

**MAYOR** Oscar Leeser

CITY MANAGER
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CITY COUNCIL

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**District 3**Cassandra Hernandez

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### NEWS RELEASE

06 / 18 / 2023

# City of El Paso Celebrates its Sesquicentennial Anniversary!

## Celebrate 150 Years of Fun in the Sun City

**EL PASO Texas** — The City of El Paso is turning 150 years old this year, and various events are planned throughout the community to celebrate the milestone.

"As we commemorate the 150th anniversary of El Paso, we celebrate the wonderful community we have built that embodies resilience, diversity and unity," said City of El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser. "As Mayor, I am honored to lead this extraordinary City and continue to build a legacy that will inspire generations to come."

For the sesquicentennial celebration, the City has created a unique anniversary campaign that incorporates the 150 years that El Paso has been a municipality.

In addition, the City has created a website to mark the anniversary (website goes here). The website includes a brief timeline of the City's history, a collection of videos, and information about various anniversary events.

To recognize the 150th, the City Parks and Recreation Department and various City departments are hosting a Music at the Park: Celebrating El Paso 150 series every other Friday at different parks beginning June 23 through September. All the free outdoor music events will include live bands and performances, interactive activities, vendors, informational booths, giveaways, and food trucks.

## Music at the Park events will take place from 6 to 9:30 p.m. every other Friday at the following dates and locations:

- June 23: Marty Robbins Park, 11600 Vista Del Sol Dr.
- July 7: Westside Community Park, 7400 High Ridge Dr.
- July 21: Armijo Park, 710 E. 7th Ave.
- August 4: Joey Barraza and Vino Park, 11270 McCombs St.
- August 18: Lomaland Park, 715 Lomita Dr.
- September 1: Grandview Park, 3100 Jefferson Ave.
- September 15: Eastwood Park, 10259 Album Ave.
- September 29: The Beast Urban Park, 13501 Jason Crandall Dr.

#### A Brief History

Founded as El Paso del Norte by Spanish Franciscan friars, El Paso was a small agricultural settlement along the Rio Grande River. It served as an important pass to the northern settlements and remains to be an important port of entry for the United States. As the community grew, El Paso leaders saw the need to develop a City Charter and establish a formal municipality. Joseph Magoffin and Allen Blacker, who would later serve as a district judge of El Paso, delivered the City Charter to Austin in May 1873. It was presented to the legislature and approved on May 17, 1873. It was officially signed and sealed on June 18, 1873.

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