly urges and advocates for the legislature to adopt extreme risk protection laws that allow family members or law enforcement to petition the court to temporarily remove firearms from an individual experiencing crisis; provides funding for community-based violence intervention programs; and adopts measures to protect women against gun violence from domestic abusers.

That the City strongly urges and advocates for the strengthening of existing legislation to provide stronger ways to more efficiently, effectively and consistently enforce existing laws or whether new legislation is needed along with new resources, are questions that must be answered and legislative action taken this session.

That the Governor call a Special Legislative Session to address gun violence in general, not just on school grounds.

That during the Special Session, the Legislature passes legislation that will:

CITY CLERK DEPT  
2022 JUN 16 AM 11:09

- Provide funding for specialized training either through the School Marshal program or other existing programs already available for the School Districts to hire law enforcement officer or peace officers.
- Provides a dedicated funding source for mental health services and community mental health programs
- Establish and fund statewide minimum standards and guidelines for school safety
- Adopt extreme risk protection laws that allow family members or law enforcement to petition the court to temporarily remove firearms from an individual experiencing crisis;
- Provides funding for community-based violence intervention programs; and adopts measures to protect women against gun violence from domestic abusers.
- Strengthens existing legislation to provide stronger ways to more efficiently, effectively and consistently enforce existing laws.
- Raise the minimum age to purchase firearms to 21.
- Require universal background checks for all firearm sales.
- Implement temporary red flag laws to allow temporary removal of firearms from those who are an imminent danger to themselves or others.
- Require a cooling off period for the purchase of a firearm.
- Regulate civilian ownership of high capacity magazines.

That the City Manager be directed to work with El Paso's State Delegation, El Paso School Districts and other governmental entities to enhance the above efforts.

That a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Texas Speaker, and other Texas cities and be included as a priority legislative initiative for the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

THE CITY OF EL PASO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracey Jerome  
Deputy City Manager



Legislation Text

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File #: 22-769, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Presentation and discussion by the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Cross-Functional Team providing information on key activities, efforts, and processes.

1. Overview (Tommy Gonzalez)
2. Special Report by Youth Advisory Board Member, recognized with 1st Place at the Business Professionals of America - National Leadership Conference (Jesus Guillermo Perez)
3. City Attorney Overview (Karla Nieman)
  - a) State Disaster Declaration
  - b) Emergency Ordinances
  - c) Greg Abbott, in his official capacity as Governor of Texas v. City of El Paso and Statewide Mask Mandate Litigation
  - d) Additional Updates
4. Team Lead Report:
  - a) Health Focus (Hector Ocaranza, M.D.)
  - b) Data Analysis (David Coronado)
5. City Manager Wrap-up (Tommy Gonzalez)

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

AGENDA DATE: June 21, 2022

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Deputy City Manager, Mario M. D'Agostino  
(915) 212-5605

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

**SUBJECT:**

Presentation and discussion by the COVID-19 Response+ Recovery Cross-Functional Team providing information on key activities, efforts, and processes.

1. Overview (Tommy Gonzalez)
2. Special Report by Youth Advisory Board Member, recognized with 1st Place at the Business Professionals of America - National Leadership Conference (Jesus Guillermo Perez)
3. City Attorney Overview (Karla Nieman)
  - a) State Disaster Declaration
  - b) Emergency Ordinances
  - c) Greg Abbott, in his official capacity as Governor of Texas v. City of El Paso & Statewide Mask Mandate Litigation
  - d) Additional Updates
4. Team Lead Report:
  - a) Health Focus (Hector Ocaranza, M.D.)
  - b) Data Analysis (David Coronado)
5. City Manager Wrap-up (Tommy Gonzalez)

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The COVID-19 Response+ Recovery Cross-Functional Team is comprised of multi-disciplinary teams focused on the continued planning, development and implementation of actions supporting key impact areas. Ongoing updates will be provided to share key information and key upcoming items.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

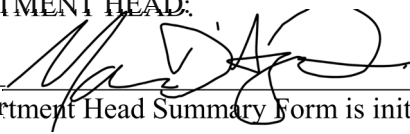
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BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. D. G.', is written over a horizontal line.

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX

## Legislation Text

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**File #: 22-740, Version: 1**

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

#### **DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

##### **All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

#### **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 extending a Disaster Declaration due to a Public Health Emergency.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022  
**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** June 21, 2022

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Mario M. D'Agostino, DCM (915) 212-5605

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal 6. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management.

**SUBGOAL:** 6.8 Support transparent and inclusive government.

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance no. 019035 extending a Disaster Declaration due to a Public Health Emergency.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Emergency Ordinance No. 019330 which re-enacts Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 is set to expire on June 22, 2022;

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

Since March 2020, El Paso City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 monthly, with the most recent re-enactment taking place on May 23, 2022; and

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

None.

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?** ☒ YES ☐ NO

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:** Department of Public Health

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

---



**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RE-ENACTING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 019035 EXTENDING A DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster and the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency in relation to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Mayor signed a Local Emergency Declaration and requested the aid of the State Government pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to El Paso City Code Section 2.48.020(C), a local state of disaster declaration may not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, City Charter Section 3.10 allows for the City Council to adopt an emergency ordinance to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035, Extending a Disaster Declaration Due to a Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, since March 2020, El Paso City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 monthly, with the most recent re-enactment taking place on May 23, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, as of June 6, 2022, the number of COVID-19 active cases in El Paso is over 2,166; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10, every emergency ordinance shall stand repealed automatically as of the 31<sup>st</sup> day following the date on which it was adopted, but may be re-enacted to continue a Disaster Declaration; and

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Ordinance No. 019330 which re-enacts Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 is set to expire on June 22, 2022;

**WHEREAS**, the condition necessitating a declaration of a state of disaster continues to exist.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**



**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EL PASO, TEXAS:**

1. That the state of disaster proclaimed for the City of El Paso by the Mayor on March 13, 2020, and extended by Emergency Ordinance No. 019035, is hereby re-enacted and shall continue for thirty (30) days unless re-enacted in accordance with City Charter Section 3.10 or until terminated by City Council, whichever is sooner.
2. This ordinance is adopted as an emergency measure with the unanimous vote of the City Council Representatives present and the consent of the Mayor and pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June 2022.**

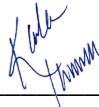
**THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leoser  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mario M. D'Agostino  
Deputy City Manager  
Public Health & Safety

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

20-1052-1069 | PL#1179366\_2 | KMN | JF | CA | Emergency Ordinance Re-enacting Ord. No. 019035  
Extending Disaster Declaration – June 21, 2022



Legislation Text

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File #: 22-741, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019036 instituting emergency measures, as re-enacted, restated and amended by Emergency Ordinance no. 019151; and further re-enacted and amended by Emergency Ordinance nos. 019156, 019169, 019191 and 019284; penalty as provided in section 8.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022  
**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** June 21, 2022

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Mario M. D'Agostino, DCM (915) 212-5605

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal 6. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management.  
**SUBGOAL:** 6.8 Support transparent and inclusive government.

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance no. 019036 instituting emergency measures, as re-enacted, restated and amended by Emergency Ordinance no. 019151; and further re-enacted and amended by Emergency Ordinance nos. 019156, 019169, 019191 and 019284; penalty as provided in section 8.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The City Council desires to re-enact Emergency Ordinance No. 019036, as re-enacted, restated and amended on March 16, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019151, as further re-enacted and amended on March 29, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019156, as further re-enacted and amended on April 26, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019169, as further re-enacted and amended on May 24, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019191, as further re-enacted and amended on January 31, 2022 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019284, which shall remain in effect for thirty days or until otherwise terminated, re-enacted, or superseded by a conflicting El Paso Local Health Authority order, or state or federal law or order.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

Since March 2020, City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019036 monthly, with the most recent re-enactment, re-statement and amendment taking place on March 16, 2021, and with the most recent re-enactment taking place on May 23, 2022; and

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

None.

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?** ☒ YES ☐ NO

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:** Department of Public Health

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

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**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RE-ENACTING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 019036 INSTITUTING EMERGENCY MEASURES, AS RE-ENACTED, RESTATED AND AMENDED BY EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 019151; AND FURTHER RE-ENACTED AND AMENDED BY EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NOS. 019156, 019169, 019191 and 019284; PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 8**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster and the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency in relation to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, by proclamation issued on March 13, 2020, the Mayor declared a local state of disaster for the City of El Paso resulting from a public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the City Council, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10, adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019036 to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, since March 2020, City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019036 monthly, with the most recent re-enactment, re-statement and amendment taking place on March 16, 2021, and with the most recent re-enactment taking place on May 23, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10, every emergency ordinance shall stand repealed automatically as of the 31<sup>st</sup> day following the date on which it was adopted, but may be re-enacted if the emergency still exists; and

**WHEREAS**, a disaster continues to exist and requires that certain emergency measures be taken to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to re-enact Emergency Ordinance No. 019036, as re-enacted, restated and amended on March 16, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019151, as further re-enacted and amended on March 29, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019156, as further re-enacted and amended on April 26, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019169, as further re-enacted and amended on May 24, 2021 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019191, as further re-enacted and amended on January 31, 2022 through Emergency Ordinance No. 019284, which shall remain in effect for thirty days or until otherwise terminated, re-enacted, or superseded by a conflicting El Paso Local Health Authority order, or state or federal law or order.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EL PASO, TEXAS:**

1. Emergency Ordinance No. 019036, as re-enacted, restated and amended by Emergency Ordinance No. 019151, and as further re-enacted and amended by Emergency Ordinance Nos. 019156, 019169, 019191, and 019284, penalty as provided in Section 8, is hereby re-enacted.
2. Emergency Ordinance No. 019036, as re-enacted, restated and amended by Emergency Ordinance No. 019151, and further re-enacted and amended by Emergency Ordinance Nos. 019156, 019169, 019191, and 019284, penalty as provided in Section 8, shall remain in full force and effect and continue for thirty (30) days unless re-enacted in accordance with City Charter Section 3.10 or until terminated by the City Council, whichever is sooner.

**Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**

3. This ordinance is adopted as an emergency measure with the unanimous vote of the City Council Representatives present and the consent of the Mayor, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, this \_\_\_\_ day of June 2022.**


**THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor


**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mario M. D'Agostino  
Deputy City Manager  
Public Health & Safety

**Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**



Legislation Text

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File #: 22-759, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

Capital Improvement Department, Sam Rodriguez, (915) 212-0065

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019241; allowing temporary uses on the public right of way and private property by suspending various City ordinances; Penalty as provided in Section 6.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022  
**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Sam Rodriguez, P.E., 212-0065

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal 6. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management

**SUBGOAL:** Subgoal 6.5. Deliver services timely and effectively with focus on continual improvement

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019241; allowing temporary uses on the public right of way and private property by suspending various city ordinances; Penalty as provided in Section 6.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

This item is to support restaurants and similar establishments in their efforts to safely operate during the COVID-19 pandemic by further facilitating outdoor service and dining opportunities. To achieve this, this item would re-enact Emergency Ordinance No. 019241 for 30 days to continue the suspension of various sections of the El Paso City Code to facilitate temporary uses on the public right of way and private property and continue the pilot program.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

March 13, 2020, the Mayor declared a local state of disaster for the City of El Paso resulting from a public health emergency.

March 17, 2020, El Paso City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 extending the City's Disaster Declaration due to a Public Health Emergency. Also on, March 17, 2020, El Paso City Council re-enacted its Emergency Ordinance extending the City's Disaster Declaration monthly, with the most recent extension taking place on August 31, 2020.

August 31, 2020, El Paso City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019091, which suspended various sections of the El Paso City Code to facilitate temporary uses on the public right of way and private property and established a pilot program.

September 28, 2020, El Paso City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Re-Enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019091.

October 27, 2020, El Paso City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Re-Enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019091. Also, City Council approved increasing the fine for all emergency directive violations from \$500 to \$1,000.

November 23, 2020, El Paso City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Re-Enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019091, which included the amendment to increase the fine to \$1,000 (Ordinance No. 019119).

