

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

**DEPARTMENT:** El Paso Department of Transportation

**AGENDA DATE:** Introduction: June 25, 2013  
Public Hearing: July 2, 2013

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Kevin Smith, (915) 346-1787

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** 8

**SUBJECT:**

An Ordinance amending the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System, as incorporated into Plan El Paso, to add River Bend Drive as a collector arterial from Frontera Road to Sunset Drive, to delete a portion of Mills Avenue from Oregon Street to San Francisco Street currently designated as a minor arterial and to delete a portion of El Paso Street from San Francisco Street to the northerly intersection with San Antonio Avenue currently designated as a minor arterial. (District 8)

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The City of El Paso is requesting an amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to reclassify River Bend Drive in order to accommodate proposed multi-modal improvements to the roadway.

The City of El Paso is requesting an amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to reclassify a portion of Mills Avenue and El Paso Street to allow for a downtown pedestrian plaza.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

On March 11, 2008, City Council directed staff to initiate vacation of vehicular interest for a portion of Mills Avenue. City Council subsequently approved the vacation request on May 27, 2008.

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

Transportation Technical Committee – Pending Recommendation  
City Plan Commission (CPC) – Pending Recommendation

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

**LEGAL:** (if required) N/A \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Jane Shang, Deputy City Manager  
Transportation and Public Works

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:**

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 PROPOSED THOROUGHFARE SYSTEM, AS INCORPORATED INTO PLAN EL PASO, TO ADD RIVER BEND DRIVE AS A COLLECTOR ARTERIAL FROM FRONTERA ROAD TO SUNSET DRIVE, TO DELETE A PORTION OF MILLS AVENUE FROM OREGON STREET TO SAN FRANCISCO STREET CURRENTLY DESIGNATED AS A MINOR ARTERIAL AND TO DELETE A PORTION OF EL PASO STREET FROM SAN FRANCISCO STREET TO THE NORTHERLY INTERSECTION WITH SAN ANTONIO AVENUE CURRENTLY DESIGNATED AS A MINOR ARTERIAL.**

**WHEREAS**, *Plan El Paso* was formally adopted by the City Council on March 6, 2012, pursuant to the provisions of Section 213.002 of the Texas Local Government Code as the Comprehensive Plan for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan serves as a general guide for the future growth and development of the City to promote public health, safety and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map is contained within the City's Comprehensive Plan and contemplates all proposed arterials; and

**WHEREAS**, a well planned transportation system, including any and all proposed arterials, is a key element for improving the quality of life, by balancing neighborhood concerns with provision of access for commerce and mobility for personal travel; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan was based on the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee following numerous public meetings and working sessions; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Plan Commission has recommended the adoption of the change to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map as herein enumerated; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the adoption of *Plan El Paso* and its changes to the thoroughfare alignments as herein enumerated will have no negative impact upon the public health, safety, and general welfare of the City.

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

That the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System, as incorporated in *Plan El Paso*, is herein amended as described below and as more particularly shown in the attached and incorporated Exhibits "A", "B", and "C".

That the following changes shall be made to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System, as incorporated in *Plan El Paso*:

- Add River Bend Drive as a collector arterial from Frontera Road to Sunset Drive;

- Delete a portion of Mills Avenue from Oregon Street to San Francisco Street currently designated as a Minor Arterial;
- Delete a portion of El Paso Street from San Francisco Street to the northerly intersection with San Antonio Avenue currently designated as a Minor Arterial;

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

**THE CITY OF EL PASO**

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

**ATTEST:**

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

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karla Nieman  
Assistant City Attorney

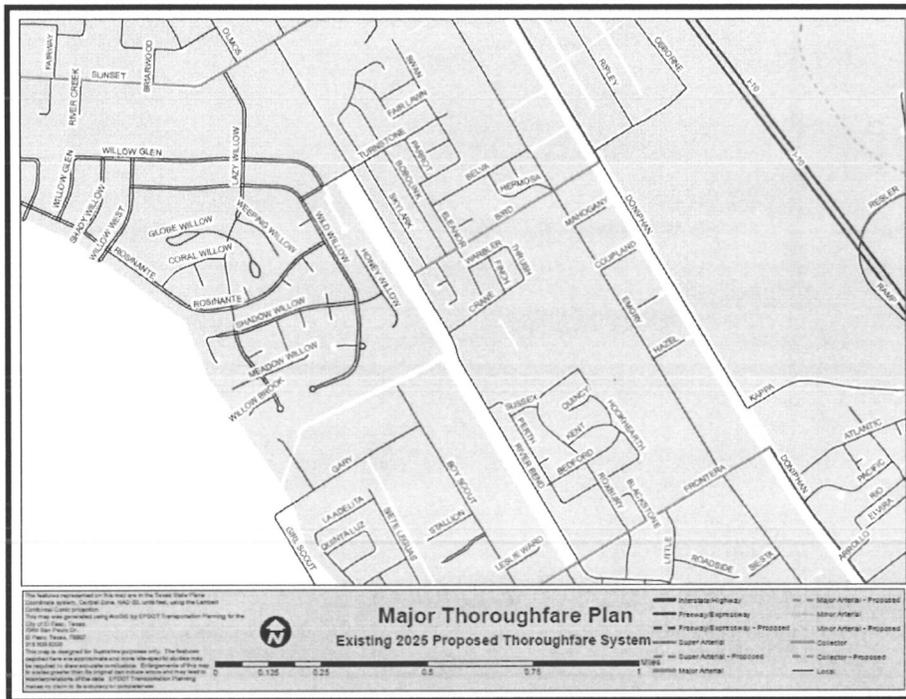
**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Shang  
Deputy City Manager  
Transportation & Public Works

