



# Public Hearing and Special Meeting of the El Paso Downtown Management District Board of Directors Mike McQueen, President

The El Paso Downtown Management District Board of Directors Public Hearing and Special Meeting will be held Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. by video and telephone communications as allowed by the Office of Attorney General of Texas with approval by Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

#### Video Conference

Join ZOOM Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87683314605

• Meeting ID: 876 8331 4605

IN MY OFFICE 2020 OCT 19 AM 11:25

FILED FOR RECORD

# Telephone Conference

Telephone & Audio Participation: 1-346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 876 8331 4605

DELLA BRIONES

COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

The public is strongly encouraged to sign up to speak on items on this agenda before 11am, on Thursday, October 22, 2020. Visit <a href="https://downtownelpaso.com/procedures-for-addressing-the-ef-paso-downtown-management-district-dmd-board-of-directors/">https://downtownelpaso.com/procedures-for-addressing-the-ef-paso-downtown-management-district-dmd-board-of-directors/</a> or call 915-240-3116 to sign up prior to the start of the meeting.

### **AGENDA:**

- 1. Call to order.
- 2. Opening of the Public Hearing regarding Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District
  - a. Explanation of Public Comment Process
- 3. Presentation by the Downtown Management District
  - a. Petition Process and Presentation of Petitions Received
  - b. Staff Presentation and Recommendation
- 4. Open Comment\*
  - a. Receipt of any informal or formal comments, questions, objections to the Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District
  - b. Receipt of any testimony, proof, or objections to be offered regarding the Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District
- 5. Discussion and Action by the Downtown Management District Board of Directors in regards to the Petitions Requesting Annexation of New Properties into the El Paso Downtown Management District.
- 6. Executive Session

At any time during the Public Hearing and Board Meeting, the Board may, upon motion and affirmative vote of a majority of the Board in attendance, retire into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Sections 551.071 and

551.074(a) for the purpose of consultations with legal counsel and/or discussion of a specific matter permitted to be in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Law. Executive Session is a closed, private meeting of the Board at which the public may not attend. No action and no voting may occur in Executive Session. The Board will return to open session to take any final action on any item discussed in Executive Session, or if no action is necessary, to continue or adjourn the meeting, as appropriate. The items to be discussed in executive session, if any, include the topics listed on the agenda, and possibly the following specified item(s):

- None

# 7. Adjourn

\* Individuals who would like to address the Board during Open Comment must sign up on the available form prior to the start of the meeting or submit the form electronically to the DMD Executive Director at least one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Each participant is limited to three minutes to make comments. Any group of five or more persons must appoint one person to present the group's views to the Board and will be limited to three minutes to make comments. Personal attacks, name-calling, and rude or slanderous remarks will not be tolerated..

Posted this 19th day of October, 2020, at the El Paso County Courthouse, 500 E. San Antonio, El Paso, Texas; El Paso City Hall, 300 N. Campbell, and at the administrative office of the El Paso Downtown Management District, 201 E. Main, Suite 107, El Paso, Texas, pursuant to instructions of Laura Poole. Vice President of the El Paso Downtown Management District.

BY: Teresa Mais

### EL PASO DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

# Minutes of the DMD Public Hearing and Special Board Meeting – October 22, 2020

The Texas Governor temporarily suspended specified provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act to allow telephonic or videoconference meetings and to avoid congregate settings in physical locations. A recording of this meeting is available upon request.

Attendees:	Total Members:	21	Quorum: 11 needed
<b>Total Members Present:</b>	14		

Arlene Carroll	Johnny Escalante	Sam Legate	Mike McQueen
Pacelli Mesta	Steve Ortega	Laura Pople	Alejo Restrepo
Y.I. Santoscoy	Wayne Soza	Peter Spier	Brad Taylor
Ruben Torres	Laura Uribarri		

#### **Total Members** *Not* **Present:**

Marianne Ayub	Bill Burton	Jamie Gallagher	Jon Law
Ben Marcus	Martin Morgades	Eric Pearson	

