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## City of EI Paso Hosts Celebration for Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park Improvements Project

- **WHO:** El Paso Parks and Recreation, Capital Improvement Department, Office of City Representative Joe Molinar, District 4
- **WHAT:** Grand Opening Celebration Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park Improvements project.
- WHEN: 10 a.m., Saturday, March 4
- WHERE: Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park, 11270 McCombs St.

The City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Capital Improvement Department and District 4 City Representative, Joe Molinar, invite the public to a grand re-opening ceremony celebrating the improvements for the Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park Improvement project in Northeast El Paso.

The celebration includes a ribbon-cutting ceremony along with a free community celebration from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. that includes more than 25 informational and activity booths from various City departments and private organizations. The celebration includes a fun walk and yoga session from Live Active El Paso, a hiring booth from the City of El Paso, snacks and refreshments and more.

Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park has been expanded and now offers new amenities and services made possible through a \$4.4 million investment, which was funded by the 2012 Quality of Life bond and a grant from the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife. The Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife allocated a \$1.3 million grant for the development of a dog park, and for the construction of one of the flat fields as part of the project.

The project included the installation of an all-abilities playground, construction of three new flat fields, a dog park with new lighting, landscaping, irrigation, site furnishings, and expanded parking.

The park is named after Border Patrol Agent Joey Barraza and his K9 Vino who were involved in a deadly crash in 2016. Barraza died in the crash. City Council later approved renaming the park in his honor.

This project is part of the City of El Paso's commitment to enhance our quality of life through the creation of recreation, cultural and educational environments. For more information, visit <u>www.elpasotexas.gov/parks</u>.



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