



REQUEST FOR COVERAGE
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Saltillo Delegation To Celebrate “Saltillo Day in Austin” May 3

Who: Austin Saltillo Sister Cities Association and Delegation from Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico

What: Saltillo Day in Austin Proclamation

Where: Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe St

When: 10 a.m., May 3

Austin, Texas--Saltillo Mayor Javier Díaz González and a delegation from the Sister City of Saltillo will visit Austin on May 2 - 4 to celebrate “Saltillo Day in Austin.” Saltillo was Austin's first sister city in 1968 and the ties remain strong even after 57 years. The Saltillo delegates will participate on May 2 with City of Austin officials, City of Austin professionals, Austin leaders and members of the Austin Saltillo Sister Cities Association (ASSCA) in discussions of future collaboration in the areas of education, trade, arts, culture, sports, transportation, urban planning and tourism.

At 10 a.m. on May 3, an Austin City Council member will proclaim “Saltillo Day in Austin” as part of the La Fête de Cinco de Mayo at Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe St., organized by Mexic-Arte Museum and the Downtown Austin Alliance. The free public event, which is slated for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., commemorates the French influence on Mexican culture following the French occupation of Mexico from 1863 to 1867.

The program will also pay tribute to the Battle of Puebla of 1862, the historic battle fought against the French invasion of Mexico. Saltillo, Mexico, and Tejanos every year pay homage to General Ignacio Zaragoza, a native of what is now Goliad, Texas. A Tejano, General Zaragoza, overcame tremendous odds by defeating a well-armed and trained French army. The victory at Puebla on Cinco de Mayo 1862 rallied Mexicans to reestablish their sovereignty and self-determination as a free nation.

Saltillo and Austin have shared a common history, language and culture for more than 200 years. May 2025 marks the end of the yearlong 200th Anniversary Celebration of the creation of the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas. The city of Saltillo served as the capital city for Coahuila y Tejas until Texas won its independence from Mexico in 1836. However, due to the shared history in 1968 Austin and Saltillo became Sister Cities and for 57 years, a partnership between the two cities has been cultivated through annual visits focusing on education, culture exchange, economic development, international trade and municipal services.

Activities, at the La Fete de Cinco de Mayo, will include a cake walk, Lotería, screen printing and Mariachis. Attendees can enjoy Ballet Folklórico, French music and food and art vendors.

The Coahuila Tourism Department will have a booth and provide information on tourist attractions such as the Desert Museum, the Bird Museum, the Mexican Revolution Museum, the colonial Cathedral of Santiago in Saltillo and wineries in Parras de la Fuente such as Casa Moreno, Mexico's oldest vineyard and winery founded in 1568 and the Poza Azul, a warm water spring and Dunas de Yeso (white sand dunes) in Cuatro Ciénegas.

Sponsors of Saltillo Day in Austin include Austin Sister Cities International, Mexic-Arte Museum, TXM Telecom Solutions LLC, Saldaña Public Relations, Kelly and Alicia Pérez-Hodge, Mr. Sam Chen, and Austin Council members José “Chito” Vela, Vanessa Fuentes, José Velásquez and Ryan Alter.