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**NEWS  
RELEASE**

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# City of El Paso Selected for National Economic Resilience Program

**EL PASO, Texas**—The City of El Paso has been selected by the National League of Cities (NLC) to participate in the Building Economic Resilience in Communities (BERC) Program, a national initiative aimed at helping local governments strengthen economic stability and expand access to critical resources for residents.

El Paso is one of only four communities nationwide selected to participate in the nine-month program, which provides grant funding, technical assistance, coaching, and peer-learning opportunities to support innovative approaches to community economic resilience.

Through the program, the City will collaborate with municipal leaders from across the country to develop strategies that help residents build long-term economic stability and improve access to services and support systems.

“This selection reflects El Paso’s ongoing commitment to building a stronger, more resilient community,” said Deputy City Manager Araceli Guerra. “The opportunity to learn alongside other innovative cities, access national expertise, and invest in solutions that expand economic opportunity will help us continue creating pathways for residents and families to thrive.”

As part of the program, the City will receive \$25,000 in grant funding, along with strategic guidance and technical support from NLC. The program, funded by the Gates Foundation, runs from July 2026 through March 31, 2027.

“Thriving communities are not created by accident,” said Clarence E. Anthony, CEO and Executive Director of the National League of Cities. “NLC created the Building Economic Resilience in Communities program to invest in cities, towns and villages committed to making local government and nonprofit partner support services easier for people to access. Through this NLC initiative, we’re investing real dollars into the economic resilience work happening in El Paso, Texas where local leaders understand the value of helping more families and business owners achieve economic stability.”

The four communities selected for the inaugural BERC cohort are Dallas, Texas; El Paso, Texas; Louisville, Kentucky; and Tempe, Arizona.

## BACKGROUND

With support from the Gates Foundation, NLC’s Building Economic Resilience in Communities (BERC) Program helps local governments test innovative strategies that strengthen the economic resilience of residents through the use of Community Resilience Centers (CRCs).

Community Resilience Centers serve as place-based hubs where residents can access a variety of services, programs, and resources through partnerships between local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community service providers. Participating cities will receive coaching, funding, and opportunities to learn from peers while advancing locally driven solutions that improve economic mobility and community well-being.

For more information visit, [www.elpasotexas.gov](http://www.elpasotexas.gov) under the [Community and Human Development](#) tab.

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