

EL PASO

COUNTY

NEWSLETTER

Commissioner David Stout

Precinct 2

Volume 03 Issue 01

February 2017





THIS ISSUE

February 2017
Volume 03 Issue 01

2016 Year In Review.....	3
County Adopts New Budget, Keeps Same Tax Rate.....	4
Precinct 2 Makes Gains in 2016.....	6
UMC Budget and Tax Rate Grow.....	9
County Names New Economic Development Director.....	10
County Offers Funds for Cross-Border Study.....	11
Resolutions.....	12-15
Gallery.....	16-17

YEAR IN REVIEW



On behalf of the County of El Paso and Precinct 2, I wish you a happy new year and hope your holiday season was filled with joy. The past year was a busy one for us at the County as we took on many challenges and met many of our goals.

The Commissioners Court adopted a larger budget but kept the same tax rate for fiscal year 2017; we created an Economic Development department; we made investments in our parks; we focused on improving wages for County employees and contractors where possible; and for the first time, we have looked towards investing in promoting heritage tourism and historic preservation through a historic resources survey, Mission Trail Master Plan, and

Heritage Sites Master Plan we aim to complete in 2017.

We also embarked on an out-of-this-world partnership with the University of Texas at El Paso to create a technology research facility at the Fabens Airport, which is an expansion of UTEP's Center for Space Exploration and Technology Research. The County funded, in part, a binational affairs coordinator to work with our counterparts in Ciudad Juarez and the state of Chihuahua, a position that will be filled sometime in the new year. And we implemented a program that allows property owners to acquire low-cost loans for energy efficient improvements to their properties over a long term, which is yet another tool towards growing our commercial tax base.

For my part, I devoted much of 2016 towards focusing on expanding access to affordable primary and mental health care with our partners at University Medical Center and Emergence Health Network. I also focused much attention towards Veterans affairs, working closing with the County's Veterans Advisory Board in creating a Veteran service organization directory which is now available to the public.

I was also able, with support from my colleagues on the

Commissioners Court, to earmark funding for the County's portion for a Community ID program to ensure that all County residents have access to photo identification in order to access vital services and interact with law enforcement.

As we look ahead, 2017 will be an equally busy year as we make gains on the important work we began last year; focus on new projects related to economic, social, and civil justice; and advance and oppose legislation during the 85th Texas Legislature.

I can't thank the public enough for your support of all these important projects and initiatives I and the County have undertaken. The feedback I receive from the public and my constituents is vital to shaping this community and helps guide my decision-making. As always, I'm just a phone call or email away and my door remains open. Should you need to contact me or my staff, don't hesitate to call us at 915-546-2111 or email us a Commissioner2@epcounty.com. You can also stop by my office located in the County Courthouse at 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite 301.

Again, I wish you a happy new year and hope that 2017 brings you great fortune and opportunities.

COUNTY ADOPTS NEW BUDGET, KEEPS SAME TAX RATE

On October 3, 2016, the El Paso County Commissioners Court adopted the County's Fiscal Year 2017 budget and tax rate. The FY 2017 budget totals \$377.4 million and includes a General Fund budget – which funds day-to-day operations – totaling \$314.2 million.

And for the third consecutive year, the County did not raise taxes, but rather, adopted the same tax rate of \$0.452694 per \$100 valuation.

The new General Fund budget represents an increase of \$51.1 million over the previous year's budget or 19.4 percent. Of that increase, \$30 million is directly related to updated financial policies that identify unspent funds to balance the budget. That amount will not be spent until all other funding sources have been exhausted for things such as emergencies, like natural disasters.

Revenues also increased as a result of property tax valuation increases, sales tax growth, and increases in our federal prisoner rate, which we negotiated throughout 2016. We began FY 2017 with a fund balance reserve of approximately \$41.7 million, a very healthy

reserve by all accounts.

The growth in the General Fund budget is largely attributed to personnel changes, which includes cost of living adjustment increases for County employees, staffing increases, and re-grading positions within the County.

In addition, the County funded mobility projects totaling \$3 million; a \$4 million capital investment; increased funding for our jails' medical and mental health costs of \$1.2 million; and continued investment in our Public Works Department which is related largely to parks improvements, including Ascarate Park and the Sports park.

