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**El Paso County
Agenda Item Details**

Item Title: County Operations - Burn Ban Renewal

Submitted By: Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator

Department: County Operations

Department Phone Number: 915-546-2162

Subject: Approve and authorize the renewal of the County of El Paso's Burn Ban Order for an additional 90 days effective February 7, 2025. (#7229-OP)

Background: It is advised by fire/emergency personnel and the local office of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to continuously maintain a ban on outdoor burning. The County's burn ban order provides that outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, with certain exceptions noted in the order. The Commissioners Court has renewed the burn ban order for recurring 90-day periods since April 11, 2011. Since then, it has been advised by fire and emergency personnel, and the local office of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, that the County continue to re-issue the burn ban order pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §352.081.

Fiscal Impact: Fiscal Impact Historical
None

Fiscal Impact Projected
None

Long Account Number: Amount:

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Budget or Unbudgeted Match:

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the renewal of the County of El Paso's Burn Ban Order for an additional 90 days effective February 7, 2025. (#7229-OP).

Prior Action: The last Burn Ban renewal was approved during the November 4th, 2024 meeting. That order became effective November 9th, 2024 for a period of 90 days. The County's burn ban order

provides that outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, with certain exceptions noted in the order. The Commissioners Court has renewed the burn ban order for recurring 90-day periods since April 11, 2011. Since then, it has been advised by fire and emergency personnel, and the local office of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, that the County continue to re-issue the burn ban order pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §352.081.

Strategic Plan:

Goal:

null

Objective:

Strategic Plan Information:

**Estimated Time Needed
For This Item:**



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Strategic Plan:

Goal:

null

Objective:

Strategic Plan Information:

**Estimated Time Needed
For This Item:**

**PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR BURNING
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF EL PASO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, El Paso County is under threat of damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the threat of wildfires due to recurring dry grass conditions and gusty winds; and,

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court finds that the conditions persist in all of the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas and these conditions create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and,

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court is acting under the authority codified at Section 352.081 of the Texas Local Government Code in adopting the following Commissioners Court Order.

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that all outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas, excepting activities specifically authorized by and for which a permit has been obtained from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations, planting or harvesting of agriculture crops, and prescribed burn management pursuant to Section 352.081(f) of the Texas Local Government Code, and excepting agricultural burning authorized by and for which a permit has been obtained from the appropriate agency as required by law; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a violation of this Order are defined and punishable as described in Section 352.081(h) of the Texas Local Government Code as a Class C Misdemeanor; and,

IT IS LASTLY ORDERED that this order shall be effective on the 7th day of February, 2025 and shall continue for a period of 90 days until repealed or expired in accordance with state law.

ADOPTED AND ORDERED on the 3rd day of February, 2025 by the El Paso County Commissioners Court.

ATTEST:

THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

County Clerk Delia Briones

County Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego

**PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR BURNING
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF EL PASO COUNTY**

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