## **CITY OF EL CENTRO**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The City of El Centro invites the public to a check presentation for the Embellece project with Assemblymember Garcia

El Centro, Ca. — March 29, 2024 — The City of El Centro is inviting the public to a check presentation for its Embellece Downtown Project at 2 p.m., Friday, April 5, at the Downtown Square Park. The check presentation will include Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, Caltrans officials, and El Centro Mayor Sylvia Marroquin.

The check presentation will be for \$4.782 million, awarded to the City of El Centro through Caltrans Clean California Local Grant Program in October. The funds will go toward the revitalization of the Downtown Square Park which includes a food truck court within the park, murals, gateway signs, curb inlet screen protectors, tamper-proof trash and recycling receptacles, new LED lights, and new benches.

"I have a goal of revitalizing our Downtown area, and this project is another step in that direction," said City of El Centro Mayor Sylvia Marroquin. "This project will provide for more events in Downtown and help spur our Downtown businesses already in the area. We are grateful for this grant and hope to create something our community will enjoy utilizing."

Since its inception in 2020 by Governor Gavin Newsom's Administration, the Clean California Local Grant Program has awarded billions of dollars to various applicants to clean and beautify local streets, parks, tribal lands, and transit centers across the state.

"I extend our congratulations to the City of El Centro for being awarded this grant through our Clean California Local Grant Program," said Everett Townsend, Acting Caltrans District 11 Director. "El Centro was the only city in Imperial County to be awarded this grant, and this will allow for them to beautify and revitalize their downtown area."

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia has been a strong advocate for the City of El Centro in helping secure funds for various programs.

"We are excited to join the City of El Centro to celebrate a \$4.782 million Caltrans Clean California grant," said Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia. "These state funds will support vital improvements and enhancements to beautify and transform the Downtown area into a vibrant community and commerce hub."

Part of the check presentation will include two food vendors: Antonio's Baja Catch 22, which will provide free fish and birria tacos, and Glacier Shaved Ice, which will give away free shaved ice cones from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Music will also be playing during that time to provide a small sample of future events that can be held at the renovated Downtown Square Park.

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