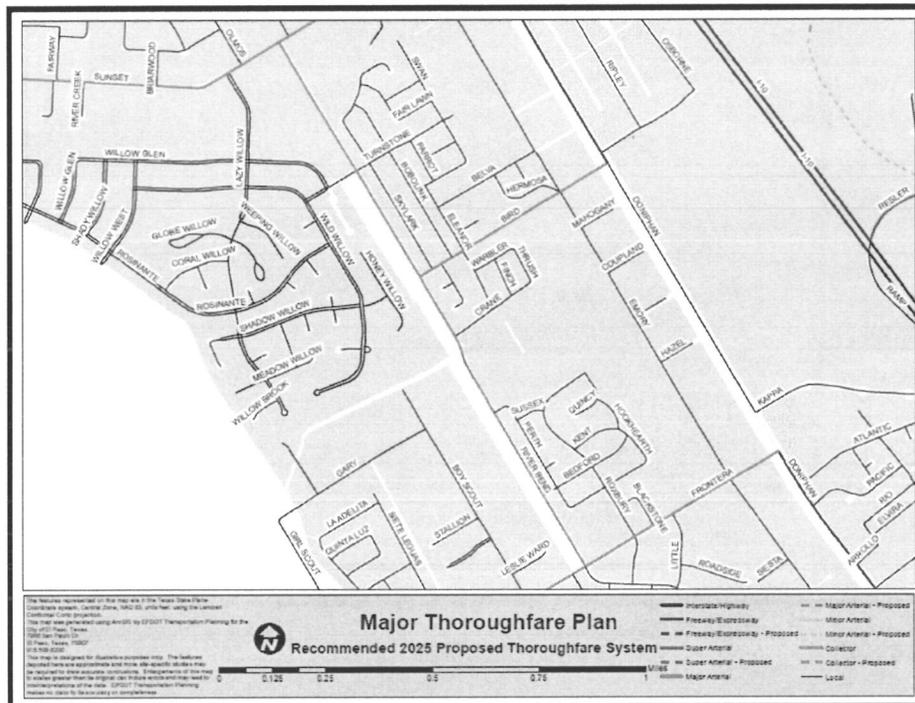
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fred Lopez  
Transportation Planning Administrator