Ascarate Park saw a \$330,846 increase in a new line item specific to park operations (see 'Precinct 2 makes big gains in 2016' for more detailed information on Ascarate Park).

Further, during Fiscal Year 2016, a new U.S. Department of the Treasury rule allowed the County of El Paso to be more proactive when refinancing our debt, saving millions of dollars and paving the way to pay for capital improvement projects at little to no cost to the tax payer. Our

finance team saved 5.1 percent by leading an effort to refinance nearly \$40 million of tax-exempt debt. Over time, that will amount to nearly \$6 million in savings from those refunds, the savings of which will go towards funding capital improvement projects including at Ascarate Park.

In 2016, Emergence Health Network (EHN), the local mental health authority of which I am a board member, began providing mental health services in the County's detention facilities, a much-needed service that will make our community safer and healthier. Nationwide, inmates in local jails are underserved when it comes to mental health treatment and many risk re-arrest when they don't receive the care they need once released.

EHN professionals have been providing mental health assessments, crisis intervention, psychiatric services, and counseling services to inmates in our jails, while helping train County jail personnel on sound interventions. Additionally, EHN is arranging accommodations and referrals for treatment for inmates once they are released from local jails, ensuring continuity in treatment.

Other budget highlights include investing \$600,000 for our Information Technology Department's technology master plan to improve communications within and between County departments. We allocated \$350,000 to develop a re-entry program for ex-offenders who need vital help as they return to society and seek to contribute to society once again. We further allocated \$250,000 for a mental health gap analysis.

We remain in the midst of a seven-year salary study and reclassification plan for all County employees so that we can maintain salaries at market level. To that end, the new budget also includes a 2.5 percent merit increase and a 1 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for County employees. To add context, those increases are on top of a 2 percent COLA in 2012, a 1.7 percent COLA in 2013, a 2 percent COLA in 2014, a 3 percent COLA in 2015, and a 4 percent COLA in 2016. County employees also received a 2.5 percent STEP

increase in 2013 and 2014. For many of our elected officials, salaries were well below the market average, so we increased salaries for the County Judge, Commissioners, and Constables.

Much thought and analysis was put into this decision-making and I supported all of the above salary increases because I care about the future of the County as an institution and as a community. When salaries – across the board – fail to meet the market average or competitive rates elsewhere in the County, we all run the risk of losing the best and most qualified employees and candidates, which erodes public and customer service, the administration of justice, and public policy decisions that impact the hundreds of thousands of El Paso County residents. This new budget includes the creation of an Economic Development department, led by the talented Jose Quinonez. Mr. Quinonez and his soon-to-be-hired staff will focus on efforts and initiatives to create job

opportunities for new and existing commercial development as well as focusing on historic preservation and heritage tourism efforts to enhance the quality of life throughout the County. Economic development is an area in which the County has not provided much focus in the past, but one where we will take on robust challenges moving forward. The decision to create this new department was one I was proud to support.

As I've laid out above, it is clear that this budget is ambitious, but was crafted with the help of our incredible department heads and staff, along with our budget team to keep us within our means so that the taxpayer can get the most for their hard-earned tax dollars. When we resume budget hearings for FY 2018, my focus will remain on providing a living wage for County employees, especially our lowest paid employees. I also aim to focus much attention on economic development and heritage tourism initiatives to attract new business and tourism to the region.





PRECINCT 2 MAKES GAINS IN 2016

While I work on a range of issues with my colleagues on the Commissioners Court, I have my own set of policy priorities that I seek to advance. In many cases, those efforts are initiated or led by myself and my staff. And I'm happy to report that 2016 was advantageous as we successfully met many goals.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In early 2016, I worked with the El Paso County Historical Commission, historic preservation

experts in the community, the Texas Historical Commission, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to secure funding for a historical resources survey. This survey will serve to inventory our stock of historic and architecturally significant buildings, structures, and landmarks in Downtown El Paso, Segundo Barrio, and Chihuahuita.

