

## PRESS RELEASE

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City Rep. Isabel Salcido posts item to direct City Manager to obtain professional cost estimates for MPC project; to be heard Monday, Nov. 8th

Councilwoman from District 5 seeks financial plan for voter approved bond project with well-defined structure and direction

**El Paso, November 3, 2021** -- City Representative Isabel Salcido of District 5 today posted the following item on the agenda for the

City Council's Work Session Meeting to be held on Monday, November 8, 2021:

Discussion and action on the development of cost estimates for the Multi-Purpose Performing Arts and Entertainment Center (MPC) to be located in Downtown, and to direct the City Manager or designee to hire a consultant and execute all contracts and amendments to develop the following information: Project concept; partnership opportunity guidelines including public-private partnership specifications; and financial model to include estimate of capital costs and operating costs which is in compliance with all court rulings and legal decisions.

While similar to a proposal discussed by the City Council at their last meeting on October 26, 2021, this item provides unambiguous direction to the City Manager and staff to seek out a professionally developed financial plan while also outlining a clearly defined structure and set of deliverables.

"This is a straightforward item that provides a clear structure and direction to obtain professional, properly researched estimates for capital and operating costs for the voter-approved bond project known as the Multi-Purpose Performing Arts and Entertainment Center, or MPC," Rep. Salcido said.

In discussing the rationale behind posting the item, Rep. Salcido stressed the importance of obtaining professional, reliable estimates and completing all due diligence that a project of this magnitude requires.

"The last thing we want to do is mislead the public with an estimate that is not accurate or that is put together hastily by non-experts. When we are dealing with large-scale projects like this one, it is important to make sure that we thoroughly do our due diligence and that we rely on high quality estimates and information provided by professionals in the proper field," Rep. Salcido said. "That is why I am seeking to direct the City Manager to seek this information out and provide it to the City Council and to the public."

The item will be heard during the City Council's Work Session Meeting to be held on Monday, November 8, 2021 beginning at 9:05 AM in the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 300 N. Campbell Street. The meeting can be also be followed online via the City of El Paso website at www.elpasotexas.gov/videos, on the City's YouTube page, or via CityTV.

City Representative Isabel Salcido has represented District 5, El Paso's Upper East Side, on the City Council since she took office in January 2019.