# Exhibit "A"

## Current Major Thoroughfare Plan



## Proposed Amendment

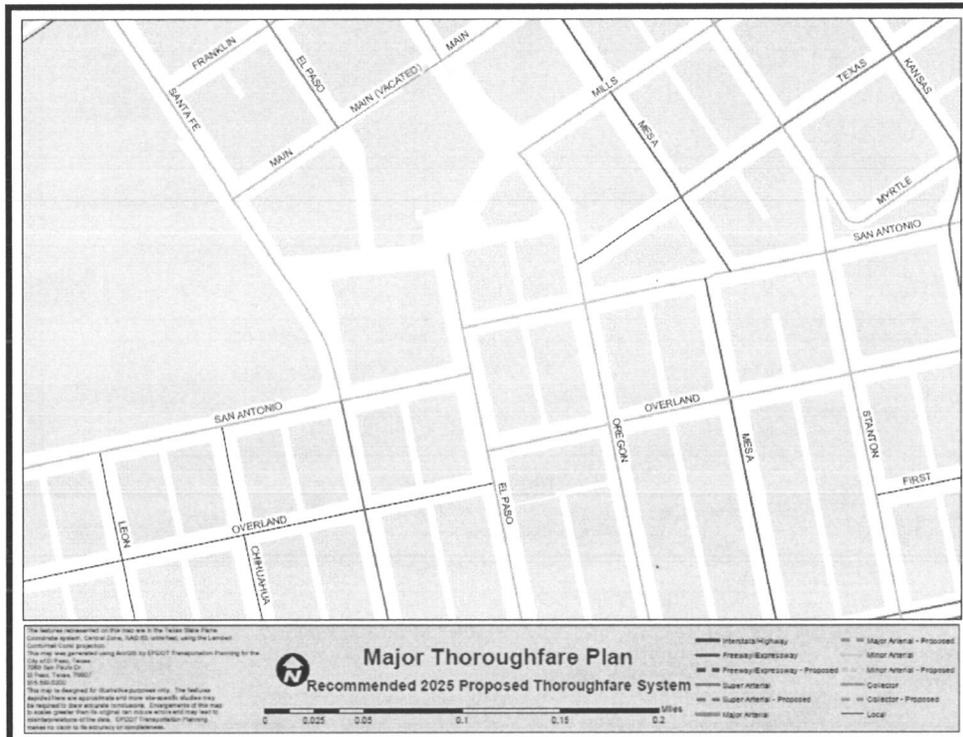


# Exhibit "B"

## Current Major Thoroughfare Plan

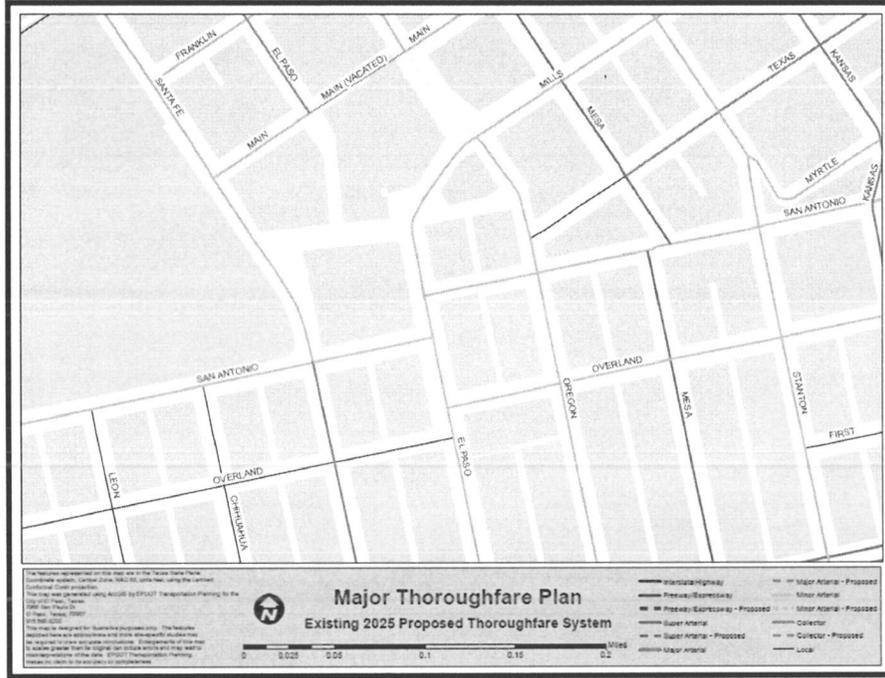


## Proposed Amendment

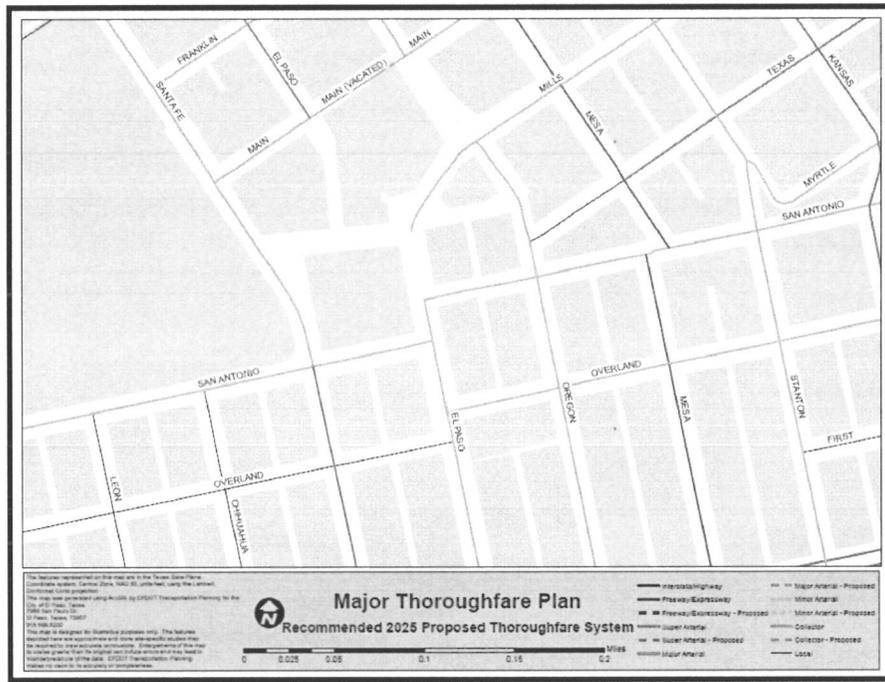


# Exhibit "C"

## Current Major Thoroughfare Plan



## Proposed Amendment





**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 17, 2013

**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and City Council  
Joyce A. Wilson, City Manager

**FROM:** Kevin Smith, CNU-A, Transportation Planning

**SUBJECT:** 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System Amendment for River Bend Drive, Mills Avenue, and El Paso Street

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The City of El Paso is requesting to amend the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as follows:

- Add River Bend Drive as a collector arterial from Frontera Road to Sunset Drive
- Delete a portion of Mills Avenue from Oregon Street to San Francisco Street currently designated as a Minor Arterial
- Delete a portion of El Paso Street from San Francisco Street to the northerly intersection with San Antonio Avenue currently designated as a Minor Arterial

The City of El Paso is requesting an amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to reclassify River Bend Drive in order to accommodate proposed multi-modal improvements to the roadway.

The City of El Paso is requesting an amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to reclassify a portion of Mills Avenue and El Paso Street to allow for a downtown pedestrian plaza.

- Transportation Planning – Approval Recommendation
- Transportation Technical Committee – Pending Recommendation
- City Plan Commission (CPC) – Pending Recommendation

No opposition to this request has been received as of June 17, 2013.

**Mayor**  
John F. Cook

**City Council**

*District 1*  
Ann Morgan Lilly

*District 2*  
Susie Byrd

*District 3*  
Emma Acosta

*District 4*  
Carl L. Robinson

*District 5*  
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

*District 6*  
Eddie Holguin Jr.

*District 7*  
Steve Ortega

*District 8*  
Cortney Carlisle Niland

**City Manager**  
Joyce A. Wilson



300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, TX 79901



## *City of El Paso – City Plan Commission Staff Report*

**Application Type:** Amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System  
**CPC Hearing Date:** June 27, 2013  
**Staff Planner:** Kevin Smith, 915-346-1787, [smithkw@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:smithkw@elpasotexas.gov)

**Location:** South of Sunset Drive, west of Doniphan Drive, and north of Frontera Road

**Representative District:** 8  
**Plan El Paso Designation:** G3 – Post War and O1 – Preserve

**Neighborhood Associations:** Coronado Neighborhood Association  
Save the Valley  
Upper Mesa Hills Neighborhood Association  
Upper Valley Improvement Association  
Upper Valley Neighborhood Association  
Zach White Neighborhood Association

**Applicant:** City of El Paso  
**Representative:** City of El Paso

### **APPLICATION DESCRIPTION**

Review and adoption of amendment to the City of El Paso’s 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System for the area located south of Sunset Drive, west of Doniphan Drive, and north of Frontera Road. The request is to amend the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as follows:

- Add River Bend Drive as a collector arterial from Frontera Road to Sunset Drive

The City of El Paso is proposing this change to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to accommodate proposed multi-modal improvements to the roadway.