Once complete, we will know beyond a doubt what our historic structures are and we can then seek national historic district designations from the National Register for Historic

Places. Upon the creation of those districts, property owners will be eligible to apply for state and federal tax credits worth up to 45 percent of the cost of rehabilitation and preservation of these historic gems. I'm grateful to my colleagues on the Commissioners Court who unanimously supported this initiative.

We are nearing the point of selecting a qualified cultural resource management firm to conduct the survey, which will get underway sometime in the first quarter of 2017.

LABOR RIGHTS/LIVING WAGES

I also spent much of 2016 working on labor rights and economic justice issues. Much of that effort was to work beyond philosophical differences with University Medical Center (UMC) administrators to allow employees of the public hospital to voluntarily join a labor union. Through my many conversations with UMC employees, there was overwhelming support for joining the Service Employees International Union or SEIU, one of the largest labor unions in the United States.

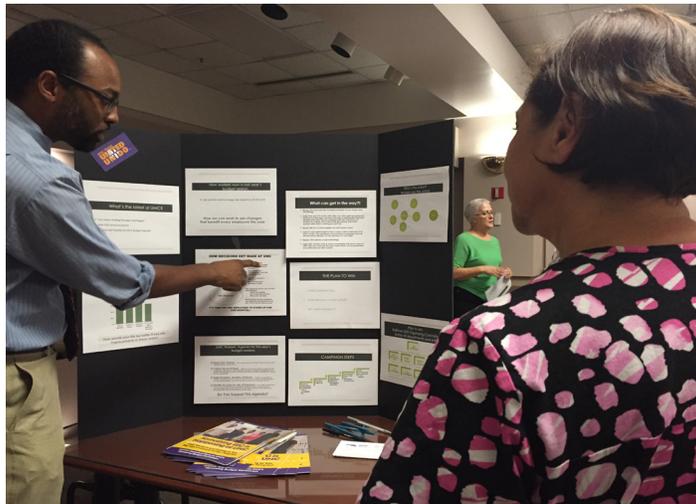
As a result of our work, UMC is now allowing SEIU representatives on their campus to meet and speak with employees, and more importantly, UMC employees who choose to join the union can now deduct their dues from their payroll. This was an important step in providing a voice to these dedicated, family-oriented, hard workers who make UMC the best hospital in the County.

In addition, I worked with UMC board members, urging them to create a new policy that would allow UMC to provide eligible retired employees health insurance. I thank UMC's board for unanimously voting to amend their Health Benefit Plan to allow that coverage for retirees who dedicated their careers to the hospital.

During 2016, the County embarked on a prevailing wage study to determine what fair wage rates are for major contract and construction work. While most of the wages were adequate, I did urge that any

position, such as fence erectors, were earning at least \$10 per hour. The Commissioners Court ultimately adopted a prevailing wage rates in which no position earned less than \$10 per hour, and I'm grateful to my colleagues on the Court who agreed.

Lastly, in my capacity as County Commissioner, I also sit on the board of trustees of Emergence Health Network, where I work with fellow board trustees to set the budget for our mental health authority. I fought to increase the minimum wage for EHN employees during 2016's budget sessions. As a result, no EHN employee



makes less than \$10 per hour.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Another priority of mine is Veterans affairs. In 2015, I worked with local Veterans to create the County's Veterans Advisory Board, which serves as a link between County government and our large community of Veterans.

Throughout early and mid 2016, I worked closely with the Veterans Advisory Board to finalize a directory of Veteran Service Organizations

throughout the County to assist both Veterans seeking services and the organizations who provide ranging services to our Veterans. I thank Congressman Beto O'Rourke, State Senator Jose Rodriguez, and Emergence Health Network for their tremendous input into starting this initiative which I carried over to the County. That document is now publically available on the County website and may be viewed at http://www.epcounty.com/veterans/Documents/County_Veteran_Services_Directory.pdf

We're also working with our Veterans Advisory Board the County's Housing Authority to seek federal housing vouchers specifically for Veterans. Those vouchers may become available in the near future.

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Additionally, I've worked on civil rights issues with our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community. I was proud to sponsor a resolution urging the Texas

State Legislature to oppose harmful and hurtful legislation that would deprive the LGBTQ community of due process, recognition and integration, and healthcare, education, and work opportunities. In addition to the resolution, I worked with our legal and human resources team to review the County's hiring and discrimination policies. We successfully amended the County's Equal Employment Opportunity policy statement to include protections covering sexual orientation and gender identity.

