

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

**DEPARTMENT:** Economic & International Development Department  
**AGENDA DATE:** CCA Consent May 5, 2015  
**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Cary S. Westin, Managing Director, (915) 212-1614  
**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** ALL DISTRICTS

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion and action on a resolution establishing a veterans affairs advisory committee for the purpose of advising the city of El Paso on matters related to providing assistance to Veterans. [Economic & International Development, Cary S. Westin, Managing Director, (915) 212-1614].

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

The City of El Paso is home to the Ft. Bliss military installation and has a large military veteran population; and the City seeks to create a committee that provides military veterans with assistance in different areas in which they may need guidance. This committee will be established to advise council on matters related to the City's large veteran population. It will serve as a source of information related to the status, resources and services available within the El Paso community to the City's large veteran population. It will identify and review the entire range of services currently available to veterans and recommend ways to strengthen such services, to include the promotion of collaboration among Service Providers. Furthermore, it will evaluate and recommend programs, policies and practices designed to alleviate veterans' difficulties in meeting basic needs related to transportation, housing, employment and other areas affecting veterans in the city. Finally, it will stimulate awareness among the public and private sector of veterans' full potential and of the importance of veterans' contributions to the sustainability and development of our community.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

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

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

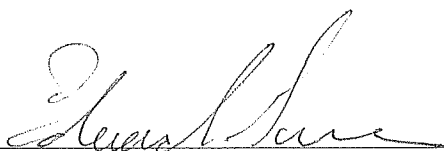
**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION:**

Enter appropriate comments or N/A.

N/A

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** \_\_\_\_\_



**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVISING THE CITY OF EL PASO ON MATTERS RELATED TO PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO VETERANS.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso is home to the Ft. Bliss military installation and has a large military veteran population; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Paso seeks to create a network that provides military veterans with assistance in the area of transportation.

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

That the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee is hereby established to advise the City Council on matters related to veterans as follows:

1. Committee Established – Membership
  - A. The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC) shall consist of nine members appointed by the Mayor and each City Council Representative. The persons appointed to this committee should have an interest in improving the everyday life of our military veterans.
  - B. The city manager shall designate a city department to provide an employee to serve as the recording secretary and shall provide administrative and technical staff support to the Committee.
2. Terms
  - A. Each member of the City Council shall nominate one member to the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. The terms of office shall be for two years and all terms shall expire in \_\_\_\_\_. Appointments to vacancies that occur other than by expiration of a member's term of office shall be filled by appointment by the Mayor and City Council for the remainder of the unexpired term. Members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.
  - B. The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee shall annually select from among its appointed members a chair and a vice-chair. The Committee shall adopt such rules and regulations for the government of its proceedings as may be deemed proper, not inconsistent with the ordinances and the Charter of the City and the laws of the State of Texas.
  - C. A quorum of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee shall be a majority of the total number of the members who have been appointed by City Council at the time of the meeting; provided however that a quorum shall not be less than five. The chair shall

have a vote in all matters. No final action shall be taken on any matter except pursuant to a simple majority vote of members present.

3. Duties - The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee shall perform the following :
- A. Serve as a source of information related to the status, resources and services available within the El Paso community to the City's large veteran population.
  - B. Identify and review the entire range of services currently available to veterans and recommend ways to strengthen such services, to include the promotion of collaboration among Service Providers.
  - C. Evaluate and recommend programs, policies and practices designed to alleviate veterans' difficulties in meeting basic needs related to transportation, housing, employment and other areas affecting veterans in the city.
  - D. Stimulate awareness among the public and private sector of veterans' full potential and of the importance of veterans' contributions to the sustainability and development of our community.
  - E. Report status of activities to City Council on a semi-annual basis.
4. Sunset Provision – The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee shall sunset on \_\_\_\_\_, except that such date may be extended by resolution of the City Council. The terms of all VAAC members shall automatically expire on the sunset date.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, **2015.**

**THE CITY OF EL PASO**

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

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sylvia Borunda Firth  
City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

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Col. (Ret) Cary S. Westin  
Director, Economic and International  
Development