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**NEWS
RELEASE**

04/27/2026

City Council Directs Staff to Develop Agreement for Future of YMCA Bowling Branch Property

EL PASO, Texas—El Paso City Council has directed staff to develop a formal agreement for Council consideration with a Northeast El Paso-based nonprofit, regarding the future of the YMCA Bowling Branch property.

The potential agreement would explore the possibility of a Northeast El Paso-based nonprofit assuming operations at the City-owned site, with discussions focused on maintaining continuity for the community, preserving programming where feasible, and considering opportunities to retain existing staff.

“This is an important step for Northeast El Paso families who rely on this facility,” said District 4 City Representative Cynthia Boyar Trejo. “Council’s direction allows the City to continue evaluating a potential partnership that could help preserve access to recreation and wellness services while ensuring any final agreement comes back for public consideration.”

The YMCA recently made the decision to cease operations at the Bowling Branch, with closure scheduled for May 15, 2026. The City did not initiate the closure.

In the interim, the City has also taken steps to support the community through the launch of a pilot Community Morning Swim program at Camp Cohen Water Park, providing a temporary option for aquatic fitness and helping address service needs in the area.

Any formal agreement will be brought back to City Council for review and consideration.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

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