PRECINCT 2 MAKES GAINS IN 2016 (CONTINUED)

ASCARATE PARK

Ascarate Park, the largest park in El Paso County at 400 acres, received a lot of attention throughout 2016, too. The park includes an 18-hole and 9-hole golf course, an Olympic-size swimming pool, a 20-acre festival area, and a 50-acre surface lake. In 2016, Ascarate Park saw a year of growth and investment from the County, in order to further increase the quality of life for Precinct 2. Throughout the year, we continued our tradition of hosting Movies by the Lake and further invested into the event by purchasing our own projector and sound system for future film screenings. In the last 4 years, over 2,500 residents have attended Movies by the Lake and we hope to see an increase in attendance this upcoming summer with our new equipment.

In 2016, the County also worked with Public Works to renovate the Ascarate Administrative Building, resulting in an increase in usable workspace for our staff. This was particularly beneficial in 2016, since we saw an increase in our workforce, contributing to the amount jobs available to the El Paso community. We converted seasonal cashiers/attendants into regular employees, promoted one staffer and hired an additional cashier/attendant. We also recruited and hired a Special Events Coordinator, a Marketing Specialist, an Aquatics Manager, and two Operations Specialists. We even added a new line item to the County Budget specifically for Ascarate Park Operations.

Looking ahead, we aim to continuously increase the use of Ascarate Park for special events and tournaments. However, 2016 was a great year for park attendees, for there were over 26,000 rounds of golf played, 58 golf tournaments and frequent fish stockings. Ascarate Park also hosted about 29 licensed special events, which contributed \$308,000 in special event revenue to the County's general fund.

Our Public Works/Parks & Special Events department is working closely with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) to ensure that restocking of Ascarate Lake is a priority. Given recent water quality testing and results that demonstrated no active algae, TPWD has scheduled more frequent fish drops. Recent fish stockings are as follows:

- *October 11: 128 channel catfish were delivered;*
- *October 18: 21,749 bluegill were delivered;*
- *November 8: 1,268 channel catfish were delivered;*
- *December 7: 750 rainbow trout were delivered*
- *January 11: 750 rainbow trout were delivered.*

In addition, there are two more scheduled fish deliveries of 750 rainbow trout each. Those are scheduled to occur on February 8 and March 2.

Finally, in August 2016, the County entered into a partnership with UTEP to allow Civil Engineering Department students to conduct a

water quality study at Ascarate Park. The students will present solutions towards addressing outbreaks of algae and other interventions to keep water quality levels safe.

COMMUNITY IDS

Finally, a major accomplishment of 2016 was earmarking funds to the tune of \$320,000 which represents the County's portion for the creation of a Community ID program. Community IDs are photo identification cards issued by local government to local residents. Many in our community who lack traditional forms of photo ID find it difficult to access basic services and function within our community on a day-to-day basis, which many of us take for granted.

Community IDs would allow our most vulnerable residents the ability to interact with law enforcement officers when they either witness a crime or are the victims of crimes. That effort, in and of itself, would serve to make our community safer than it already is.

Additionally, Community IDs may allow residents to access traditional forms of banking, strengthening not only their economic position, but the local economy too. While there remains some uncertainty over the creation of a Community ID program, I will continue to work with a broad-based coalition of civil society organizations to continue to make gains on this important initiative. Stay tuned to future newsletters and my social media outlets for updates on this item.

UMC BUDGET AND TAX RATE GROW

The County Commissioners Court approved a larger budget and tax rate increase for University Medical Center (UMC), the County's public hospital for which the Commissioners Court has some oversight.

UMC proposed – and the County adopted – a \$707 million operating budget for the hospital. In addition, the County approved a 1.4 cent property tax increase for UMC, while keeping the County's tax rate the same for the third consecutive year. The new UMC tax rate increased from 22 cents to 23.4 cents per \$100 property valuation. That figure represents about \$17 more per year for the average homeowner on their tax bill.

