



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **50 Years of Excellence Highlighted at State of the College Address**

**El Paso Texas, September 5, 2019** – During the annual State of the College Address, Dr. William Serrata, President, shared El Paso Community College’s (EPCC) successes and vision for the future with students, faculty, staff and the community. He highlighted many programs, faculty and staff that successfully prepare students to transfer to university or enter the workforce.

The address held special significance because of the violence that occurred on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, not far from the EPCC Administrative Services Center. “We believe in equity at all levels and civility for all,” Serrata said. “We support everyone at the college, acts of violence will not be tolerated.”

During the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Serrata emphasized the college’s Master Plan which celebrated the 1st completed expansion project opening the day before at the Transmountain campus. Five more projects will open, adding more classrooms, labs and student spaces to accentuate the student success and life.

Student success is always a hallmark to the president. He highlighted student accomplishments and recognized many departments. He talked about efforts to engage students right away, saying “if you do not engage students early on, they might not complete.”

The full presentation can be seen online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJs6LakYB> beginning at 35:42. Dr. Serrata’s address begins at 40:10.

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EPCC serves more than 28,500 students and offers 145 degree and certificate programs. Throughout its 50-year history, the college has remained focused on engaging students, growing community partnerships and fostering excellence. By creating a college-going culture and implementing innovative student success initiatives, EPCC is transforming the pathway to higher education and developing a better-prepared workforce for our region.

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