

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

DEPARTMENT: Mayor and Council

AGENDA DATE: April 30, 2019

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Representative Aleksandra Annello 212-0002
Representative Cassandra Hernandez 212-0003

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL:

Goal 8 - Nurture and Promote a Healthy, Sustainable Community

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 to approve a resolution supporting the mission of the El Paso Chapter of Deeds Not Words.

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?

That the City support open dialogue pertaining to sexual health.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

N/A

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

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

**A Resolution Supporting the El Paso Chapter of “Deeds Not Words”
Whose Mission is to Promote an Open Dialogue Pertaining to Sexual Health**

Whereas, sex positivity is defined as the idea that sexual consensual expression is both healthy, normal and a positive aspect of human life and relationships; and

Whereas, being sex positive relies on a foundation of scientifically based sex health education, includes the understanding, affirmation and acceptance of a spectrum of gender identities, and deconstructs historically prescribed gender roles and prioritizing of bodily autonomy and choice; and

Whereas, the organization “Deeds Not Words” supports the following ideas: that everyone should be proud of their bodies and not have any guilt or shame for how they choose to use their bodies, that sexual expression is good as long as it’s safe and consensual, and that everyone should control whether they choose to participate in sex or to abstain, without stigma as to that choice; and

Whereas, the supporters of Deeds Not Words believe that everyone has the right to sex education and that an open dialogue on sexual health will help remove potential stigma associated with the topic of sex in general and could help each individual to make the right decision for themselves; and

Whereas, the City of El Paso has no previous resolution pertaining to sex positivity and this resolution spurring an open dialogue about sex could foster positive changes in our community; and

Whereas, in the County of El Paso, Texas, the teen birth rate remains about 25%-33% higher than the State of Texas rate and roughly 90% higher than the rate of the nation, partly due to a focus on abstinence-only education or no sex education at all; and

Whereas, the City of El Paso, Texas, a border city, has a predominantly Hispanic population, which potentially presents cultural issues in terms of what sex education is discussed at the family level.

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

THAT the City of El Paso supports the El Paso Chapter of Deeds Not Words in the latter’s efforts to promote sex positivity as an environment in which individuals can receive information on sexual health and sexuality without stigma; and that a Sex Positive Day designation should be recognized on April 30th of each the year.

CITY CLERK DEPT
2019 APR 25 PM1:59

Dated this _____ day of April, 2019.


CITY OF EL PASO

Dee Margo, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Elizabeth Ruhmann
Assistant City Attorney