While it is never an easy decision to raise taxes, a decrease in state funding and payments to creditors as a result of bankruptcy proceedings for the El Paso Children's Hospital (EPCH), required the tax hike in order to keep both UMC and EPCH afloat. This is also the

first year in which EPCH is part of UMC's campus-wide budget.

As part of the bankruptcy settlement surrounding EPCH, creditors were paid their due which resulted in nearly wiping out EPCH's cash-on-hand balance.

More concerning was a loss in state funding to UMC through the Network Access Improvement Program or NAIP. During budget hearings between the Commissioners Court and UMC board of managers, it was explained that NAIP funding was expected to decrease by about \$8 million in 2017.

NAIP was meant to increase access for Medicaid managed care members to primary care and specialty care. A state and national review of the program will begin in early 2017, forcing us to factor the \$8 million loss when budgeting in late 2016.

On the brighter side, UMC will also see two new neighborhood clinics come online in 2017

and with that, the need for 60 new full-time employees.

Part of UMC's new budget, and a piece I advocated for, includes a 2.5 percent merit increase for hospital employees and \$1.5 million investment for market adjustments for salaries. I would have preferred to see larger investments in the market adjustments, as that impacts employees for equitably.

As part of the UMC budget, the Children's Hospital will operate with a \$102 million operating budget. The Children's Hospital budget remains impacted from a bankruptcy fallout in 2015, which has resulted in a decline in patient volume along with higher operating expenses. However, after having met on multiple occasions with both UMC and Children's Hospital administrators and board members, I remain confident that patient volumes will begin to tick upward in the coming years.

COUNTY NAMES NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Photo: José Quiñonez

I am excited to announce that on October 31, 2016, Mr. José Quiñonez was hired as the Economic Development Director of El Paso County. As Director, Mr. Quiñonez will oversee the creation of a brand new Economic Development Department for the County.

Some of Mr. Quiñonez's duties will include working on heritage tourism and Mission Trail development, County Airport development, port of entry, business retentions and a New Incentives Policy for the County. Prior to this post, Mr. Quiñonez served as the Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) Manager of FTZ No. 68, a division of El Paso International Airport. Through this capacity, Jose developed a hybrid business model that made El Paso's FTZ No. 68 consistently one of the largest in volume general-purpose zones in the nation and earned the program national and international recognition by business publications such as Business Facilities, Global Trade, fDi Financial Times Group and the Journal of Commerce.

Among the list of Mr. Quiñonez's extensive professional accomplishments is his service as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors at GECU for about 13 years. In this capacity, he has also served as the Chair of the Governance Committee, a commitment that has distinguished him as a Certified Credit Union Director.

I welcome Mr. Quiñonez to the County and am confident he will be a diligent and professional leader who will create a strong team that can coordinate pertinent initiatives with local governments. As we go into the new year, I am looking forward to seeing the positive direction of the new Economic Development Department under Mr. Quiñonez's leadership.

COUNTY OFFERS FUNDS FOR CROSS-BORDER STUDY

In late 2016, I brought forth a proposal to the Commissioners Court to help fund a cross-border retail and media study by the Nielsen Company, a consumer research group. The County offered \$5,000 for this effort, with hopes of the private sector funding the remaining balance of about \$100,000 sometime in 2017.

A representative of the Nielsen Company met with public and private stakeholders in El Paso, including myself, to discuss conducting the study, similar to one done in the Rio Grande Valley. The purpose of the study is to measure consumer behaviors in the El Paso-Ciudad Juarez region in order to determine buying and media habits of shoppers.

Once determined, the data will help both the public and private sectors determine where strategic investments are needed to grow our tax base and economy and create new jobs.

According to a report by The Dallas Morning News regarding the Rio Grande Valley study, "Nielsen found that frequent visitors took an average of 48 trips in the past year, or almost one visit per week, and 36 percent of Mexican visitors to the Rio Grande Valley bought a vehicle."

Over the course of the next few months, I will continue outreach efforts to the private sector to secure funding to complete this study. I strongly believe that the County must play a larger role in terms of economic

development, working closely with our private sector business partners in order to create a regional environment conducive to job creation and growth.

But without the tools necessary to make these determinations, that will remain an uphill battle. That's why I think it is imperative that we make the investment in the public-private partnership to grow our economy.