December 14, 2020, January 5, 2021, February 1, 2021, March 1, 2021, March 29, 2021, April 26, 2021, May 24, 2021, June 21, 2021, July 19, 2021, August 16, 2021, El Paso City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Re-Enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019091.

October 11, 2021, El Paso City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019241, which suspended various sections of the El Paso City Code to facilitate temporary uses on the public right of way and private property and established a pilot program.

November 8, 2021, December 6, 2021, January 4, January 31, February 28, March 28, April 25, and May 23, 2022. El Paso City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Re-Enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019241.

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**  
N/A

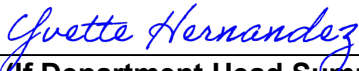
**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?   X   YES      NO**

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Capital Improvement Department**  
**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: Streets and Maintenance, Planning and Inspections**

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**



(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)



**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE  
RE-ENACTING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 019241;  
ALLOWING TEMPORARY USES ON THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY AND  
PRIVATE PROPERTY BY SUSPENDING VARIOUS CITY ORDINANCES;  
PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 6.**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster and the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency in relation to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, by proclamation issued on March 13, 2020, the Mayor declared a local state of disaster for the City of El Paso resulting from a public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, El Paso City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 extending the City's Disaster Declaration due to a Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, since March 2020, El Paso City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035, with the most recent re-enactment taking place on May 23, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Abbott has similarly renewed the State's COVID- 19 Disaster Declaration, with the most recent extension taking place on May 22, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, El Paso City Charter Section 3.10 allows City Council to adopt an emergency ordinance to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property, or the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso City Council desires to support restaurants and similar establishments in their efforts to safely operate during the COVID-19 pandemic by further facilitating outdoor service and dining opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 11, 2021, City Council enacted an Emergency Ordinance Instituting Emergency Measures to Allow Temporary Uses on the Public Right of Way and Private Property by Suspending Various City Ordinances ("**Emergency Ordinance No. 019241**"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10, every emergency ordinance shall stand repealed automatically as of the 31st day following the date on which it was adopted, but may be re-enacted if the emergency still exists; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019241, with the most recent re-enaction taking place on May 23, 2022 (Ord. No. 019332) ("**Re-enacting Ordinance**"); and

**WHEREAS**, a disaster continues to exist and requires that certain emergency measures be taken to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

20-1052-1069 | 1182109

Ninth Re-enactment of Emergency Ordinance No. 019241 Rights of Way

KMN | JSG

**WHEREAS**, City Council desires to re-enact its October 11, 2021, Emergency Ordinance No. 019241, which shall take effect immediately, and remain in effect until July 20, 2022 or until otherwise terminated, re-enacted, or superseded by a conflicting El Paso Local Health Authority order, or state or federal law or order.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EL PASO, TEXAS:**

1. That Emergency Ordinance No. 019241, is re-enacted and shall remain in full force and continue for thirty (30) days unless re-enacted in accordance with City Charter Section 3.10 or until terminated by the City Council, whichever is sooner;
2. This ordinance is adopted as an emergency measure with the unanimous vote of the City Council Representatives present and the consent of the Mayor and pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.


**THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor

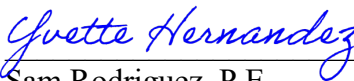
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
For Sam Rodriguez, P.E.  
City Engineer

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX

## Legislation Text

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**File #: 22-792, Version: 1**

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

#### **DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

##### **All Districts**

City Manager's Office, Chief Mario D'Agostino, (915) 212-5605

#### **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enactment authorizing the City Manager to assign personnel and resources to assist in addressing the humanitarian and public safety crisis resulting from mass migration through El Paso.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022

**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:**

**CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Mario M. D'Agostino, DCM (915) 212-5605

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal 2. Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City

**SUBGOAL:** 2.1 Maintain standing as one of the nation's top safest cities

**SUBJECT:**

**APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RE-ENACTMENT AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ASSIGN PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN ADDRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN AND PUBLIC SAFETY CRISIS RESULTING FROM MASS MIGRATION THROUGH EL PASO.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

**Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?**

Discussion and action on an Emergency Ordinance re-enacting Emergency Ordinance No. 019333 extending the Emergency Ordinance due the Humanitarian and Public Safety Crisis resulting from a Mass Migration through the City of El Paso as related to the removal of Title 42. Although Title 42 remains in effect at the present time, it is still subject to federal litigation. Furthermore, the CBP statistics show the dramatic increase in apprehensions in the El Paso sector. Additionally, migrants continue to be released leaving many vulnerable and in need of assistance. With the possibility of Title 42 ending abruptly, the City needs a plan in place to deal with a surge of migrants that would exhaust our resources and leave many men, women, and children displaced.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

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

Yes, Emergency Ordinance No. 019333 was passed and adopted on May 23, 2022.

**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? N/A**

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? ☒ YES ☐ NO**

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:**

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:**

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. D. J.', is written over a horizontal line.

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE EXTENDING EMERGENCY  
ORDINANCE NO. 019333 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ASSIGN  
PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN ADDRESSING THE  
HUMANITARIAN AND PUBLIC SAFETY CRISIS RESULTING FROM A MASS  
MIGRATION THROUGH EL PASO**

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2022, the Mayor and City Council of the City of El Paso (the “City”) passed an Emergency Ordinance No. 019333 Authorizing the City Manager to assign Personnel and Resources to assist in addressing the Humanitarian and Public Safety Crisis resulting from a Mass Migration through the City of El Paso; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of migrants from Latin America have already gathered at or near the U.S.- Mexico border in hopes that President Biden will ease immigration restrictions that will make it easier to enter the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, because of war between Russia and Ukraine and the political situation in Turkey, Ukrainians, Russians, and Turks are arriving at the Southern border for admission to the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 1, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) announced the repeal of the Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C. §265 (“Title 42”), which was expected to allow for the inflow of migrants from the southern border; and

**WHEREAS**, federal litigation ensued to enjoin the CDC from repealing Title 42 on the intended date of May 23, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southwest had 234,088 land border encounters in the month of April, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso sector of CBP had 29,838 land border encounters in the month of April, 2022 and a total of 143,124 encounters for federal fiscal year 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, although Title 42 remains in place as a result of the federal litigation, the number of Border Patrol encounters remain high averaging 600 to 1000 per day; and

**WHEREAS**, due to this high volume, the number of refugees and asylum seekers continues to climb resulting in 300-500 releases to the Annunciation House, a local non-governmental organization (“NGO”) on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, on some days, the number of releases is lower due to the limited NGO space; and

**WHEREAS**, when the City faced a migrant surge in March of 2019, the NGO was able

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

22-1006-11694 / PL#1182490v.2

Emergency Ordinance – June Extension – Migrant Wave Surge Staff with Resources & Supplies/KMN/JF/CLA

Page 1 of 4

to establish over thirty hospitality sites throughout the El Paso region, versus today's fifteen hospitality sites; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary challenge is that the NGO does not have the volunteer base to sustain or increase current capacity at its current hospitality sites (twelve in El Paso, Texas, three in Las Cruces, New Mexico, one in Deming, New Mexico, and another in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, although NGO volunteer recruitment efforts will continue, it is not anticipated that the volunteer base will keep up with the current demand, despite the NGO having identified additional facilities that could receive migrants; and

**WHEREAS**, when the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's ("CBP") Central Processing Center is over capacity and NGO space is unavailable, that is when the potential for street releases arises; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 15, 2022, the federal authorities released 119 single adults on the downtown streets of the City of El Paso; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the May 15, 2022, street release, the El Paso City-County Office of Emergency Management ("OEM") reallocated twenty-nine COVID-19 Operations staff to assist as migrant shelter surge staff, and on May 17, 2022, this staff began orientation training at Casa del Refugiado, the NGO's largest hospitality site; and

**WHEREAS**, OEM has created a job specification, for general disaster operations to include humanitarian relief duties to hire and assign staff to assist with NGO capacity with 30 staff currently assigned; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso City Charter Section 3.10, allows for the adoption of one or more emergency ordinances to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property, or the public peace; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 121.003 of the Texas Health & Safety Code states that a municipality may enforce any law that is reasonably necessary to protect public health; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 122.006 of the Texas Health & Safety Code provides home-rule municipalities express authority to adopt rules to protect the health of persons in the municipality, including quarantine rules to protect the residents against communicable disease; and

**WHEREAS**, OEM continues to provide COVID-19 isolation and quarantine hotel support to migrant shelters, expanding operations when outbreaks occur in congregate shelter facilities; and

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

22-1006-11694 / PL#1182490v.2

Emergency Ordinance – June Extension – Migrant Wave Surge Staff with Resources & Supplies/KMN/JF/CLA

Page 2 of 4

**WHEREAS**, OEM has provided isolation and quarantine services to over 2,293 migrants in close coordination with NGOs since April 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the release of mass groups of people without access to potable water, food, or shelter exposes the migrants and El Paso residents to the origination and spread of potential and actual disease; and

**WHEREAS**, there are significant public safety and security concerns related to the wave of migration, including but not limited to the risk to injury or loss of life with migrants in El Paso streets with little or no resources on days that reach hot or cold temperatures and the inherent risks that come with increased demand on local shelters; and

**WHEREAS**, for these reasons, the City is faced with the imminent threat of widespread injury or loss of life resulting from a surge in transient migrants traveling to the region during an ongoing global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, there is the potential for loss of property for both residents and migrants due to those who would take financial advantage of this wave of migrants; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso is home to 4 of the 28 international ports of entry between Texas and Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, based on mass migration events in the recent past, the City anticipates significant delays at the international ports-of-entry to include trade; and

**WHEREAS**, the potential encampment of large groups of migrants on City rights of way and parks poses safety risks to migrants and citizens alike; and

**WHEREAS**, in awaiting the due support of the federal government, the City finds that the expenditure of public funds for staff to coordinate resources and supplies, serve as shelter surge staff and transport of migrants released in the City of El Paso accomplishes a valid public purpose of protecting public infrastructure, and protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of El Paso; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to protect the health of persons in the municipality, the City Council wishes to continue to assist the local NGO with surge staff, coordination of resources and supplies, and transportation in light of the continued high number of community releases; and

**WHEREAS**, OEM and the City will continue to prepare and evaluate the need for mass emergency sheltering in anticipation of the eventual repeal of Title 42 and other regional migration surges that may impact the El Paso region; and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance shall remain in effect until otherwise terminated, re-enacted,

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

22-1006-11694 / PL#1182490v.2

Emergency Ordinance – June Extension – Migrant Wave Surge Staff with Resources & Supplies/KMN/JF/CLA

Page 3 of 4



or superseded by a conflicting ordinance, El Paso Local Health Authority Ordinance, or state or federal law.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

1. That the Emergency Ordinance No. 019333 passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of El Paso on May 23, 2022 is hereby re-enacted and shall continue for thirty (30) days unless re-enacted in accordance with City Charter Section 3.10 or until terminated by City Council, whichever is sooner.
2. This ordinance is adopted as an emergency measure with the unanimous vote of the City Council Representatives present and the consent of the Mayor and pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022**

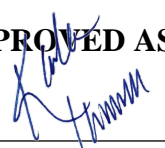
**THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor


**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla M. Nieman  
City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mario M. D'Agostino, Deputy City Manager  
Public Health & Safety

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

22-1006-11694 / PL#1182490v.2

Emergency Ordinance – June Extension – Migrant Wave Surge Staff with Resources & Supplies/KMN/JF/CLA

Page 4 of 4



Legislation Text

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File #: 22-777, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

City Manager's Office, K. Nicole Cote, (915) 212-1092

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Presentation and discussion by the Youth Advisory Board providing an update on their strategic planning document.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022

**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** K. Nicole Cote, City Manager's Office (915) 212-1092

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** 6. Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

**SUBGOAL:** N/A

**SUBJECT:** Presentation and discussion by the Youth Advisory Board providing an update on their strategic planning document.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Presentation and discussion by the Youth Advisory Board providing an update on their strategic planning document.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

On November 24, 2020 the City Council amended Section 1. A of the Youth Advisory Board Resolution to allow the City Manager and his or her designee to appoint members, as nominated by the schools, for the Mayor and each City Council Representative, for a total of nine members.

