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City of El Paso Earns National Awards for Cross-Border Partnership and Entrepreneurial Innovation

EL PASO, **Texas**—The City of El Paso's Economic & International Development Department has been named a Bronze Winner in the 2025 International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Excellence Awards.

The City, which will be formally recognized at the IEDC 2025 Annual Conference in Detroit, Michigan, September 14–17, received the distinction in the Regional or Cross-Border Partnership category for its International Policy Agenda, benefiting more than 500,000 residents.

"We are proud that El Paso's International Policy Agenda is being recognized nationally for its ability to strengthen partnerships and open new opportunities across borders," said Adriana Pulecio, International Business & Trade Development Manager. "This award underscores the importance of collaboration with our regional and international partners to drive long-term economic growth and stability for our community. Our work is not done in isolation — we are building stronger ties with our partners in Ciudad Juárez and our neighboring communities in Texas and New Mexico to create a thriving binational and regional economy that benefits us all."

The City was also honored with a Bronze Award in the "Special Purpose Website" category for its <u>ElPasoBOSS.org</u> platform, a digital hub that connects entrepreneurs and small businesses with vital resources and support.

This recognition adds to El Paso's track record of innovation in entrepreneurial development. In 2024, the City received IEDC's Gold Award for its Business One-Stop-Shop (BOSS) Entrepreneurial Support Organizations Network, which has united more than 20 support organizations to strengthen El Paso's small business community.

Each year, IEDC honors organizations and initiatives that consistently demonstrate excellence in the field. Honorees lead transformational projects that revitalize communities and advance the practice of economic development.

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About the City of El Paso Economic & International Development Department

The Economic & International Development Department drives growth, strengthens international partnerships, and enhances quality of life for residents. Through initiatives such as the International Policy Agenda and BOSS, the department positions El Paso as a hub for trade, investment, and cross-border collaboration.

About the International Economic Development Council

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With thousands of members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members engage in a full range of economic development practices. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in various settings, including local, state, provincial, and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Learn more at www.iedconline.org/.