Plan El Paso defines the applicable street types as follows:

Arterials are intended to provide the highest level of service at suburban speeds for the longest uninterrupted distance with some degree of access control. Arterials, therefore, provide higher levels of vehicle mobility and lower levels of land access.

### **Plan El Paso – Transportation Goals:**

Goal 4.2: El Paso’s thoroughfares will form a well-connected network of complete streets that support driving, walking, bicycling, and public transit.

Policy 4.2.4: In Compact Urban area, walkability will be prioritized with wide sidewalks, shade,

alleys, and street-facing access to adjacent land uses.

**TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

The Transportation Technical Committee recommendation is *pending* of the proposed amendments to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

**Transportation Planning:**

Transportation Planning recommends approval of the proposed amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

**El Paso Department of Transportation:**

No comments received.

**City Development Department:**

No comments received.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT):**

No comments received.

**El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):**

No comments received.

**Sun Metro:**

No comments received.

**Attachments:**

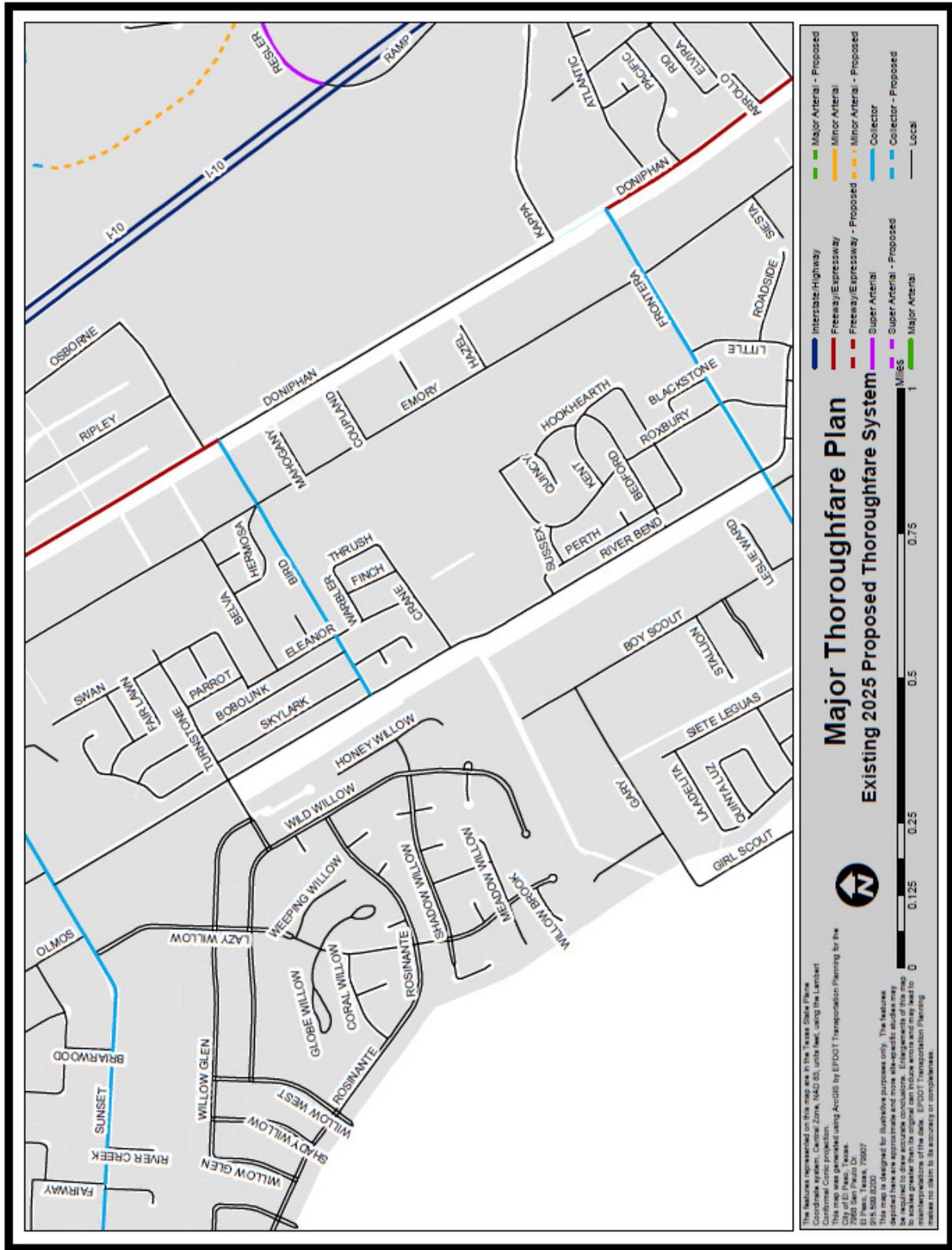
Attachment 1: Location map – existing 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System

Attachment 2: Aerial map – existing 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System

