

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

**DEPARTMENT:** El Paso International Airport/ Veteran and Military Affairs

**AGENDA DATE:** September 29, 2020

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Sam Rodriguez, Director of Aviation, 212-7301, [RodriguezS3@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:RodriguezS3@elpasotexas.gov)  
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**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion with the Veterans and Military Affairs Cross Functional Team to update council on the status of Veteran and Military programs, policies, and initiatives that directly affect the El Paso Veteran and Military community.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The Chief Military Officer along with selected members of City Staff representing Human Resources, Community and Human Development, the Public Information Office, and Economic Development are working to incorporate initiatives, program and policy changes recommended by the Veteran and Military Community and the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. Projects, Policies and Incentives in the areas of Homelessness, Employment, Military Transformation, Regional Economic Development and Marketing / Outreach will be the focus of the cross functional team. The Team will discuss current programs and efforts to support the Veteran and Military community, efforts to minimize Veteran Homelessness, show efforts made by the City Human Resources department to recruit Veterans for Employment as well as discussion to show efforts to maintain a low Veteran unemployment rate. The team will present efforts taken to reach out to the community and connect Veterans through marketing and outreach.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

On February 3rd, 2020, and June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020, City Council directed City Staff to support the VAAC by implementing the following actions:

1. To add a Veteran Employment Preference Program that will focus on a Veteran interview rate of 20%.
2. To align specific City job descriptions with Military Occupational Specialty Codes.
3. To add verbiage to City job descriptions allowing for minimum qualifications standards over mandatory for specified job descriptions.
4. Achieve a 15% Veteran City Employee Workforce by 2025.
5. Fund a Veterans Permanent Supportive Housing Plan.

August 2020 Council voted unanimously to fund the Veterans PSH program

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

\$348,424.00 Home Partnership Grant/CBDG-CV/CDBG-EN

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

In May 2020, The VAAC was presented a new Permanent Supportive Housing Program to aid our Homeless Veteran population created by the Chief Military Officer, The Coalition for the Homeless and the Department of Veteran Affairs. The VAAC Presented to council in June 2020 for Council to support and fund the program.

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

**LEGAL:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**



Sam Rodriguez, Director of Aviation, Chief Operations & Transportation Officer