On December 17, 2019 the City Council enacted a resolution establishing a Youth Advisory Board for the purpose of promoting regular and active civic engagement among the youth.

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:** N/A

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?**  X  YES \_\_\_ NO

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** City Manager's Office - Office of Management and Budget

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:** All City

\*\*\*\*\***REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION**\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**



(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)



# Youth Advisory Board

June 21, 2022

*Deliver Exceptional Services to support  
a high of life + place for our community*





# Agenda

- Strategic Budget Advisory
- FY 2023 Budget
- Mission and Vision
- Board Policy Recommendations

# Strategic Budget Advisory & Youth Advisory Board

Four school districts and a private school:



**EL PASO INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*A Texas Certified District of Innovation*

Lincoln Middle School – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Maxine Silva Health Magnet  
Andress High School



**CANUTILLO | A Premier District**  
*Tomorrow's Best Today*

Canutillo High School



3

# Strategic Budget Advisory & Youth Advisory Board



**Pebble Hills High School – SPARTA Business Academy**



**Young Women's Leadership Academy**



# Integrated Budget Process

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# Budget Development Process

- Increasing demands for services with limited resources
- Continues the commitment to our community
- Open facilities and deliver services in a tight labor market
- Face continued cost increases and economic uncertainty

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# Impact of COVID-19 & Continued Economic Uncertainty

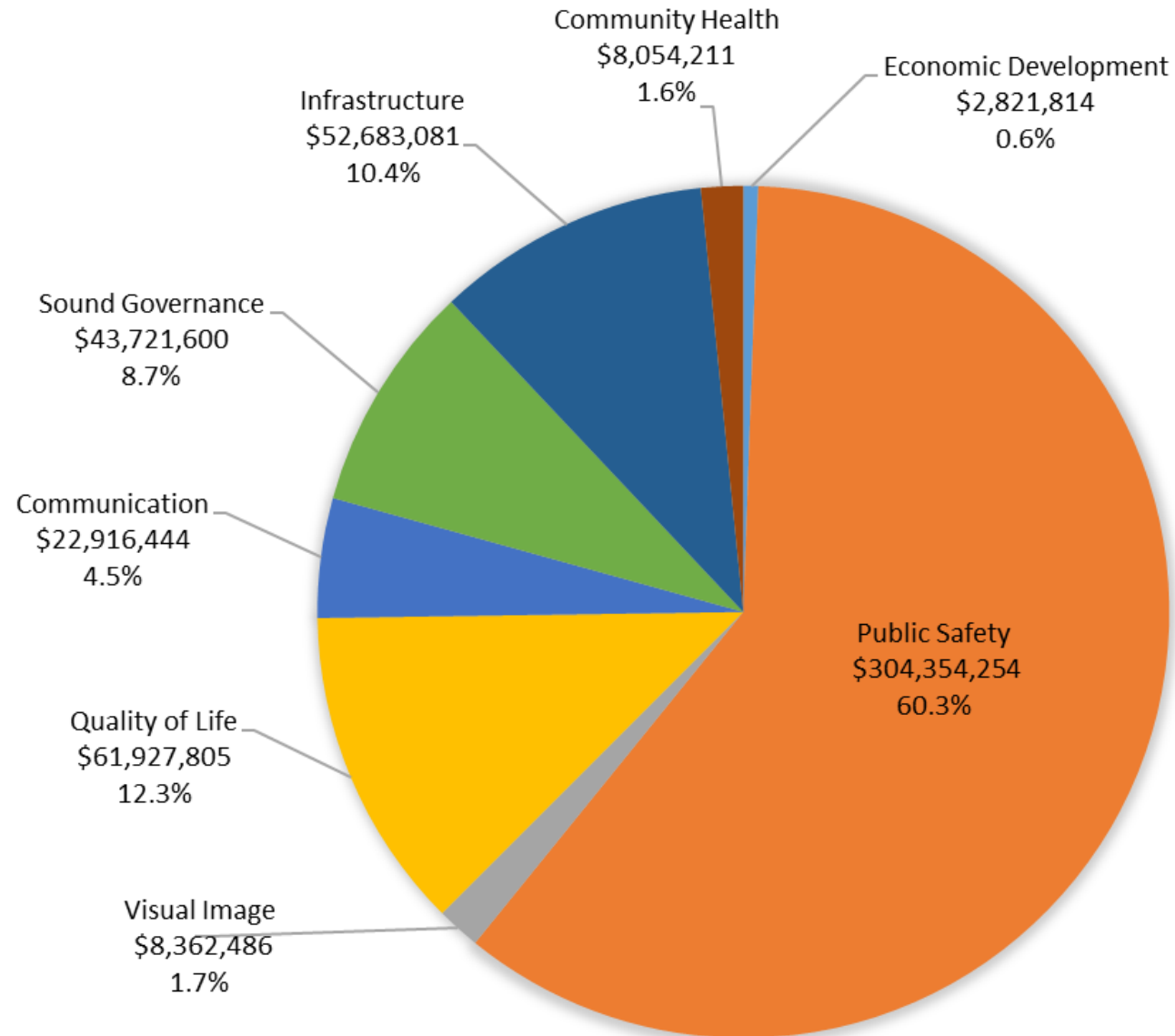
- Revenue impacts – ex. sales tax, bridges, licenses and permits, etc.
- Inflationary pressures are driving costs up – fuel and supply chain disruptions, increasing contract costs (ex. security, janitorial, etc.)
- Tight labor market – hiring challenges and competitiveness
- Global geopolitical instability (Russia, Ukraine, Immigration)

# Helping our Community

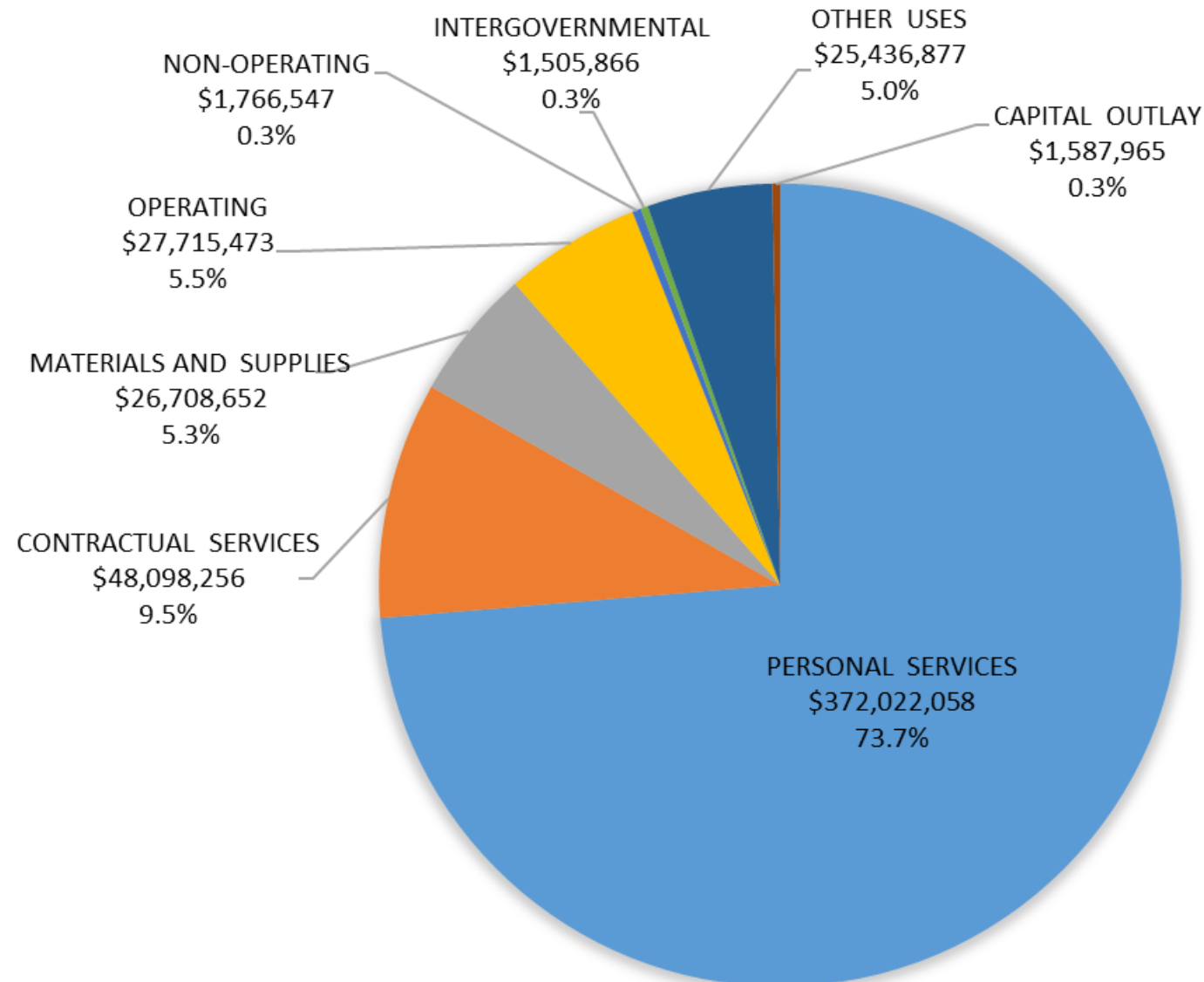
## City Council Led Strategic Economic Recovery

- Hold the line on taxes – No rate increases and proposed rate reduction
- Lowering utility costs – Texas Gas and El Paso Electric
- Seeing Economic Development Benefits for our partners and community
- Community Assistance – Rental and Utility Assistance and small business

# FY 2022/23 General Fund by Strategic Goal



# FY 2022/23 General Fund by Category





# MISSION STATEMENT

*The Youth Advisory Board provides **an impactful voice to advocate for our El Paso youth and establish opportunities to foster a safe, integrated and unified community.***



# YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD VISION

(reaffirmed and approved 4.28.22)

*The Youth Advisory Board will **help shape the future in which we will grow up in, building on areas of our culture, safety and the overall health and welfare of our community.***

# VISIONING + STRATEGIC MAPPING

## MISSION STATEMENT

approved 4.29.21

The Youth Advisory Board provides an impactful voice to advocate for our El Paso youth and establish opportunities to foster a safe, integrated and unified community.

## YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD VISION

The Youth Advisory Board will help shape the future in which we will grow up in, building on areas of our culture, safety and the overall health and welfare of our community.