For more information, please see this news story:

'Shoppers from Mexico boost holiday profits for Texas border retailers' - <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/mexico/2016/12/28/shoppers-mexico-boost-holiday-profits-texas-border-retailers>



RESOLUTIONS

The Lower Dyer Community Center

On July 18, 2016 the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners Court recognized The Lower Dyer Community Center for their great accomplishments in bringing the community together. The Lower Dyer Community Center was established in 2008 and has effectively carried out its mission of providing educational, financial, English as a Second Language, and tax services to empower residents to become productive members in the community.

Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce

On August 1, 2016, Commissioners Court passed a resolution in honor of the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce and the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for their dedication and tireless efforts to support our small, minority, veteran, and women owned businesses.

Veterans' Mental Health Week

This past August, Commissioners Court recognized the week beginning August 15, 2016 as Veteran's Mental Health Week. In El Paso, there are an estimated 47,911 Veterans, approximately 10,000 of which need some level of behavioral health services, including at least 1,400 who have received treatment from Emergence Health Network's Military Veteran Peer Network.

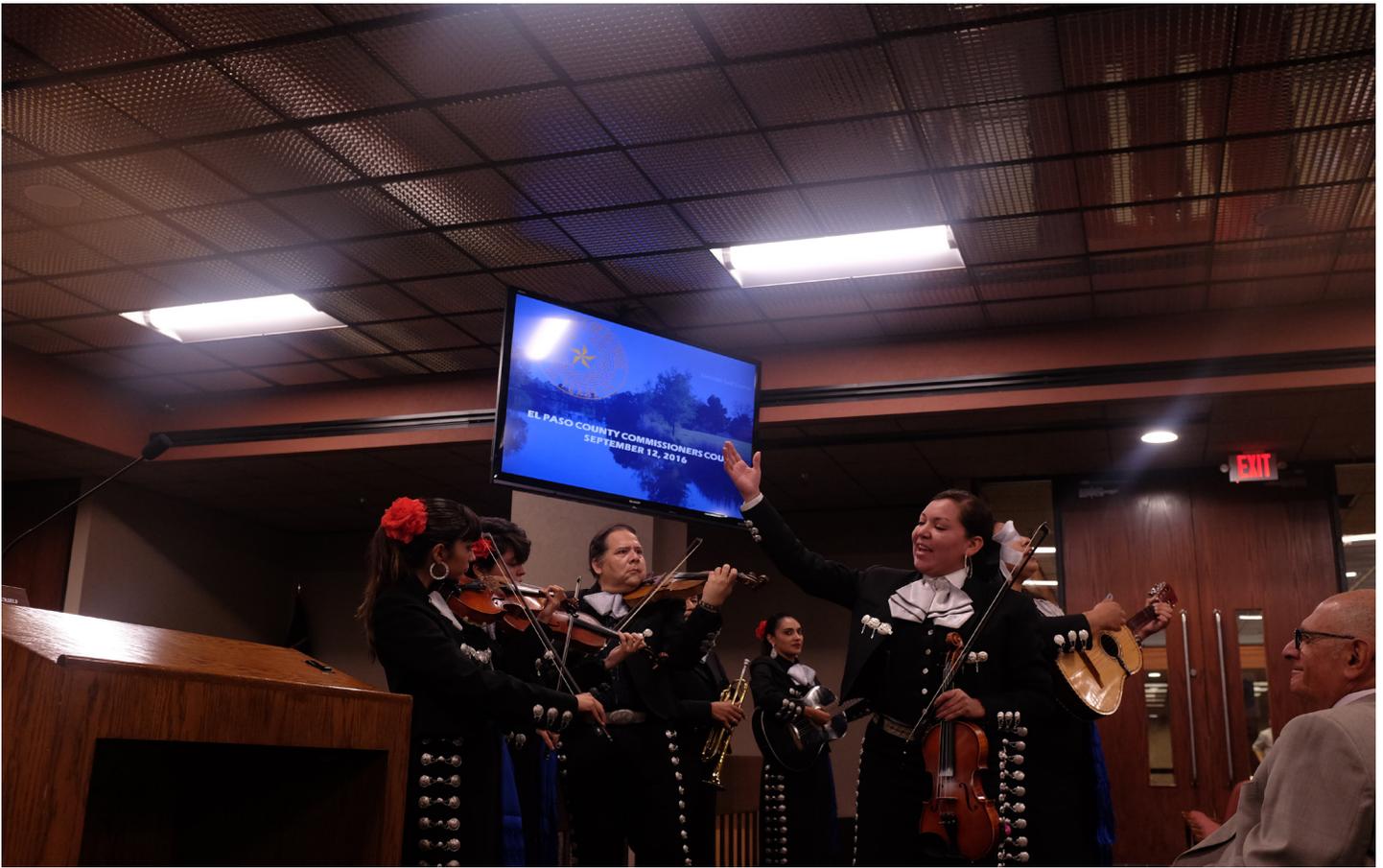
Chicano Heritage Month

The Commissioners Court proudly honored Chicano history and culture by passing a resolution on August 22, 2016 that recognized September 15 through October 15, 2016 as "Chicano Heritage Month."

LGBTQ Equality

I had the privilege of sponsoring a strong resolution that opposed harmful rhetoric and discriminatory practices aimed at the LGBTQ community by state leaders and prospective employers. The resolution emphasized the importance of inclusivity and acceptance of the LGBTQ community and opposed discrimination, in any form, against gay and transgender individuals. The resolution passed on August 29, 2016 and urged the Texas Legislature to instead dedicate its efforts to policy areas with real, demonstrated areas of need, such as focusing on our underfunded education system, expanding access to healthcare, funding transportation and infrastructure, and protecting the human and civil rights of all Texans.





Juan Gabriel

A month after I sponsored a resolution advocating for LGBTQ equality, Commissioners Court passed a resolution recognizing Juan Gabriel for his lifelong musical achievements. Juan Gabriel was beloved by many in the Paso del Norte Region, for it was in Ciudad Juarez where Alberto Aquilera Valadez began his musical and entertainment career. Juan Gabriel, who passed away August 28, 2016 at the age of 66, left behind a larger-than-life legacy to be admired and immortalized through his music that touched the hearts of generations of people from the border region and beyond.