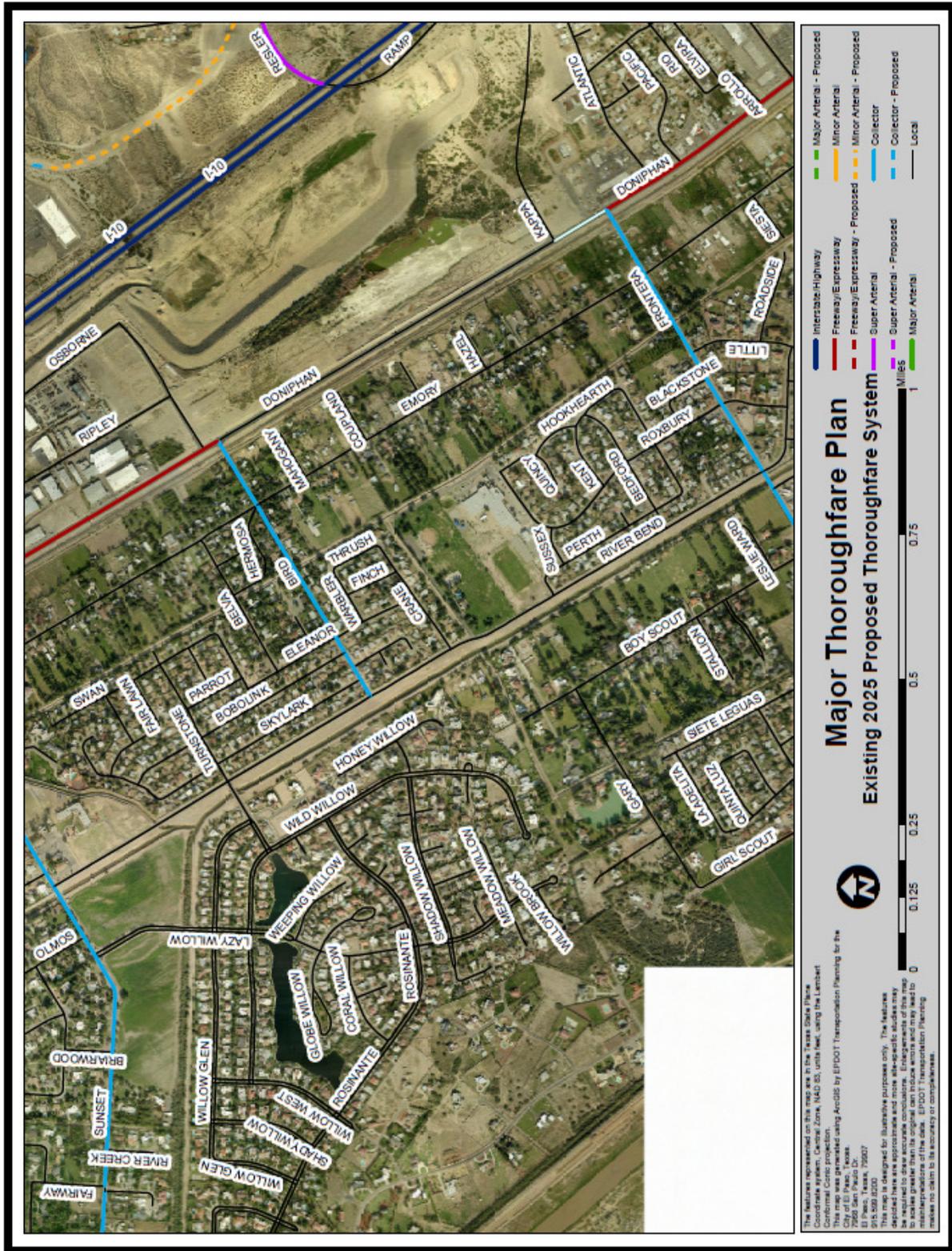
Attachment 3: Location map – recommended 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System

Attachment 4: Aerial map – recommended 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System

# ATTACHMENT 1



# ATTACHMENT 2









## *City of El Paso – City Plan Commission Staff Report*

**Application Type:** Amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System  
**CPC Hearing Date:** June 27, 2013  
**Staff Planner:** Kevin Smith, 915-346-1787, [smithkw@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:smithkw@elpasotexas.gov)

**Location:** West of Oregon Street, north of San Antonio Avenue, and east of Santa Fe Street

**Representative District:** 8  
**Plan El Paso Designation:** G1 – Downtown and O1 – Preserve

**Neighborhood Associations:** El Paso Central Business Association

**Applicant:** City of El Paso  
**Representative:** Mills Plaza Promenade, LLC

### **APPLICATION DESCRIPTION**

Review and adoption of amendment to the City of El Paso’s 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System for the area located west of Oregon Street, north of San Antonio Avenue, and east of Santa Fe Street. The request is to amend the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as follows:

- Delete a portion of Mills Avenue from Oregon Street to San Francisco Street currently designated as a Minor Arterial
- Delete a portion of El Paso Street from San Francisco Street to the northerly intersection with San Antonio Avenue currently designated as a Minor Arterial

The City of El Paso is proposing this change to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System in order to allow for a downtown pedestrian plaza. A vacation request has been submitted concurrently with this request.

Plan El Paso defines the applicable street types as follows:

Arterials are intended to provide the highest level of service at suburban speeds for the longest uninterrupted distance with some degree of access control. Arterials, therefore, provide higher levels of vehicle mobility and lower levels of land access.

### **Plan El Paso – Transportation Goals:**

Goal 4.2: El Paso’s thoroughfares will form a well-connected network of complete streets that support driving, walking, bicycling, and public transit.

Policy 4.2.4: In Compact Urban area, walkability will be prioritized with wide sidewalks, shade, alleys, and street-facing access to adjacent land uses.

**TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

The Transportation Technical Committee recommendation is *pending* of the proposed amendments to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

**Transportation Planning:**

Transportation Planning recommends approval of the proposed amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

**El Paso Department of Transportation:**

No comments received.