#### **Ex-Officio Members:**

**Staff**: Joe Gudenrath; Terry Mais; Rudy Vasquez

Guests: Gwen Pulido—Attorney; Bob Blumenfeld – Attorney; Mirella Craigo–City of El Paso; Carlos

Martinez - El Paso County

# 1. Call meeting to order

Mike McQueen called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm on October 22, 2020 via video conference. Notice of the DMD Public Hearing and Special Board Meeting Agenda was posted at the El Paso County Courthouse, El Paso City Hall, and at the administrative office building of the El Paso Downtown Management District, and on the downtownelpaso.com webpage by Teresa Mais on October 19, 2020 in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on the dates indicated.

Gudenrath performed Roll Call: Quorum was established.

# 2. Opening of the Public Hearing regarding Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District

a. Explanation of Public Comment Process
 McQueen outlined how the meeting would be conducted and the opportunities for public comment.

# 3. Presentation by the Downtown Management District

- Petition Process and Presentation of Petitions Received
   Gudenrath gave a presentation on the DMD Boundary Expansion Petition including the background, and the requirements for consideration.
- b. Staff Presentation and Recommendation

Gudenrath provided information about the proposed expansion area, property information, valuations, and make-up. He then provided information on the petitions and opposition submitted. The DMD received 14 petitions representing 53.58% of the assessed value of properties subject to the DMD assessment. The DMD also received letters of opposition from 1 property subject to the assessment and 3 properties (1 owner) not subject to the assessment. Gudenrath also outlined the estimated revenue generated by the assessment and the anticipated expense to provide sanitation services within the area.

Gudenrath recommended the Board approve the expansion of the DMD boundaries to include properties and right-of-way within the proposed expansion area.

# 4. Open Comment\*

- a. Receipt of any informal or formal comments, questions, objections to the Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District
- b. Receipt of any testimony, proof, or objections to be offered regarding the Petition Requesting Annexation of New Properties Into the El Paso Downtown Management District

Gudenrath noted opposition representing 4 properties within the proposed expansion area. McQueen invited any members of the public interested in providing comment, asking a question or raising an objection to unmute their microphone, identify themselves and share their comments with the Board. No comment was made.

# 5. Action by the Downtown Management District Board of Directors to Table the proposed boundary expansion for six months and to direct staff to work with the Petitioners to seek additional support.

**Discussion:** 

Legate asked Gudenrath to state why this process is being conducted and why staff is recommending the expansion. Gudenrath stated the legal obligation to consider a petition, and stated that the neighborhood is suitable for DMD inclusion. Blumenfeld advised the Board of the process and that it is a discretionary decision of the Board. Legate asked who petitioned the DMD. Gudenrath identified the 14 property owners in support of inclusion, and identified Johnny Escalante as one of the initial petitioners. Escalante spoke to why he felt the expansion was important to the area and the downtown. Pople added that this extension makes sense to the Downtown and the expansion area. Mesta expressed his support.

Prior to the vote, Gudenrath once again asked for any public comment of

which there was none.

Moved: Sam Legate Seconded: Brad Taylor

**Roll-Call Vote:** For: 13; Against: 0; Abstaining: 1 (Peter Spier); Absent: 0

**Motion Approved.** 

# **6.** Executive Session

At any time during the Board Meeting, the Board may, upon motion and affirmative vote of a majority of the Board in attendance, retire into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Sections 551.071 and 551.074(a) for the purpose of consultations with legal counsel and/or discussion of a specific matter permitted to be in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Law. Executive Session is a closed, private meeting of the Board at which the public may not attend. No action and no voting may occur in Executive Session. The Board will return to open session to take any final action on any item discussed in Executive Session, or if no action is necessary, to continue or adjourn the meeting, as appropriate. The items to be discussed in executive session, if any, include the topics listed on the agenda, and possibly the following specified item(s):

- None

#### 7. Adjourn

By consensus of the Board the meeting adjourned at 12:22 pm.

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Laura a Ponle

Date: 10/22/2020

Laura Pople, Vice-President DMD Board of Directors