Pink Gloves Video Contest

In 2016, the University Medical Center of El Paso competed in the annual Pink Glove Dance Video contest, a competition between hospitals and healthcare providers that has raises awareness and resources for cancer victims and cancer research. On September 19, 2016 Commissioners Court passed a resolution that urged El Paso residents to show their support for El Paso's cancer victims by voting for the University Medical Center of El Paso's video entry, each day through Sept. 23, 2016.

Latino AIDS Awareness Day

HIV/ AIDS is a deadly, completely preventable, and sadly still incurable disease which affects us all — regardless of our gender, sexual orientation, economic status, or race. However, the disease has a disproportionate impact on the wellbeing and health of our nation's Latino population. Thus, in order to encourage dialogue between families and the community about HIV and encourage citizens to get free testing provided by the La Fe CARE Center, Commissioners Court passed a resolution that recognized October 14, 2016 as National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. La Fe CARE Center offered free testing and information on that date in honor of AIDS awareness.



Veterans' Caregiver Month



Recently, I had the honor of meeting a fellow Veteran caregiver, El Pasoan Nelida Lewis, the wife of disabled Army Veteran Anthony Y. Lewis III. Veteran caregivers, like Nelida Lewis, are among the unsung heroes in communities like ours, providing compassionate, holistic, and invaluable care to those best among us who heeded the call to service of this great nation of ours. After hearing her story, I sponsored a resolution to recognize the month of November 2016 as Veteran Caregiver Month, to honor the 5.5 million caregivers throughout the United States caring for current and former military service members, a figure that has grown exponentially since late 2001.

Navidad de La Fe Luminarias Day

In December 2016, Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe — one of our community's most recognized health, social-justice, and human-services nonprofits — prepared to welcome Christmas with what has grown into a beloved Yuletide Borderland tradition of giving, the 25th Annual Navidad de La Fe Luminarias, an annual event that lights up 4,000 lights along Scenic Drive and invites the community to donate canned goods for El Paso's less fortunate. In order to honor the yearly tradition, El Paso Commissioners Court passed a resolution on December 12, 2016 to recognize Saturday, December 17, 2016 as Navidad de La Fe Luminarias Day.

