

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

DEPARTMENT: Library

AGENDA DATE: May 26, 2009 Regular Agenda

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: CAROL BREY-CASIANO (543-5406)

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All District s

SUBJECT: Presentation

Presentation by the El Paso Youth Council (EPYC), established to advise the Mayor and City Council, regarding their activities for the year as well as their selected project.
(All Districts) [Library, Carol Brey-Casiano (915) 543-5406]

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

This is an annual update provided to the Mayor and City Council, demonstrating EPYC's activities for the year and allowing for feedback from the Mayor and City Council.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

Yes

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A

N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Carol Brey-Casiano

(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: Jay A. Johnson

DATE: 5/12/09

EPYC PRESENTATION

PROJECT OCFTH

What is EPYC?

- ⦿ El Paso Youth Council.
- ⦿ Composed of 20 members from high schools across the city.
- ⦿ We meet twice a month to work on a community service project.
- ⦿ We visit different city departments to better understand how our city government works.
- ⦿ We advise the mayor and city representatives/staff on issues important to teens.
- ⦿ We are interested in a better future for our youth and our city.
- ⦿ We are full of El Paso pride!

Our Mission

- ◎ To represent teens throughout El Paso and advocate teen involvement in city government.
- ◎ To raise community awareness on various teen issues affecting the city.
- ◎ At this time we would like to discuss our personal favorite meeting site and what we have gained while in this council.
- ◎ To complete a community service project. This year's project will benefit the Opportunity Center for the Homeless located on 1208 Myrtle.

Opportunity Center for the Homeless (OCFTH)

- ◎ The Opportunity Center houses 150 males and 30-50 females on average.
- ◎ They provide healthcare services that range from basic medication to psychiatric help.
- ◎ Legal and educational help is also offered.
- ◎ Most importantly, they feed and house these individuals on a daily basis.

Homeless Individuals

- ◎ Why are they homeless?
 - Economic standing
 - Mental health issues
 - No family support
- ◎ Most of the time, these individuals are homeless because of circumstances out of their control.

How does this pertain to us?

- ⦿ We visited the homeless shelter and were profoundly affected by what we saw.
- ⦿ Many teens are unaware of the poverty and homeless rate slowly rising across our city.
- ⦿ Many families and teenagers are now affected due to the economic crisis.



Graphics provided by Google Images

Project OCFTH

- ⦿ We were made aware that there is a shortage of food during the summer months at the shelters.
- ⦿ Canned goods will be collected at the entrance of this year's TeenFest as an optional admission price.
- ⦿ These canned goods will then be donated to the Opportunity Center on our behalf and that of the El Paso residents.
- ⦿ Our goal is **3000** cans!



Graphic provided by Google Images

Thank You!

- ◎ We would like to take this opportunity to thank:
 - Mayor John Cook
 - The City Council Representatives
 - Our city manager, Joyce Wilson
 - Our advisors, Carol Brey-Casiano, Debi Lopez and Thelma Wong
- ◎ Thank you for the opportunity to be advocates for the youth of El Paso!