## BOARD MEMBERS

Amber Borjon  
Amaris Ramos  
Jesus Perez  
Daniela Martell  
Liliana Velarde  
Kayla Saucedo

## YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

CITY OF  
EL PASO, TEXAS



## YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD GOALS

### 1 SAFE & SECURE CITY Community Health / Public Safety

- More public efforts on access, resources and availability among the community (teens) to existing programs to build quality
- Ensuring our community looks beautiful, healthy and safe (productivity within/awareness of existing programs)
- Opportunities and access to mental health resources (low-income) mental and physical needs
  - NAMI (mental health focus)
- Strategic plan on how vaccines (COVID-19 as priority) will be rolled out to teens/communication component
- Maintain reputation of a safe and secure city (enhancing communication and awareness of the safety that teens need to live up to and maintain "as we all grow")

### 2 EXCEPTIONAL RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL Programming

- More involvement in cultural offerings/promoting bordertown identity (i.e., festivals, new Museum to make it available to students "more things that would bring the community together, in that El Paso Culture"
- Improving the quality of existing programs, existing parks, community centers (security and impacts supporting public safety)
- Awareness on access and availability all plays a role in programming (ties back to communication use of social media) promote what we have to offer that teens can get involved and take a part in and a talent they want to expand on
- Cultural programming within the schools (overall educational opportunities about our City and culture, our name) "plays a big role in who we are" programs geared to younger education

### 3 VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY Economic Development

- Promote shopping locally, small business focus to allow for overall economic flow for our region
- Providing a source for internships to gain experiences before joining the workforce (to align with different interests and skillsets). Promote internships to know where they can find these educational opportunities (i.e. certification skills).
- Raising more awareness on types of higher educational opportunities available in El Paso (resource navigation for difference types of options)
- Emphasize our location and culture as a bordertown as a key influential aspect







# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

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AMARIS RAMOS JESUS G. PEREZ  
ZOE DEANDA

# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

---

Maintain Public  
safety

Creating equity  
between socio-  
economic levels

Preserving our  
cultural identity

Ensuring our  
City evolves with  
its community

Continue to  
provide  
opportunities for  
our youth to  
grow

Ensuring that  
everyone in our  
community has  
a voice in how  
they governed

We can get there  
by ensuring that  
government's  
promises are  
more than words

# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

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## Key Focus Area: Community Health

More public efforts on access, **resources and availability among the community (teens)** to existing programs to build quality

## Vision for the Future

Bridge the **gap between current facilities/services** and the youth to ensure accessibility

## How we will get there

Getting to the **youth's level** and ensuring that they understand they are being heard as they voice out their opinions

# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

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## Key Focus Area

Ensuring our community **looks beautiful, healthy and safe** (productivity within/awareness of existing programs). Opportunities and access to **mental health resources** (low-income) mental and physical needs (i.e., NAMI (**mental health focus**))

## Vision for the Future

- Mental health focus in schools (Specific programs that serve students)
- Social media outreach
- Hotline that provides resources and support specifically for mental health
- Establishing units/shelters for the homeless to have access to mental health resources

## How we will get there

- Fomenting the resources provided
- Taking action/prioritizing youth mental health
- Making sure that the youth feels supported in the way that they need (bridging the gap between adults and the youth)

# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

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## Key Focus Area

Strategic plan on vaccines (COVID-19 as priority) rolled out to teens/communication component

## Vision for the Future

Maintaining cases at a low level, despite the number of cases and **prioritizing community health**

## How we will get there

- Keep promoting vaccines/testing
- Promote precaution measures
- Ensuring that the community feels comfortable in public areas and staying mindful of everyone.

# SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

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## Key Focus Area

**Maintain reputation** of a safe and secure city (enhancing communication and awareness of the safety that teens need to live up to and maintain “as we all grow”)

## Vision for the Future

PRIORITY: SAFETY WITHIN SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC AREAS

- Raise age-level for gun ownership.
- Mental health screening when purchasing guns.
- Ensuring that our youth feels safe in public areas; specifically at school, prioritize the prohibition of guns to preserve a safe and peaceful community.

## How we will get there

- Taking precautionary measures; such as, lock doors, create specific emergency/action plan and ensuring that it is practiced.



# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

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ANA HUERTA

JEANETTE RIVERA

SETH GRANADO

# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

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Higher Education  
Opportunities

More GED options

Emphasize our  
Bordertown Vibe

Local & Small Business  
Focus

Promote our Small  
Businesses

Promote Internships to  
support all key focus  
areas



# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

---

## Key Focus Area

Raising more awareness on types of **higher educational opportunities available** in El Paso (resource navigation for difference types of options)

## Vision for the Future

- Adding additional courses (CCTE)(IB program) (stem) (bim) (health)
- Promote higher education in STEM
- Broadcast these opportunities
- Better GED/diploma options for students

## How we will get there

- Through local education institution partnerships and Internships regarding specific areas of study and community service

# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

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## Key Focus Area

**Emphasize our location and culture as a bordertown** as a key influential aspect

## Vision for the Future

Other people want to experience the culture and Bordertown life

Provide more funding to revamp border areas

## How we will get there

Broadcast the real way border towns are and take preventative measures remain a border town

Promote opportunities to grow as a community

# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

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## Key Focus Area

Promote shopping locally, **small business focus** to allow for overall economic flow for our region

## Vision for the Future

Giving local small businesses lenience regarding closing due to COVID-19

Help by promoting

Volunteers and community service

## How we will get there

We will grow locally owned business by providing a tax cut and volunteer opportunities as well as spreading the word

# VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

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## Key Focus For All Areas

Providing a source for internships to gain experiences before joining the workforce (to align with different interests and skillsets). **Promote internships to know where they can find these educational opportunities** (i.e. certification skills).

# YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

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## Next Steps

- Provide Recommendation for new board members
- Identify opportunities for internships
- Continue to collaborate and coordinate with schools across the city to provide the future leaders of El Paso, our youth, with insight into local government and financial literacy



- 2022 Youth Advisory Board
- Strategic Planning Retreat

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**“WE ARE THE FUTURE OF  
EL PASO AND IT IS  
IMPORTANT TO HAVE A  
VOICE IN OUR  
GOVERNMENT”**



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

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**File #: 22-765, Version: 1**

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.  
No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

City Clerk's Office, K. Nicole Cote, (915) 212-1092

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

Presentation, discussion and action on the FY 2023 preliminary Budget Overview.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** June 21, 2022

**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** K. Nicole Cote, City Manager's Office (915) 212-1092

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** 6. Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

**SUBGOAL:** N/A

**SUBJECT:** Presentation, discussion and action on the FY 2023 Preliminary Budget Overview

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Presentation, discussion and action on the FY 2023 Preliminary Budget Overview

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:** N/A

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?** ☒ YES ☐ NO

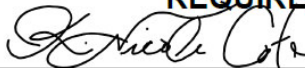
**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** City Manager's Office - Office of Management and Budget

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:** All City

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**



(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client  
department should sign also)





El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX

Legislation Text

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File #: 22-778, Version: 1

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

**DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.  
No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

**All Districts**

International Bridges, David Coronado, (915) 212-7505

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

International Bridges Department Management Update.

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** International Bridges Department

**AGENDA DATE:** Public Hearing: June 21, 2022

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** David A. Coronado, (915) 212-7505,  
[CoronadoDA@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:CoronadoDA@elpasotexas.gov)

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal #1: Create an environment conducive to strong sustainable economic development

**SUBJECT:**

International Bridges Department Management Update

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

Over the last seven years, the International Bridges Department (IBD) has gone through a major transformation. This transformation began in 2015 with the restructuring of the department as a first step to leverage the City of El Paso International Bridges for economic development purposes. This management update provides a brief synopsis of these changes, the progress and accomplishments achieved thus far as a result of the City of El Paso's efforts to improve the regional international bridge system. Some of the major steps and accomplishments in recent years are outlined below and include the following:

1. Successful department restructuring and transformation
2. New approach in managing the international bridges as economic development tools
3. Approval of permanent P3 program with U.S. Customs and Border Protection
4. Adoption of new comprehensive International Bridges Capital Improvement Program
5. Creation of a bi-national Bridges Steering Committee (unique in the entire U.S.-México border)
6. \$32 million funding secured for new Intelligent Transportation System at BOTA and Ysleta
7. Development and implementation of the International Bridges Crossborder Survey to quantify social and expenditure activities and their relationship with the regional economy
8. Completion of the 2021 Texas-México Border Transportation Master Plan

Overall, the International Bridges Department is committed to continue leading these efforts and working with the members of the Bridges Steering Committee and other regional stakeholders on several fronts to improve and modernize the international bridge system that connects and benefits the El Paso del Norte region.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required)

**FINANCE:** (if required)

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

David Coronado, MPA  
Managing Director for International Bridges and Economic Development

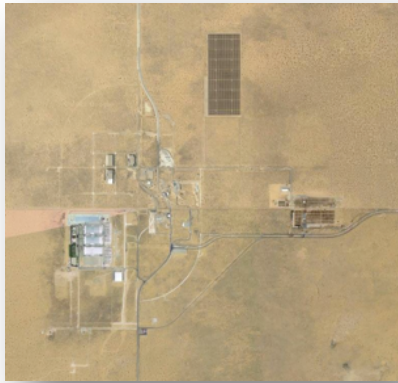


**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:**

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

LAST REVISED: MARCH 22, 2022



# CITY OF EL PASO

## INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

### SUMMARY REPORT

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES DEPARTMENT TRANSFORMATION.....	6
BRIDGES STEERING COMMITTEE.....	7
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APPENDIX A – INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES DEPARTMENT BRIEFING
APPENDIX B – EL PASO INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM POE: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
APPENDIX C – EL PASO/SANTA TERESA/CHIHUAHUA US-MX BTMP IDENTIFIED PROJECT REGIONAL NEEDS
APPENDIX D – EAA GRANT BRIEFING: STANTON ST. POE & CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY STUDY
APPENDIX E – RAISE GRANT BRIEFING: YSLETA POE PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the last seven years, the International Bridges Department (IBD) has gone through a major transformation – not only in terms of its internal structure but also regarding its approach, focus areas, priorities and objectives. This transformation began in 2015 with the restructuring of the department as a first step to leverage the City of El Paso International Bridges for economic development purposes. This white paper provides the reader with a brief synopsis of these changes, the progress and accomplishments achieved thus far as a result of the City of El Paso's efforts to improve the regional international bridge system.

Some of the major steps and accomplishments in recent years are outlined in greater detail in this document and include the following:

1. Successful department restructuring and transformation
2. New approach in managing the international bridges as economic development tools
3. Approval of permanent P3 program with U.S. Customs and Border Protection
4. Adoption of new comprehensive International Bridges Capital Improvement Program
5. Creation of a bi-national Bridges Steering Committee (unique in the entire U.S.-México border)
6. \$32 million funding secured for new Intelligent Transportation System at BOTA and Ysleta
7. Development and implementation of the International Bridges Crossborder Survey to quantify social and expenditure activities and their relationship with the regional economy
8. Completion of the 2021 Texas-México Border Transportation Master Plan

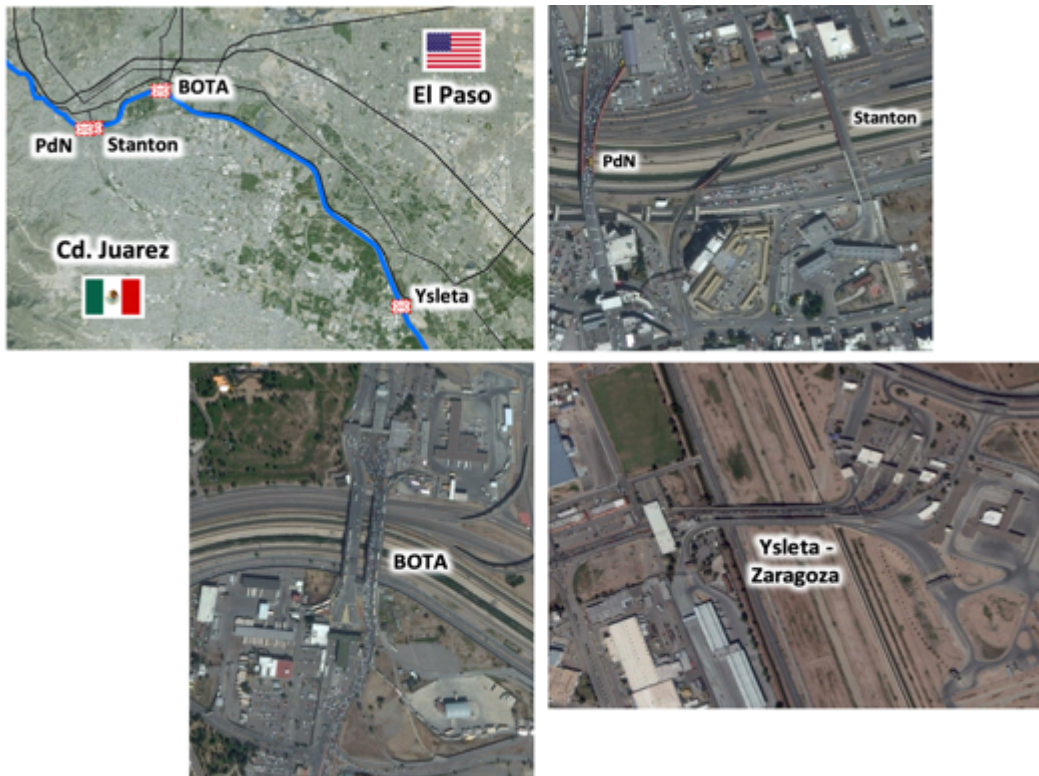
In addition to discussing these topics, this white paper also includes several other documents and briefings that are relevant to the international bridge system improvement efforts in our region led by the City of El Paso. The City is committed to continue leading these efforts and working with the members of the Bridges Steering Committee and other regional stakeholders on several fronts to improve and modernize the international bridge system that connects and benefits the El Paso del Norte region.



### INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The City of El Paso is the sixth largest city in Texas, the 22nd largest city in the United States (U.S.), and shares an international border with México to the south and the state of New Mexico to the west and north. El Paso and its neighbor Ciudad (Cd.) Juárez, México form the second largest bi-national metro area along the U.S.-México border with a population of 2.4 million people. These two sister cities share a strong crossborder relationship that is witnessed by thousands of daily crossings through the regional international bridge system that contribute to strong social and economic ties. Within the City, the international crossings include four ports of entry (POEs) – as depicted in the map montage below, from west to east, the Paso Del Norte (PDN) Bridge, the Stanton Street Bridge, Bridge of the Americas (BOTA), and the Ysleta-Zaragoza Bridge.

**Map Montage.** El Paso – Cd. Juárez International Bridges



All four POEs combined contribute significantly to the local, regional and national economies. During 2021, the City of El Paso ranked second in personal vehicle crossings (near 8.9 million), second in pedestrian crossings (over 4.0 million) among all land ports in North America and third in cargo crossings (almost 850,000) when compared to other border communities along the U.S.-México border (sixth in North America). Also in 2021, \$84.8 billion of trade value passed through the City of El Paso ports. Approximately 87% of this trade travels via commercial trucks and the remaining 13% mainly via

rail and pipeline. Needless to say, U.S. and Mexican non-border areas also benefit from this intense crossborder trade with México as well as numerous other countries that ship their products through our POEs.

Despite the clear social and economic significance the international bridge system brings to the region, it has experienced neglect and seen little investment over the years. The City of El Paso owns, maintains and operates three of the regional bridges, two in the downtown area (PDN and Stanton in **Picture 1**), and one in the east side of town (Ysleta / Zaragoza in **Picture 2**). These three border crossings have mainly served as a revenue source to the City via bridge tolls. However, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Reimbursable Services Program approved in 2013 and the Strategic Plan adopted by the City Council in 2015 set a new direction to look the international bridges as a system and as an economic development tool in addition to redefining the role the International Bridges Department plays within the City of El Paso structure and, most importantly, the El Paso-Cd. Juárez region.

**Picture 1.** Paso del Norte and Stanton Street Bridges



**Picture 2.** Ysleta / Zaragoza Bridge



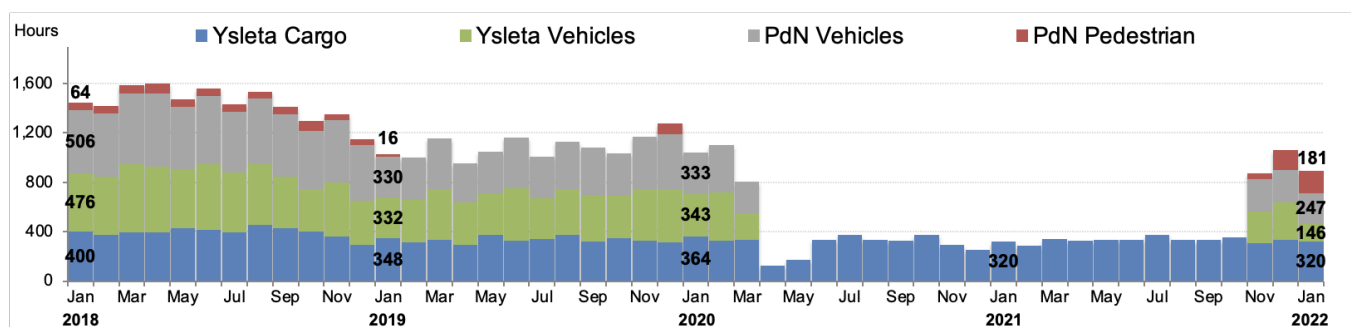
### U.S. CBP REIMBURSABLE SERVICES PROGRAM (P3 PROGRAM)

In 2013, El Paso was one of the first five entities in the United States selected by the federal government to join the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Reimbursable Services Program. This quasi-Public-Private-Partnership (P3) program has allowed the City to assist CBP with additional funding (collected through bridge tolls) to pay for CBP staff overtime to open additional inspection lanes at the bridges during peak hours and to help reduce or stabilize northbound wait times. This program started in January, 2014 and was renewed annually for four years until 2018 when it was made permanent by the City Council.

Since 2014, the City of El Paso has spent over \$12 million finding over 100,000 CBP overtime hours at city-owned bridges in all three modes of crossings. The benefits are significant and represent direct cost savings due to wait time reductions that benefit the private sector including the manufacturing and trucking industry. Understanding these benefits and how critical trade is to the regional economy, the City of El Paso continued to provide financial support to CBP in the commercial environment at the Ysleta/Zaragoza bridge during the current pandemic. However, support was paused for overtime hours for privately owned vehicle and pedestrian crossings during the time that crossborder travel restrictions were in place from March 2020 through November 2021.

Once the federal government began Phase I of the reopening in November 2021, the City of El Paso restarted immediately the P3 program to include support in the privately owned vehicle and pedestrian environments (see **Graph 1**). International Bridges Department and CBP staff since then have been monitoring crossing volume activity and making adjustments to the overtime schedule in order to be able to address staffing critical needs during peak times at both the Ysleta and Paso del Norte bridges.

**Graph 1: Number of P3 hours funded**





### INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES DEPARTMENT TRANSFORMATION

Under the direction of the City Manager and aligned with our then new Strategic Plan, the City of El Paso took the first step to leverage the City's international bridges for economic development purposes to address operations, infrastructure, technology upgrades and other critical needs. Accordingly, the International Bridges Department underwent a major restructuring and transformation in several ways (see **Appendix A**).

First, the International Bridges Department added three key positions that were filled by individuals with a deep background in data analysis, project management, economics, public policy, program evaluation, and survey research. Their experience has been benefiting the department (and its customers) by providing a better understanding of crossborder mobility, wait times, managing and measuring the benefits of the City of El Paso's P3 program with CBP, and improving parking meter management policies. One of the most recent examples of their efforts is the International Bridges Crossborder Survey launched in the Fall of 2019. The objective of this unprecedented study is to quantify crossborder social and expenditure activities and their relationship to the regional economy. This project was conducted in collaboration with a team of researchers from El Colegio de la Frontera Norte. The survey documents social and economic activities and sheds light into the magnitude of retail and service expenditures made by crossborder individuals. A stratified random sampling methodology was implemented and in-person interviews were conducted all days of the week at the PDN, BOTA and Ysleta/Zaragoza bridges (see **Pictures 3 and 4**) on pedestrian and vehicle lanes on the Mexican side. The initial survey period was from October 1, 2019 to March 17, 2020. It was paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic which threatened the health of the respondents and interviewers in addition to the travel restrictions that significantly lowered crossborder traffic. Nevertheless, the study will resume as soon as conditions allow, tentatively in the summer of 2022. This core team has also successfully assisted other city departments (e.g. Sun Metro, Economic Development, El Paso International Airport, and the Police Department, among others) in data analysis and in identifying areas of opportunity to improve services provided by the City by offering data-driven decisions.

**Picture 3.** Paso del Norte POV (left) | **Picture 4.** Ysleta/Zaragoza POV (right)



### BRIDGES STEERING COMMITTEE

Along with the Department Transformation, the International Bridges Department established in 2015 a bi-national Bridges Steering Committee (BSC) – unique in the entire U.S.-México border. Since then, IBD staff has been managing and facilitating BSC meetings and work sessions with an emphasis on improving bridge infrastructure and inspection processing to facilitate trade and the movements of people and good safely and securely through all regional ports of entry. This new collaborative effort created a much-needed venue for all government agencies, business groups and other key bridge stakeholders to come together and work on the issues affecting the international ports of entry. These issues may range from local operational issues and traffic queuing problems to the national migrant crisis along the southern border faced in 2019 in addition to the impacts on crossborder traffic caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Essentially, the BSC provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and on-going conversations about how the region responds to planned and unplanned events as well as coordination needed to manage active and future bridge improvement projects with all stakeholders engaged (see **Picture 5**).

**Picture 5.** Bridges Steering Committee meeting – November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019



The BSC has been instrumental in finding ways to manage the impacts caused by major unexpected events such as the 2019 migrant crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. It has helped facilitate coordination efforts between all government agencies and stakeholders and also in pursuing opportunities to improve the regional bridge system. Over the last two years since the start of the pandemic, the BSC has continued its coordination efforts by holding monthly virtual work sessions. Below is the list of partner government agencies and stakeholders who are part of this bi-national collaborative.

**Bridges Steering Committee Membership**

**United States**

Border Industrial Association	Texas Dept. of Transportation El Paso
Borderplex Alliance	Texas State Secretary of State Office
Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
City of El Paso (IBD, PD, PI)	U.S. Federal Protective Service
County of El Paso	U.S. General Services Administration
El Paso Community Foundation	U.S. Consulate
Metropolitan Planning Organization	U.S. Department of Transportation
Southwest Maquiladora Association	UTEP – Civil Engineering Department
Texas Department of Public Safety	

**México**

Asociación de Transportistas  
Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos de Chihuahua  
Gobierno del Estado de Chihuahua  
IMIP (Jrz. Planning Office)  
INDEX (Maquiladora Association)  
Municipio de Juárez  
Servicio de Administración Tributaria  
Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores

### INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Shortly after the BSC was created, the City of El Paso led a multi-year Lean Six Sigma (LSS) project to look at several infrastructure and technology enhancements needed at the ports of entry to help expedite the flow of traffic and increase throughput safely and securely. This was led by LSS Black and Green Belts from both El Paso and Cd. Juárez. Over the course of this LSS project, City staff engaged with the BSC in POE site visits (see **Picture 6** and **7**), stakeholder interviews, process mapping exercises and in multiple brainstorming sessions to identify potential bridge improvement ideas. Applying LSS methodologies provided all these stakeholders with an opportunity to build new relationships and form project teams to develop multiple improvement projects at the regional ports.

**Picture 6 and 7.** BSC Site Visit at Bridge of the Americas (cargo lot)



These efforts resulted in the creation of an initial comprehensive list of more than 100 improvement ideas and potential projects to address the most critical needs at the region's ports of entry in the passenger, pedestrian, and commercial environments at all international bridges – not only in the U.S. side but also on the Mexican side of the border (see **Picture Set 1** below). These improvement ideas address critical needs in local, state and federally owned or controlled facilities. These ideas also have a great spectrum, they are potential infrastructure projects that will help eliminate bottlenecks that impede the flow of vehicles causing queueing, they add amenities for pedestrians, provide additional traffic cameras for security and traffic monitoring or call for an expansion and modernization feasibility study at Ysleta/Zaragoza to name a few. Based on this list, the El Paso City Council approved its first ever International Bridges Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in December 2018. This CIP is being fully funded by bridge toll revenue collected via the P3 program as well as by the state transportation funding awarded to the City. Of note is the fact that these programs and efforts undertaken by the BSC and the IBD are all being funded by bridge users. There is no impact to the tax rate and no debt has been issued to fund these efforts or additional projects.

**Picture Set 1. Improvement Ideas by POE**



**PDN & Stanton**  
20 improvement ideas



**Bridge of the Americas**  
48 improvement ideas



**Ysleta-Zaragoza**  
47 improvement ideas

### INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (RIDER 44)

Another result of the BSC efforts is that the City of El Paso received for the first time ever \$32 million in state transportation funding that will fund several infrastructure improvements and technology upgrades with the objective of increasing security measures, help with crossborder traffic management, as well as facilitating and expediting trade at the Bridge of the Americas and the Ysleta/Zaragoza Bridge. Specifically, the project will consist of the design, construction, and installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to include dynamic message signs, traffic cameras, wait-time collection devices, fiber optic cable and conduit, geometric improvements at BOTA and traffic management facilities and tolls systems upgrades. Some of the key benefits associated with deploying these technologies include:

- Improve the ability to communicate real-time traffic conditions to the traveling public.
- Improve traffic operations at the ports, increasing reliability and efficiency.
- Strengthen bi-national multiagency collaboration.
- Reduce traffic congestion.
- Enhance security measures and enable close coordination with federal, state, and local law enforcement to address current and anticipated future security needs.
- Improve response times for first responders as they will be able to identify and monitor traffic incidents and port closures that can cause delays in addition to having a better understanding of incident locations and severity.
- Additional access to video feeds that will enable remote monitoring to view traffic queues, incidents, port closures and suspicious activity.

