

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the city of El Paso is the 6th largest city in Texas and the 19th largest city in the United States;

WHEREAS, the city of El Paso has been named the city with the lowest crime rate in the United States with a population of over 500,000 residents. Since 1997, El Paso has been ranked in the 2nd or 3rd spot of Safest Cities by this independent study;

WHEREAS, the decision by the University of Texas System Chancellor to cancel the Julio César Chávez, Jr. vs. Andy Lee fight scheduled for June 16, 2012 at the UTEP campus citing concerns of safety and that the Sun Bowl Stadium is not the appropriate venue for this event is inflammatory and damaging to the image and reputation of El Paso;

WHEREAS, elected officials are extremely offended that El Paso is falsely portrayed as a war zone suffering spillover violence from the drug war in México;

WHEREAS, the decision was attributed to security concerns related to a potential risk of border violence but no specific facts or evidence of such claim were provided;

WHEREAS, local, state and federal law enforcement agencies are unaware of any security risk associated with the fight;

WHEREAS, the live event has the potential to infuse \$4.5 million into the El Paso economy and turn away over 40,000 expected spectators;

WHEREAS, the fight will also be televised nationally, and HBO's viewership is estimated to be at its highest in the month of June with 60 to 80 million viewers;

WHEREAS, UTEP has hosted world-class championships in the past such as the 1998 Oscar De La Hoya championship fight with more than 40,000 attendees and the nationally broadcast WBC Super Bantamweight World Championship last weekend on April 12, 2012 at the Don Haskins Center;

WHEREAS, the Sun Bowl Stadium is more than just a campus venue – it is a community venue hosting the national significant Sun Bowl Football Bowl game and community events such as Monster Jam, the Rolling Stones, and soccer matchups;

WHEREAS, El Paso's history demonstrates that we can successfully host these types of events without any incidence of violence;

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

1. The City of El Paso strongly opposes the decision made by the Chancellor and requests that the Board of Regents reverse the Chancellor's decision and reinstate the

Julio César Chávez, Jr. vs. Andy Lee fight scheduled to take place at the UTEP campus Sun Bowl Stadium on June 16, 2012; and

2. The City of El Paso is provided with the risk assessment report that concluded the risk was higher than normal; and
3. The City of El Paso is provided with documentation of any other events that have not been approved at University of Texas System schools over the past five years; and
4. The City of El Paso is provided with documentation of similar events that have been approved at other University of Texas System schools over the past five years.

ADOPTED and EFFECTIVE this _____ of _____, 2012.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

Sylvia Borunda Firth
City Attorney