GALLERY



Commissioner Stout giving a speech at the Veterans Court Graduation Ceremony



Commissioner Stout and Former First Lady Laura Bush in Downtown El Paso.



Commissioner Stout speaking to Andress High School students at El Paso County



Commissioner Stout at a Veterans event in Fabens



Commissioner Stout serving Thanksgiving meals to migrant workers



Commissioner Stout at an event regarding the County/UTEP partnership for Fabens Space Center



Ascarate Park's Annual Lights on the Lake

STOUT IN THE NEWS

Shoppers from Mexico boost holiday profits for Texas border retailers, Dallas Morning News, 12-29-16

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/mexico/2016/12/28/shoppers-mexico-boost-holiday-profits-texas-border-retailers>

Elected officials stand with residents opposed to downtown arena's location, CBS4, 12-05-16

<http://cbs4local.com/news/local/state-senator-county-commissioner-host-meeting-on-arena-site-12-06-2016>

Elected officials hold meeting with residents against downtown arena, KFOX, 12-05-16

<http://kfoxtv.com/news/local/state-senator-county-commissioner-host-meeting-on-arena-site>

Downtown arena: Local leaders host forum, tour projected area, KVIA, 12-05-16

<http://www.kvia.com/news/el-paso/downtown-arena-local-leaders-host-forum-and-tour-of-projected-area/197278958>

Opponents tour planned Downtown arena site, El Paso Times, 12-05-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/local/el-paso/2016/12/05/opponents-tour-planned-downtown-arena-site/95005878/>

Informe revela que 25% de los niños latinos en Austin no tiene lo suficiente para comer, Univision 62 (Austin), 12-01-16

<http://www.univision.com/austin/kakw/noticias/bienestar-infantil/informe-revela-que-el-25-de-los-ninos-latinos-en-austin-no-tiene-lo-suficiente-para-comer>

County to outsource food service for inmates, El Paso Times, 11-21-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/local/community/2016/11/21/94242028/>

UMC gets OK to seek \$25 million line of credit, El Paso Times, 11-14-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/2016/11/14/umc-gets-ok-have-25-million-line-credit/93817902/>

Recorre exprimera dama barrio historico en peligro, El Diario, 11-11-16

http://mobile.diario.mx/El_Paso/2016-11-10_72a0eb30/recorre-exprimera-dama-barrio-historico-en-peligro/

Laura Bush visits El Paso's 'endangered' places, KTSM, 11-11-16

<http://www.elpasoproud.com/news/local/el-paso-news/laura-bush-visits-el-pasos-endangered-places/607884957>

Historic Landmark Commission recommends City reconsider downtown arena, KVIA, 11-07-16

<http://www.kvia.com/news/historic-landmark-commission-recommends-city-reconsider-downtown-arena/146430553>



STOUT IN THE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Historic landmark panel says rethink arena site, El Paso Times, 11-07-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/local/el-paso/2016/11/07/historic-landmark-panel-says-rethink-arena-site/93451254/>

UMC reports \$4M loss, helps Children's get \$22M, El Paso Times, 10-31-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/local/community/2016/10/31/umc-reports-4m-loss-helps-childrens-get-22m/93077522/>

Architectural survey showed buildings slated to be demolished have historical value, CBS4, 10-24-16

<http://cbs4local.com/news/local/architectural-survey-showed-buildings-slated-to-be-demolished-have-historical-value>

Letters: Protect legacy of Segundo Barrio, Chihuahuita, El Paso Times, 10-8-16

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/opinion/readers/2016/10/08/letters-protect-legacy-segundo-barrio-chihuahuita/91806870/>



FOLLOW US ONLINE!

[Facebook.com/CommissionerDavidStout](https://www.facebook.com/CommissionerDavidStout)

[Twitter.com/CommStout](https://twitter.com/CommStout)

[Instagram.com/commissioner_david_stout](https://www.instagram.com/commissioner_david_stout)

epcounty.com

Questions?

commissioner2@epcounty.com