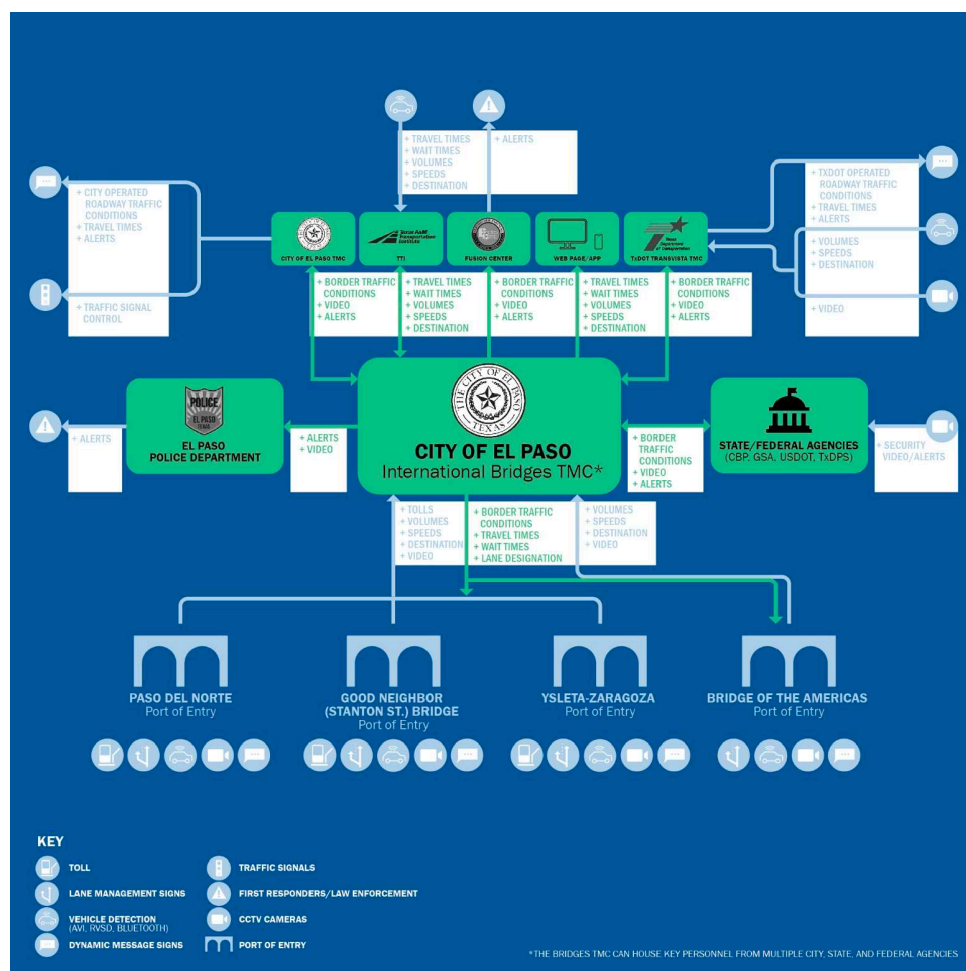
The International Bridges Department is developing this project in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation and several other key stakeholders including U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute and the Texas Department of Public Safety. In addition, coordination with Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos de Chihuahua (MX bridge tolling authority) is critical to ensure that new ITS equipment on both sides of the border is inter-operable to allow for data sharing and compatible RFID tags for electronic payments. Once completed, these improvement projects, in conjunction with the City of El Paso's ongoing P3 program with CBP, will help with the objectives of reducing or stabilizing wait times, facilitating and expediting trade safely and securely and promoting economic development opportunities.

To complement these efforts, the City of El Paso International Bridges Department commissioned the development of an El Paso ITS POE Concept of Operations (ConOps) to address the need and legislative



mandate for supportive infrastructure to manage congestion, improve safety, reduce incidents and regulate ongoing crossborder travel at the four POEs within the City of El Paso, TX. This ConOps (see **Appendix B**) was developed following the systems engineering process as defined by the International Council of Systems Engineering. It aims to identify bridge operator needs and, in short, it provides a roadmap for US and MX government agencies and bridge operators on managing crossborder traffic, improve coordination efforts and how to work side by side in the event of emergency situations, to name a few. A proposed ITS system concept (see **Figure 1** below) outlines these relationships and data and information transfers required for a fully integrated bi-national ITS system.

**Figure 1. Proposed ITS System Concept**



In collaboration with the BSC, the City of El Paso has also developed [PDNuno.com](http://PDNuno.com), a bilingual website that is being used to alert the traveling public of existing conditions at each of the City's ports of entry including historical crossings data, border-crossing wait-time information, live camera feeds from City-owned bridges, travel notices, the results of the International Bridges Crossborder Survey, FAQs, and

the contact information of agencies represented in the BSC and who are responsible for the management and operation of the regional border crossings. The new ITS enhancements at BOTA and Ysleta/Zaragoza will allow the City to share additional and more reliable information to the public via this website as they plan their trips to and from El Paso – whether as a pedestrian, in a personal vehicle or commercial truck.



## US-MX BORDER TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

The International Bridges Department (IBD) and the Capital Improvements Department of the City of El Paso worked closely with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and other regional stakeholders over the last three years on completing the new 2021 Texas-México Border Transportation Master Plan (BTMP). The BTMP efforts began in December 2018 when TxDOT first held the kick-off meeting for this bi-national effort. The final plan was adopted by the Texas Transportation Commission in March 2021. This effort was led by TxDOT in close coordination with the Border Trade Advisory Committee and included representation from a number of agencies and partners in both the U.S. and the Mexican states bordering with Texas. The BTMP is a comprehensive, multi-modal, long-range plan that identified several policies, programs and project recommendations to address issues and needs across the TX-MX border for the benefit of the international bridge system, surrounding communities and the rest of the state.

The City of El Paso's International Bridges Department was heavily involved throughout the process and assisted in providing recommendations to ensure that the regional needs were discussed in the plan. IBD also coordinated with several other City departments including the Capital Improvements Department, the El Paso International Airport, Sun Metro, Streets and Maintenance and Planning and Inspections to gather feedback and information on projects and infrastructure needs in the community. The Bridges Steering Committee also played a key role in ensuring that regional needs were identified. The BSC membership attended several public meetings held by the TxDOT throughout the process. As a result, the City of El Paso in coordination with the BSC identified and provided TxDOT with close to 300 bi-national projects to include in the plan (see **Appendix C**). The projects cost estimates amount to over \$11 billion and address needs at the ports of entry as well as in the main corridors and surrounding areas in both the U.S. and México.



### LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

The City of El Paso is currently pursuing federal funds in the form of grants to complete critical regional projects in an effort to modernize and improve the international bridge system. Under the American Rescue Plan Act, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) was allocated \$3 billion in supplemental funding to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build back better by accelerating economic recovery from the corona virus pandemic. A subset of those dollars, approximately \$500 million, was allocated for Economic Adjustment Assistant grants. In December, 2021 and in alignment with the Strategic Plan 25 by 2025, the City applied for a \$1 million grant (see **Appendix D**) to conduct a feasibility study that will analyze opportunities to improve the Stanton Street Corridor as well as modernize and possibly expand the Stanton Street bridge to include pedestrian amenities and ITS technologies among others. This grant places an emphasis on the importance of the Stanton Street bridge but also expands into the surrounding area.

The proposed feasibility study has six areas of focus as follows:

1. Enhanced pedestrian amenities and safety measures
2. Beautification of the area
3. Improve traffic control measures along Stanton Street
4. Explore the introduction of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
5. Possible port expansion (additional SENTRI lanes, multi-modal lanes, etc.)
6. Property acquisition and construction

The City is currently pending a response from EDA on whether the funding will be made available and has committed \$300 thousand as the local match for the project. The City has also began preparing a second grant application with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). This subsequent effort is aligned with the new \$1.5 billion in grant funding available through the Rebuilding America Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program. This program helps communities around the country carry out projects with significant regional impact. The City is pursuing \$12 million in funding to help construct pedestrian safety improvements and amenities at the Ysleta/Zaragoza bridge (see **Appendix E**).

The list of proposed improvements include:

1. Dedicated pedestrian drop-off and pick-up zones
2. Protection from the elements (shade canopies)
3. Improved cross-walks at intersections
4. Pedestrian-level light fixtures, raised pedestrian crossings, marked crosswalks, median islands, pedestrian warning signs and signals, traffic calming techniques, etc.

5. Streetlights
6. Landscaping improvements
7. Seating areas
8. Screening walls for security
9. CCTVs for security
10. Sun Metro bus stop
11. Wayfinding signs

If awarded, the City committed to provide \$3 million as the local match for the project. This funding will be provided from toll revenues via the P3 program. Once completed, this construction project will help complement the recently completed pedestrian improvements at Ysleta/Zaragoza on the Mexican side (see **Picture 8**).

**Picture 8:** Ysleta/Zaragoza Bridge



Additional funding dedicated to bridge infrastructure projects to facilitate the movement of people and goods across the border is critical to the region. For this reason, the City of El Paso will also pursue alternate sources of funding in order to complete a feasibility study for the expansion and modernization of the Ysleta/Zaragoza bridge.

Such a feasibility study will focus on the following issues:

1. Study existing conditions (site, surrounding land uses, transportation, natural environment, utilities, buildings, etc.)
2. Study and evaluate current port of entry design layout to include local, state and federal properties and facilities

3. Explore overall port expansion into adjacent vacant properties for added capacity and increase in throughput commensurate with demand across all modes
4. Explore construction of new dedicated pedestrian bridge with enhanced amenities
5. Design and evaluate the expansion of existing City of El Paso operations facilities to support port expansion and additional traffic demand
6. Expansion of vehicle and cargo northbound facilities. This supports eastside growth from population and industry related activities.
7. Enhanced pedestrian amenities (includes: shade canopies, raised cross-walks, sidewalk improvements, lighting, landscaping areas and various pedestrian safety improvements)
8. Incorporate public plaza area similar to Stanton & PDN as a pedestrian amenity (including public restrooms and other amenities for pedestrians)
9. Public parking and access to public transportation
10. Technology solutions to provide accurate wait times
11. Explore alternate modes of transportation such as a freight shuttle or similar automated system technologies
12. Introduction of multi-modal or stacked lanes
13. Propose and evaluate opportunities for the use and installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems and related technologies in an effort to modernize the port
14. Evaluate and design expansion and relocation of City of El Paso commercial traffic toll booth facilities
15. Improved traffic control measures for vehicular traffic (POV lane assignments and dividers for southbound traffic) and cargo traffic
16. Reconfiguration, modernization and expansion of CBP cargo lot to include primary, non-intrusive and secondary inspection facilities
17. Reconfiguration, modernization and expansion of FMCSA and DPS inspection facilities
18. Evaluate and propose use new technologies (traffic cameras, automated systems, machine learning, etc.) available to monitor and measure throughput of international bridge traffic across all modes
19. Prepare and analyze future traffic projections and evaluate the implementation of alternative pricing technologies such as variable or dynamic pricing

These long-term investments and priority needs will have a significant impact and will benefit the region. However, local funding is extremely limited and, as stated previously, for this reason the City of El Paso is pursuing alternate sources of funding to make progress in these high value projects. Currently, the bipartisan infrastructure bill recently approved will provide with several funding opportunities and the City is committed to pursuing these as they become available.

