

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

**DEPARTMENT:** City Manager, Office of Management and Budget

**AGENDA DATE:** Introduction: September 11, 2012  
Public Hearing: September 18, 2012

**CONTACT PERSON NAME  
AND PHONE NUMBER:** Lynly Leeper, Chief Budget Officer/541-4777

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All

**SUBJECT:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3 (REVENUE AND FINANCE) OF THE EL PASO MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 3.04 (PROPERTY TAXES) BY AMENDING SECTION 3.04.040 (EXEMPTION – RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD) TO INCREASE THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO QUALIFY UNDER THE CURRENT CODE.**

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Recognizing that voter approval of the Quality of Life Bond in November, 2012 will likely increase the overall tax rate, it is recommended the current City Code be amended to increase the homestead exemption for senior and disabled citizens from thirty-thousand dollars of the market value of the residence homestead to forty-thousand dollars effective January 1, 2014.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

City Council previously amended the City Code to provide a thirty-thousand dollar exemption effective January 1, 2006.

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

N/A

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**



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

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3 (REVENUE AND FINANCE) OF THE EL PASO MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 3.04 (PROPERTY TAXES) BY AMENDING SECTION 3.04.040 (EXEMPTION – RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD) TO INCREASE THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO QUALIFY UNDER THE CURRENT CODE.**

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of Title 3, Chapter 3.04, Section 3.04.040 of the Municipal Code have been established for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, moral and general welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso City Council clearly recognizes that the values of residential homesteads have steadily increased in the ensuing twenty five (25) year period; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso City Council clearly recognizes the need to treat fairly and equitably its senior and disabled citizens consistent with the intent of Title 3, Section 3.04.040 of the Municipal Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Paso City Council finds that the proposed amendment will have a positive impact upon the public health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the City.

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

Section 1. That Chapter 3.04, Section 3.04.040(A) of the El Paso Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

- A. Effective January 1 of the next immediate calendar year following the Effective Date as set forth in Section 2 below, Forty Thousand Dollars of the market value of the residence homestead owned by any person, married or unmarried, including those living alone, who are under a disability for purposes of payment of disability insurance benefits under Federal Old Age Survivors and Disability Insurance or its successor, or of married or unmarried persons sixty-five years of age or older, including those living alone, during each tax year, as provided by state law, shall be exempt from all ad valorem taxes hereafter levied by the City for that year.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be effective on the date that the El Paso City Council adopts an ad valorem tax rate that equals or exceeds \$0.6900 of one percent of the assessed property value or January 1, 2015, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. Except as herein amended, Title 3, Revenue and Finance, of the El Paso City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

CITY OF EL PASO

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Cook  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bertha A. Ontiveros  
Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynly G. Leeper, Chief Budget Officer  
Office of Management and Budget

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

12-1001-021/PL#132707/TITLE 3.04.040 AMEND/BAO