



SAN JACINTO PLAZA

EL PASO, TEXAS

GREAT PUBLIC SPACE DESIGNEE—2019

San Jacinto Plaza has served as El Paso's transportation hub since the founding in 1883, including horse drawn carriages, trolley lines, the city's bus transfer hub, and now again for trolley with the reintroduction of El Paso's streetcar in 2018. On October 16, 1909, San Jacinto Plaza hosted a meeting between US President Taft and Mexican President Diaz, the first meeting in history between the presidents of the US and Mexico.

The City of El Paso completed a \$6.3 million renovation of San Jacinto Plaza in 2016 funded by the voter approved 2012 El Paso Quality of Life Bond Program. Improvements included over new 120 trees, full-service cafe with outdoor seating, huacha (horseshoe) court, table tennis and chess tables, splash pad, and an arroyo showcasing the beauty of El Paso's desert landscape. The arroyo, or stream, collects water during rain events and functions as a green infrastructure system to mitigate stormwater runoff, while also supporting native trees and shrubs. A fiberglass sculpture honoring the city's colorful past, when real alligators graced San Jacinto Plaza sits in the center of the plaza.

El Paso has also secured Federal Funding for a Downtown Bicycle Network that will focus on connectivity to San Jacinto Plaza to promote equity in transportation while providing for improved public health for residents and workers within the Central part of the City.

Numerous events are held throughout the year and San Jacinto Plaza, such as bike rides, yoga sessions, and music concert events. The space is rich in history, and is the center of transformation and revitalization in El Paso.

