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**SEPTEMBER 18, 2019**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **City Offers Amnesty Period Before Collecting New Fee for Unauthorized Trash & Recycling Bins**

**EL PASO, Texas** – The City of El Paso Environmental Services Department (ESD) will offer its customers an amnesty period before collecting a new fee for unauthorized trash and recycling bins.

Unauthorized bins are those containers not reflected in a customer's monthly bill. The two-week grace period running from September 18 – October 1 will allow residents to return unauthorized bins without paying the \$25 fee. The new fee, approved as part of the FY2020 budget adoption process, allows the department to charge customers a \$25 fee to pick up each unauthorized gray and blue bin.

Last year, ESD retrieved approximately 6,000 unauthorized bins from residents' homes. The retrieval of the bins resulted in \$300,000 in savings for the City as it was able to reuse the bins as replacement bins for households with damaged trash or recycling containers.

Each household is provided to have one gray bin and one blue bin. Each additional gray bin is available for \$19 plus tax per month. Blue bins are limited to one per household.

Residents may request a FREE bin pickup during the amnesty period through the ESD Works for You app (available on both Android and IOS), online at [https://citygovapp.com/elpaso\\_citizen\\_esd/complaints/report.htm](https://citygovapp.com/elpaso_citizen_esd/complaints/report.htm) or by calling (915) 212-6048.

Customers may also return unauthorized bins by taking them to any Citizen Collection Station (CCS), which are located throughout El Paso at:

- Central - 2492 Harrison
- Eastside - 1034 Pendale
- Far East – 3510 Confederate
- Northeast - 4507 Honda Pass
- Westside - 121 Atlantic

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