**City Development Department:**

No comments received.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT):**

No comments received.

**El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):**

No comments received.

**Sun Metro:**

No comments received.

**Attachments:**

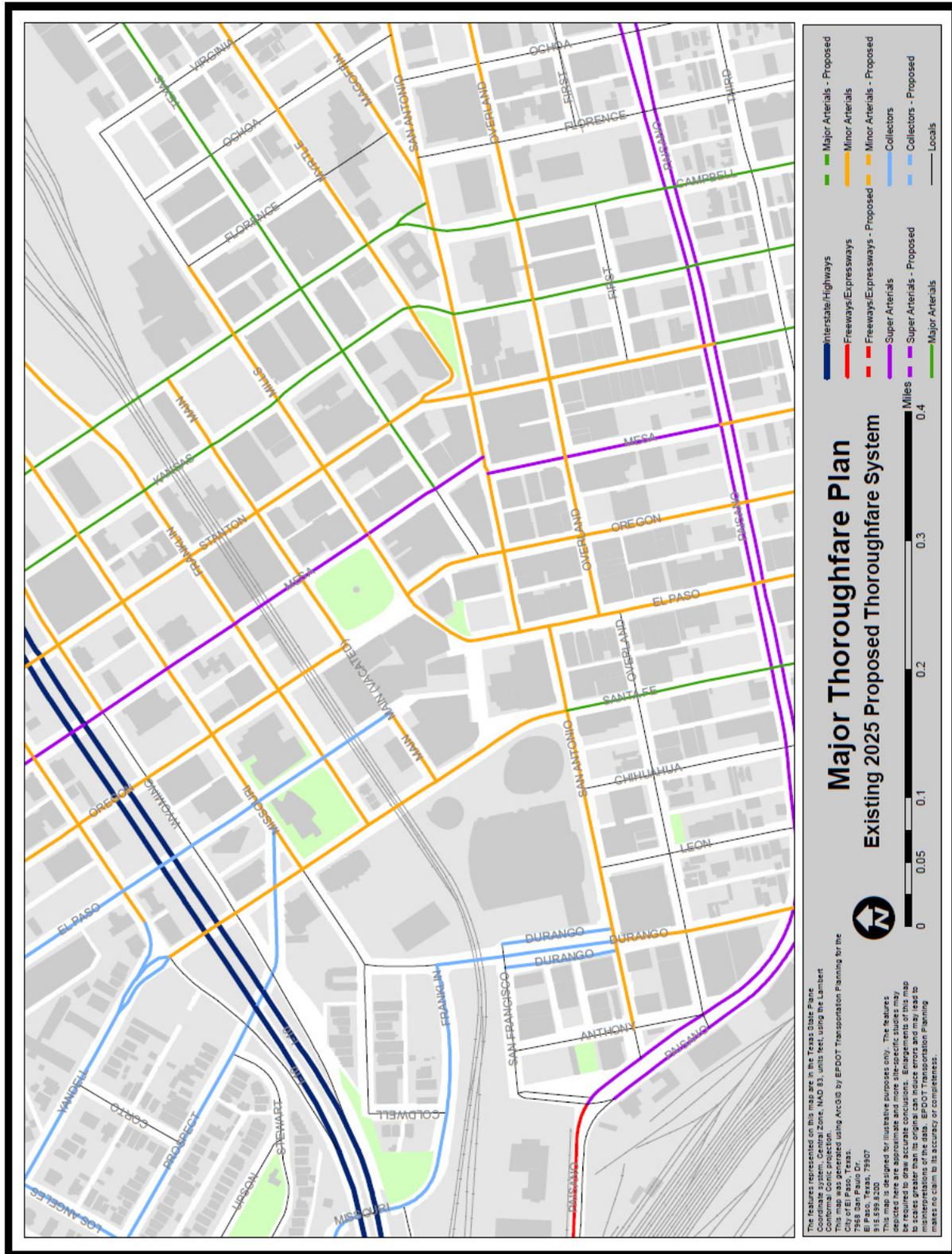
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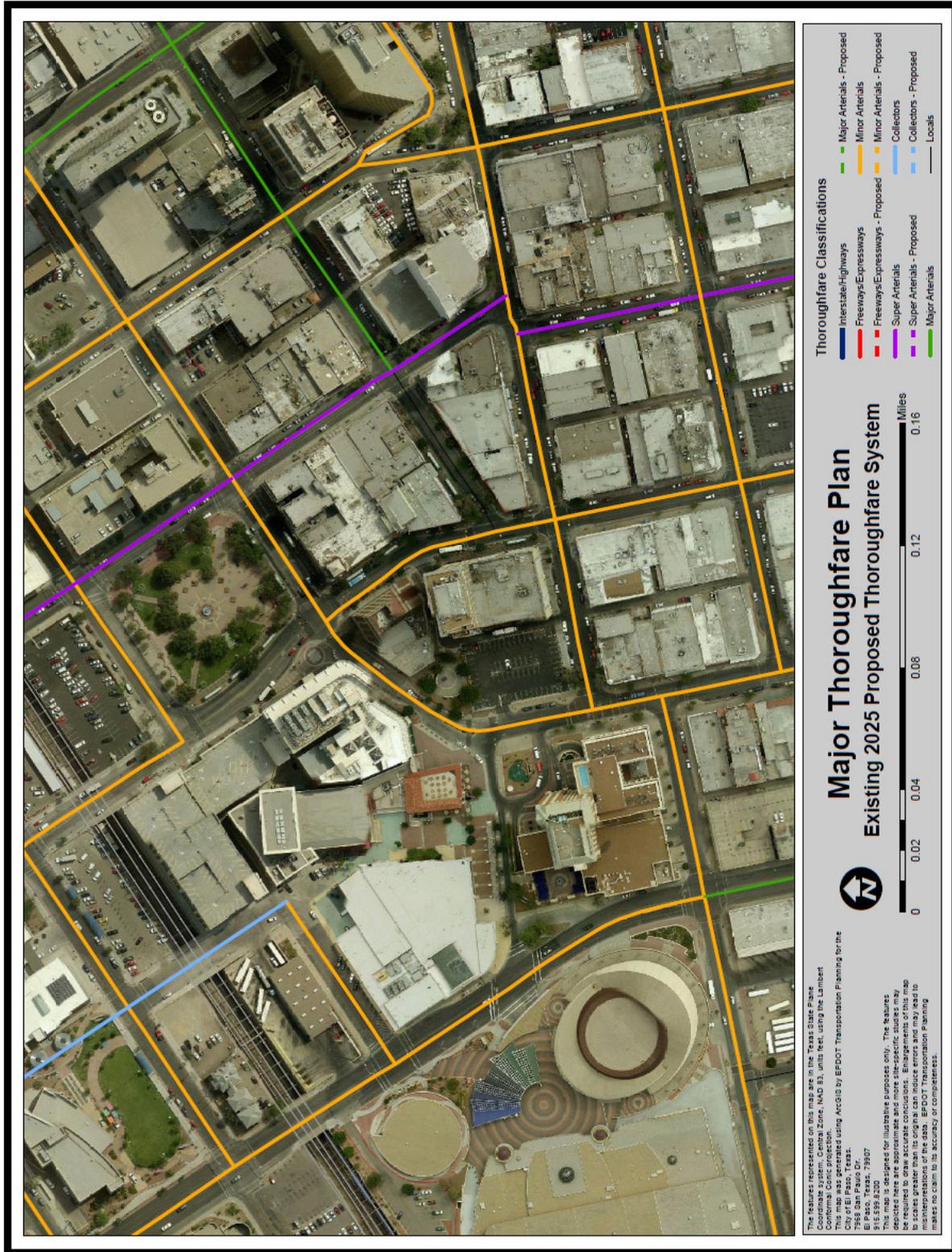
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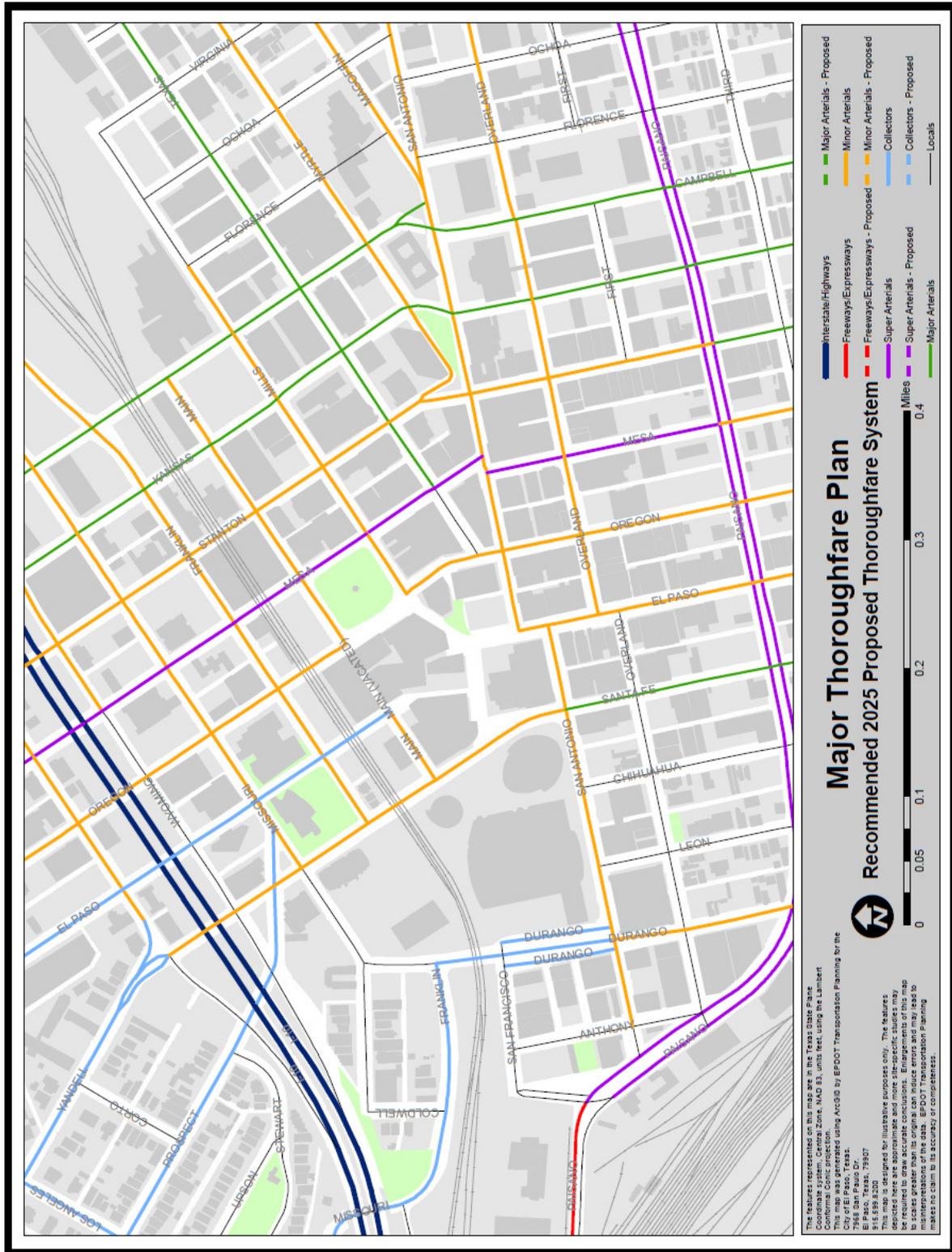
# ATTACHMENT 1



