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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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COVID-19 Update: City Enters Year 3 of Pandemic, Urges Residents to Stay Protected with the COVID-19 Vaccine, Booster

EL PASO, Texas — City of El Paso entered the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic with a total of 238,210 COVID-19 cases, and the devastating loss of 3,356 members of the community.

In March 2020, the City of El Paso reported its first SARS-Co-V-2 case leading to a massive and non-stop mobilization of resources to prevent El Pasoans getting infected from the highly contagious respiratory illness known as COVID-19.

“The City of El Paso has lost 3,356 members of our community who were family members, friends, and co-workers. We ask that everyone take a moment to reflect on those who we have lost and continue to work toward protecting our community and help eliminate preventable deaths,” said Public Health Director Angela Mora. “We give our thanks to the medical community, public health workers, first responders, essential workers, educators, school nurses, nursing home staff, assisted living facilities staff, and many others who have dedicated more than two years of their lives protecting our community from the devastating effects of COVID-19.”

Officials report that while the COVID-19 data is on a downward trend the pandemic is still affecting many, particularly the unvaccinated and vulnerable. The Department of Public Health (DPH) continues to urge residents 5 years and older to vaccinate and get their booster shot as the vaccine continues to be the best defense against COVID-19. DPH also strongly recommends practicing established preventive measures including wearing a face mask, washing your hands, and maintaining a safe distance from others.

Free vaccinations and booster shots are available **without** an appointment at one of the five (5) City sites listed below:

- **El Paso Convention Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza**
11a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays
- **City of El Paso COVID-19 Clinics**
8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday
 - 220 S. Stanton (Corner of First and Stanton)
 - 7380 Remcon
 - 9566 Railroad
 - 110 Candelaria

Health officials advised that parental or guardian consent is required for the vaccination of minors.

While appointments are not required, they are recommended to help reduce any potential wait times. Appointments can be made online at EPCovidVaccine.com. Free flu vaccines are also available at all City clinics. Learn more at BePOWERflu.com. For more information about COVID-19 to include testing sites, data, and prevention, visit EPStrong.org.

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