## CHALLENGES

The international bridge system has experienced the impacts of countless socio-economic events in the recent history that have fundamentally transformed and changed the way it operates. These events include, among others, economic recessions, terrorist attacks such as those seen in 9/11, the migrant crisis in 2019, violence in Mexico and exchange rate fluctuations to name a few. In addition to these externalities, the bridge system also faces numerous challenges that hinder its ability to quickly adjust to changing times, technologies, population growth, system capacity, and demand. Below is a list of challenges the region faces when it comes to ensuring that the border crossings operate at an optimum level and respond adequately to the demands from bridge users across all modes, whether they come from pedestrians, privately owned vehicles, or commercial trucks. These challenges include:

1. Rio Grande 'navigable waterway' designation: This designation imposed by the federal government to the entire length of the Rio Grande along the U.S.-MX border from El Paso to the Gulf of México should be revised for the west Texas region considering that the climate and natural environment are different from those in the valley. Removing or providing an exception for El Paso County and other west Texas regions would, in the future, significantly help facilitate and reduce construction costs of a new, remodeled, or expanded international bridge.
2. Limited funding: Historically, the international bridge system has seen limited investments in the areas of infrastructure and technology improvements at all levels of government. The City of El Paso, over the last seven years, has made significant progress in this area but additional support is needed from state and federal government agencies. The City has, via its P3 Program, made investments in infrastructure, donated projects and provided over \$12 million in funding to CBP to fund overtime hours for agents to open additional lanes and help reduce or stabilize northbound wait times. Unfortunately, the City funding is limited and the needs have been increasing over time. An indication that staffing at the ports of entry remains an issue and little progress has been made in this area. This leads to the international bridges not operating at full capacity generating congestion, backups, adding to vehicle emissions and impacting the regional economy.
3. System/equipment issues in Mexico and the lack of a similar P3 Program: The Mexican Customs have been investing and modernizing their equipment and systems in recent years; however, it is our understanding that these systems are frequently down or present issues significantly delaying processes and causing congestions and backups, particularly for personal vehicles and cargo trucks. Adding to this issue, the Mexican federal government has not created a parallel P3 Program that would allow private support and investments in infrastructure, equipment and/or staffing levels within federally controlled facilities at the ports of entry. Such a program may prove beneficial as it would complement the efforts, scheduling and operations performed in the U.S. and may facilitate efforts to manage the POEs as one synchronized bi-national system.





# International Bridges Department Management Update

June 21, 2022



# International Bridges Transformation

- Department restructured
- Advanced statistical analysis
- Reimbursable services agreement with U.S. CBP to stabilize border wait-times
- Established Bridges Steering Committee instrumental for binational collaboration
- Secured \$32M for Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Adoption of 5-yr Capital Improvement Program
- Regional unified preparedness and response to external shocks
- Pursuing several federal funding opportunities



**Making data driven decisions guided by our strategic plan**



**Objective of improving our competitive advantage among other ports of entry**



**Boost economic development opportunities for our region**



# El Paso International Bridge System

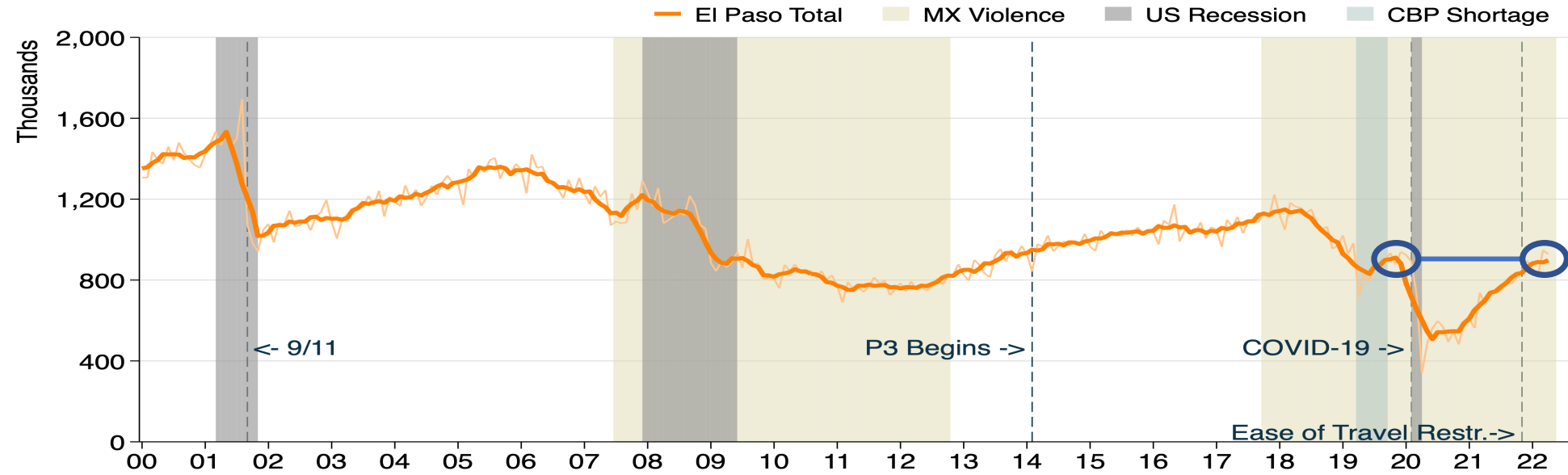
- ❖ 2021 Trade through the City of El Paso totaled \$84.8 billion
  - Ranks **2<sup>nd</sup> in personal vehicles** crossings (near 8.9 million)
  - Ranks **2<sup>nd</sup> in pedestrian** crossings (over 4.0 million)
  - Ranks **3<sup>rd</sup> in cargo** crossings (almost 850,000)



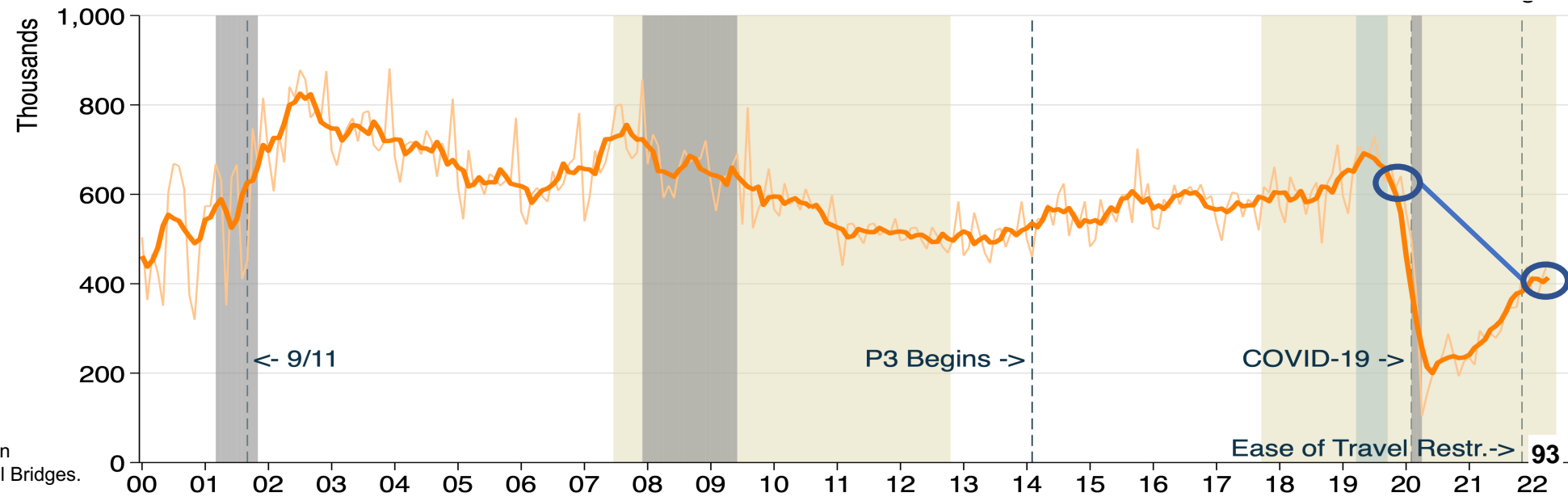


# COVID-19 Impact on Bridge Crossings

## Personal Vehicle Crossings

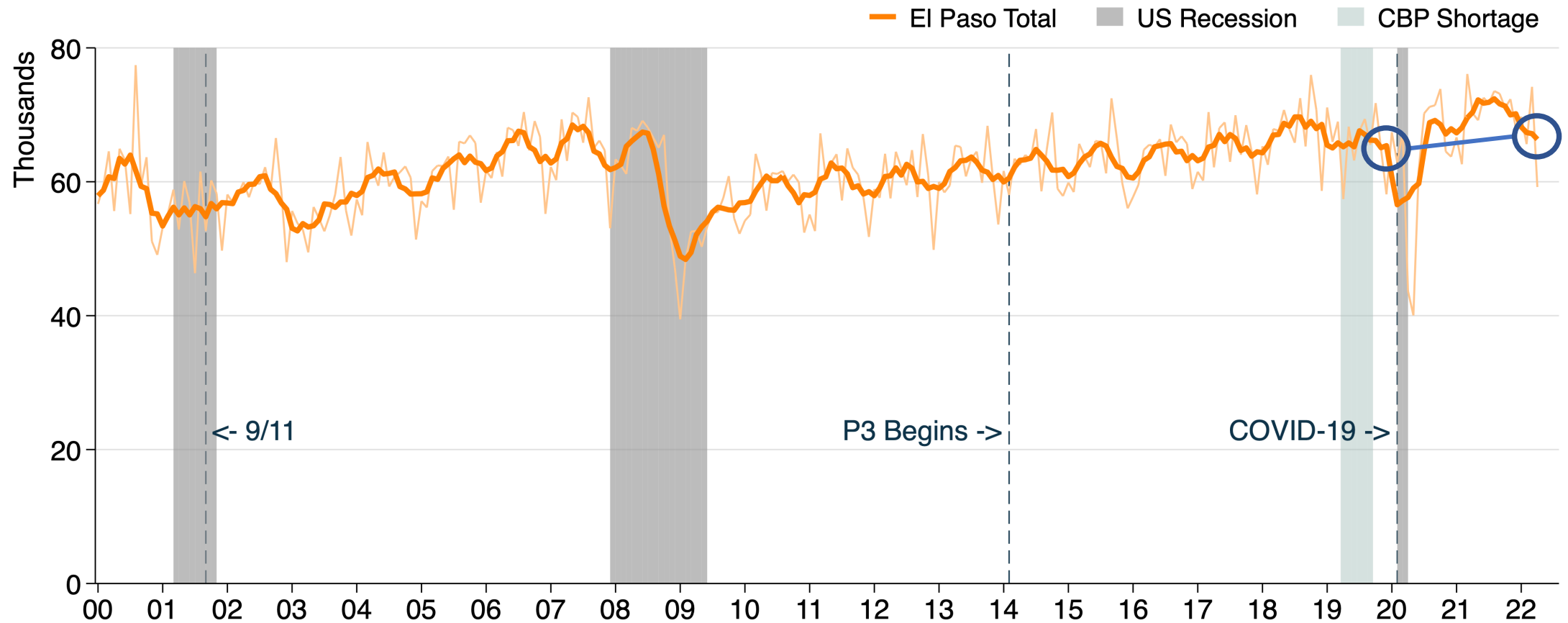


## Pedestrian Crossings



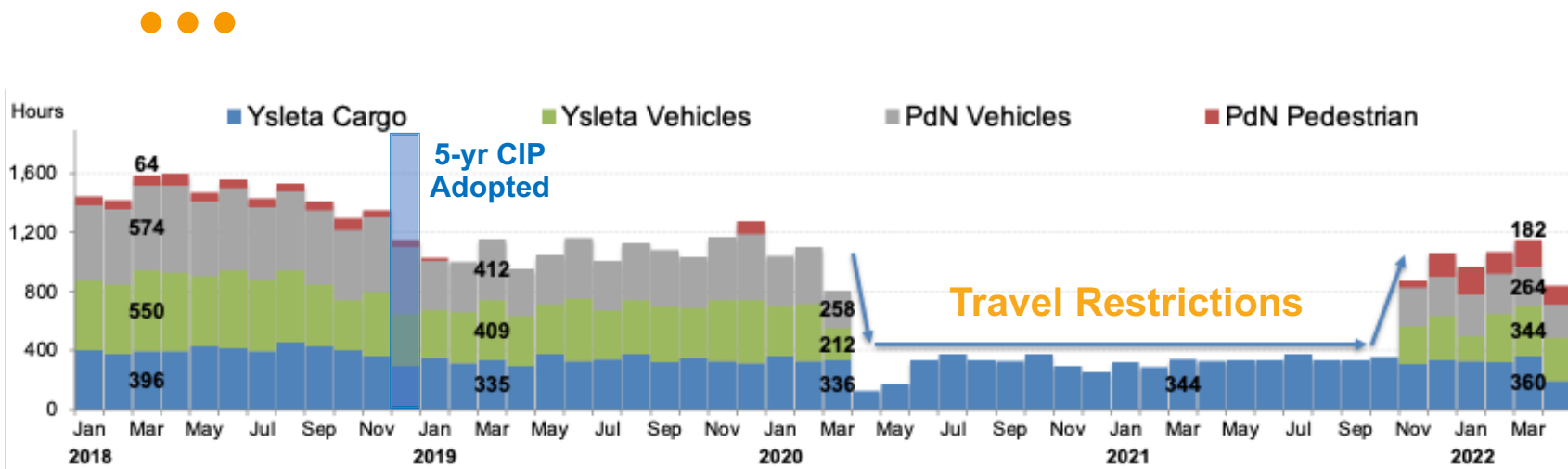
# COVID-19 Impact on Bridge Crossings

## Cargo Crossings



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection compiled by the City of El Paso International Bridges. Last observation: April, 2022.