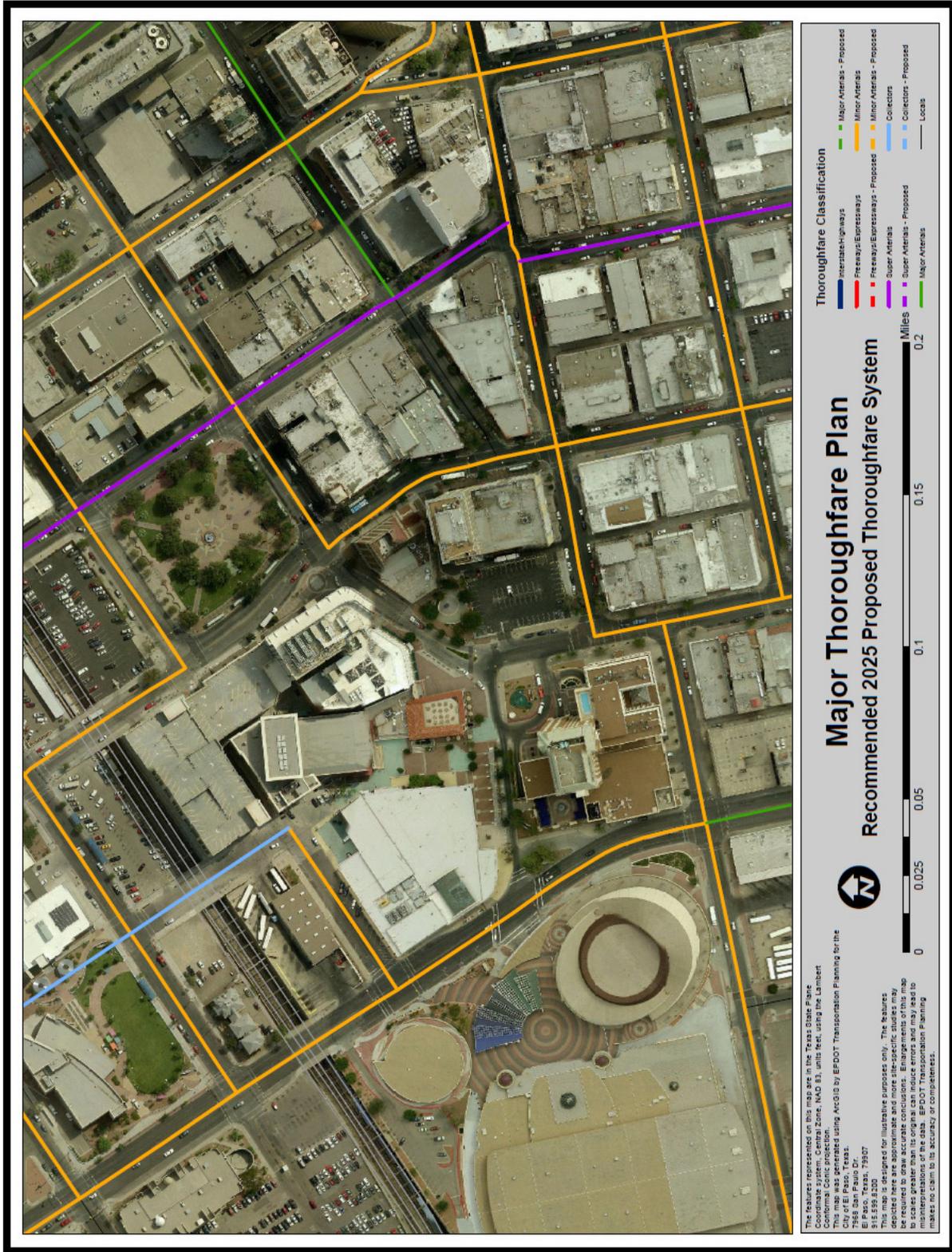
# ATTACHMENT 2



# ATTACHMENT 3



# ATTACHMENT 4





*Zach White Elementary School*

July 1, 2013

The Honorable Oscar Leeser and City Council Members:

I would like to request your support in placing River Bend Drive back on the MPO 2025 thoroughfare plan. River Bend Drive is in great need of improvement and this will help to achieve that goal and allow students at Zach White Elementary the opportunity to ride bicycles or walk to school along a safe route.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

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Dr. Michael Warmack, Ed. D.  
Principal, Zach White Elementary

# The Willows Property Owners Association

Susan K. Pine, President

July 1, 2013

Dear Mayor Leeser and City Council members:

The Willows Property Owners Association would like to express its enthusiastic support for placing Riverbend Drive on the MPO 2025 Thoroughfare Plan. Riverbend Drive, as it currently stands, is an eyesore in our community. The installation of trees and walking/biking paths would be a vast improvement in our neighborhood, and it would provide increased recreational activities for all our residents. In addition, many children in the Willows attend Zach White Elementary School. I am sure they would greatly appreciate having a safe route on which to walk or bicycle to school.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

*Susan K. Pine*

President

The Willows Property Owners Association

837 Forest Willow Cir.

El Paso, TX 79922