# Investing in our regional bridge system



## Strategic Plan

Enhance cross-border  
mobility experience for  
bridge users



## CBP Reimbursable Services Agreement

\$12.5M invested  
over 100k CBP  
overtime hours



## 5-yr Capital Improvement Program

Investing more than \$42M of  
improvements and new technology  
enhancements over the next 5 years

# Bridges Steering Committee

## United States

- Border Industrial Association
- Borderplex Alliance
- Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority
- City of El Paso (IBD, CID, SAM, PD, PI)
- County of El Paso
- El Paso Community Foundation
- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- New Mexico Border Authority
- Southwest Maquiladora Association
- Texas A&M Transportation Institute
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Transportation El Paso
- U.S. Consulate
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. General Services Administration
- UTEP – Civil Engineering Department

## México

- Asociación de Transportistas
- Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos de Chihuahua
- Gobierno del Estado de Chihuahua
- IMIP (Jrz. Planning Office)
- INDEX (Maquiladora Association)
- Municipio de Juárez
- Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores
- Servicio de Administración Tributaria

## Interagency Binational Collaboration







# Binational Collaboration

(Fideicomiso de Puentes Fronterizos)

- ❖ Real-time crossings data and information sharing
- ❖ Binational Intelligent Transportation Systems
- ❖ Improved payment systems
- ❖ Explore port of entry expansion and modernization opportunities
- ❖ Implement solutions to help bridge crossers and improve customer service



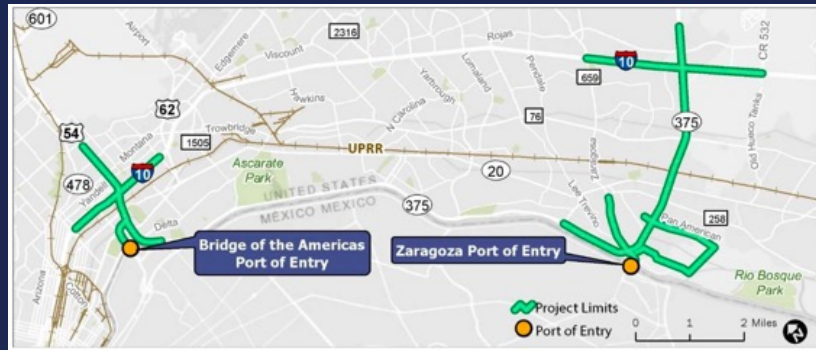
**EL PASO**  
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES



FIDEICOMISO  
**DE PUENTES  
FRONTERIZOS  
DE CHIHUAHUA**

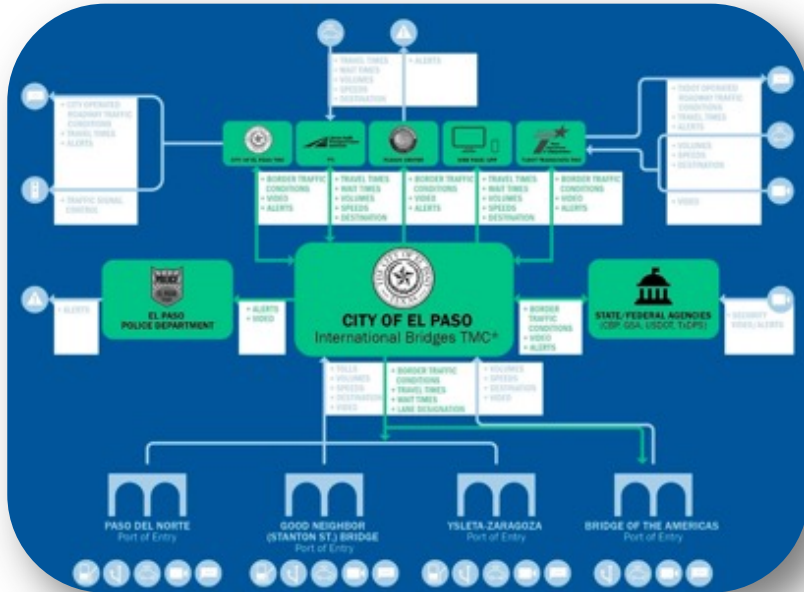


# Intelligent Transportation Systems (Rider 44)



- ❖ Bridge of the Americas and Ysleta POE
- ❖ \$32M project: \$14M on-system | \$18M off-system
  - On-system 100% design completed
  - Off-system scope and fee in-progress (pending AFA)
  - Concept of Operations developed (interagency coordination)
  - Dynamic message signs, improved security measures, wait-time collection devices, traffic detection devices
  - In close coordination with BSC stakeholders including TxDOT, CBP, TTI, EPPD and others

# Benefits of ITS



EXTENDED HRS  
COMMERCIAL  
OPERATIONS

Improved customer service



Access to real-time traffic conditions via security cameras

CRASH AHEAD  
WAIT TIME:  
30 MIN

Updated wait-time information



# E-Fast Pass

- Dedicated travel lanes to reduce transaction times
- Discounted rate (\$0.50 less)
- Increasing access to services
- Contactless payment method



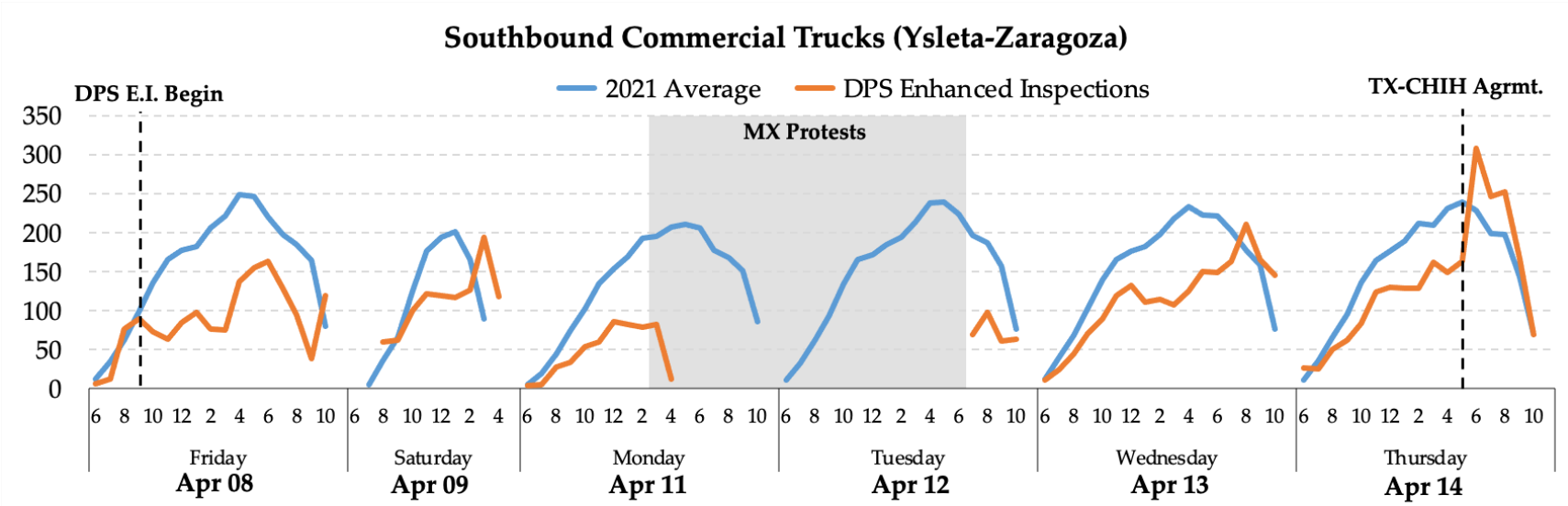
# PDNuno.com

- Crossings data
- Travel alerts
- Live traffic camera feeds
- Border wait-time information
- Frequently asked questions
- Crossborder survey results





# Regional response to DPS enhanced inspections



## Bridges Steering Committee

POE hours of operation  
adjustments and real-time  
coordination



## State Delegation

Strong support and  
representation in Austin



## Border Trade Advisory Committee

Representing ELP/JRZ  
border region in Texas

# Federal Funding Strategies

## Stanton St. Bridge and Corridor

Expansion and modernization feasibility study

## Ysleta Construction

Pedestrian safety improvements and amenities

## El Paso International Bridge System

Needs assessment of all regional POEs





# Collaboration with Texas' 16<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



## White Paper

- ❖ Overview of international bridge system
- ❖ CBP reimbursable services agreement
- ❖ Department transformation
- ❖ Bridges Steering Committee
- ❖ Capital Improvement Program
- ❖ Intelligent Transportation Systems
- ❖ US-MX Border Transportation Master Plan
- ❖ Priority border projects
- ❖ Long term investments
- ❖ Challenges



LAST REVISED: MARCH 22, 2022



CITY OF EL PASO

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

SUMMARY REPORT



- ❖ BTMP efforts began December 2018, adopted by Texas Transportation Commission March 2021
- ❖ Effort led by Border Trade Advisory Committee (BTAC) and Texas Department of Transportation
- ❖ City of El Paso, Bridges Steering Committee and all regional stakeholders involved throughout process
- ❖ BTMP identified policy, program and project recommendations
- ❖ **Regional needs: 292 identified projects, \$11.6B**
  - **661 border wide total projects, \$37.4B total cost**





# New x-ray inspection machines at all international bridges

## ❖ City of El Paso concerns include:

- Impact to City of El Paso properties and lifecycle of bridges
- Traffic control plans during and after construction
- Phases and timelines remain unclear
- Additional bottlenecking/congestion at POEs
- Potential negative impact on border wait-times
- Increased pressure on existing CBP staffing shortages
- Long-term health impacts to bridge crossers unknown
- No public outreach or education campaign thus far

- ✓ Objective is to x-ray practically all POVs before primary inspection
- ✓ Project underway at all land border crossings along US-MX border
- ✓ GSA is lead agency



EL PASO  
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES

## Ysleta/Zaragoza POE



## Mission

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

## Values

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,  
**A**ccountability, **P**eople

## Vision

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



El Paso, TX

300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX

## Legislation Text

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**File #: 22-798, Version: 1**

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

#### **DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT, CONTACT INFORMATION:**

*Please choose District and Department from drop down menu. Please post exactly as example below.*

*No Title's, No emails. Please use ARIAL 10 Font.*

City Attorney's Office, Kristen Hamilton-Karam, (915) 212-0033

#### **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

*This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.*

City Attorney and City Manager annual performance evaluations. Matter No. 21-1043-688 (551.071) (551.074)