



# DRAFT

## District 5 Open House Minutes NW Area Command Substation

June 10, 2019

6:00-7:30 p.m.

### 1. Welcome—

Cynthia D. Borrego, District 5 City Council-Vice President 10 minutes  
City of Albuquerque

### 2. Briefings

❖ Northwest Area Command Update 10 minutes  
Commander Donovan Olvera

**Commander Olvera:** Due to the diligent work of the APD North West Area Command, compared to 2018, this year traffic Stops increased 77%, auto theft decline 44%, residential burglaries are declined, and there have been only 290 aggravated assaults in the command area this year.

Speeding remains an issue. Regarding burglary, do not leave items of perceived value visible in the interior of your car. Thieves will usually just check door handles to see if any car doors are open and move to the next target if the car is locked. Lock your cars!

The neighborhood watch program is a great program for deterring thefts at your home. The Nextdoor social media platform may offer advice for deterring criminal activity in your neighborhood, The Dark Captain Program.

**District 5 Constituent:** I see people running lights constantly, or turning on a red light.

**District 5 Constituent:** People speed on Coors and also try to keep up with each other as they speed.

**Commander Olvera:** If you see a driving concern, contact the NW Area Command right away. The Northwest Area Command is using new PRT units to deploy the new speed trailers purchased with Councilor Borrego's set aside funds to gather data then applied to determine peak speeding and driving offense times and locations. We deploy the area officers at these identified times and locations, and avoid wasting officers at locations where few driver offenses are noted. We single out parts of the Northwest area and address the locations abounding in bad driving behaviors.

**District 5 Constituent:** Are the New Mexico State Police staying in Albuquerque?

**Commander Olvera:** No, they only offer their temporary presence. We appreciate the NM State Police reinforcement. Enforcement at all levels strive to act as one community. If it was requested, APD would contribute to NM State Police efforts--considering our work a team effort. We share common goals—and look to help each other. 25 of the New Mexico State Police Officers are still in Albuquerque.

**District 5 Constituent:** Where does most auto theft occur? At the mall?

**Commander Olvera:** Auto theft occurs all over the City; however, thieves are lazy. They will walk by your car if nothing of value is apparent and your vehicle is locked.

**District 5 Constituent:** What are the most dangerous driving times and intersections in the area monitored by the Northwest Area Command?

**Commander Olvera:** The early morning is a dangerous time. Also people exiting the Sprouts shopping center south of Montano on Coors can be very dangerous. Difficult intersections exist on Coors Blvd. and Taylor Ranch Rd. and there are dangerous places on Unser Blvd.

We seek to educate our officers, bringing their attention to areas where violations are most likely to occur. We perform quality analysis to inform Northwest Area Command officers where they may best apply themselves.

**District 5 Constituent:** The homeless are stepping into the streets, sometimes with shopping carts, creating dangerous street situations and blocking lines of site.

**Commander Olvera:** We provide assistance to the homeless populations to inform them of the dangers of certain behaviors.

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** Councilor Jones sponsored legislation known as the Pedestrian Safety Act or O-17-51, to stem transient people's often unsafe interference with traffic. Currently, the Pedestrian Safety Act is contested by the

American Civil Liberties Union. Until this law suit is resolved, the law cannot be enforced.

**District 5 Constituent:** Where does the City program *A Better Way* that places transient people in jobs for a day operate?

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** *A Better Way* is a small program City program that continues to function in and throughout the City of Albuquerque. The current City of Albuquerque budget approved by myself, the other Councilor's and the Mayor includes \$7 million for mental health and homeless services, and \$14 million to address homelessness in Albuquerque. These monies require voter approval by ballot in the November 2019 election. You are deciding to fund and build a permanent shelter in Albuquerque. If transient people choose not to go to a shelter, the City and enforcement have no recourses. It is a person's choice to remain on the street.

**District 5 Constituent:** There is money to lift families up.

**Commander Olvera:** Our officers carry blankets in their cars for people on the streets. Albuquerque officers drive a van around the City and offer to transport transient people to shelters. It is the transient person's choice to accept or reject assistance. In July, the Northwest area command will distribute sack lunches to the transient population. We will deliver the lunches to the Homeless Center.

**District 5 Constituent:** Seattle has a program addressing drug addiction on the streets. Does the City of Albuquerque have any plans to help people stop using hard drugs?

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** There are many different reasons people are living transient lifestyles—drugs, economic reasons, displaced Native American and immigrant populations, veterans—we need to tailor the City's many services to address the needs of the different demographics experiencing homelessness. I regularly meet with Carol Pierce, the Director of the City of Albuquerque Community and Family Services Department. The City of Albuquerque is working with UNM Hospital and the Veteran's Administration to coordinate the delivery of services to the City's homeless population. People that truly want help will use the services these organizations provide.

If you come across any specific issues or suggestions concerning the homeless and transient populations, sent them to me at [cynthiaborrego@cabq.gov](mailto:cynthiaborrego@cabq.gov) The Northwest Community Policing Council is an additional resource and usually meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Taylor Ranch Community Center, 4900 Kachina St. NW.

❖ **Crime Prevention Update**  
**Pete Gelabert, City of Albuquerque**  
**Crime Prevention Specialist**

**10 minutes**

There is an Officer Appreciation Day on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Michael R. King and Richard W. Smith Memorial Police Substation--the Northwest Substation at 10401 Cibola Loop NW.

National Neighborhood Night Out is on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 starting at 5:00 p.m.!

The Albuquerque Police Department's Neighborhood Watch program is a very effective deterrent to crime. The City wants more neighborhood watch programs on City blocks and greater participation in the program in Albuquerque. Call my number at 768-4873, or you can e-mail me at [pgeabert@cabq.gov](mailto:pgeabert@cabq.gov) and I will help you coordinate a neighborhood watch program in your neighborhood.

To avoid burglary, take all valuables from your vehicle into your house. Leave your front and back door lights on. We do not recommend you use any web based application to monitor your house when you are on vacation. Ask a friendly neighbor to take and hold your mail. Don't announce that you are leaving for vacation on Facebook or any type of social media. If you want APD to watch your house when you leave on vacation, call 768-4850.

**District 5 Constituent:** Should we stop the delivery of our mail and newspapers?

**Pete Gelabert:** Yes, stop your mail and newspapers or have a neighbor pick up these items. Also, ask a neighbor to take your trash receptacles out and in.

**District 5 Constituent:** There is a service that will move packages into the garage when I am on vacation. Is this a good service to use?

**Pete Gelabert:** It is not a good idea to give an independent company access to your house or garage.

**Commander Olvera:** Call 242-Cops if you see anything suspicious in your neighborhood.

**District 5 Constituent:** Sometimes neighbors are not trustworthy.

**Pete Gelabert:** Some neighbors never talk to each other. We want to encourage you to start neighborhood watch programs and neighborhood patrols and get to know your neighbors. The neighborhood watch programs offer enhanced systems of criminal deterrence. For instance, the Meadow Brook neighborhood uses Golf Carts

to patrol their neighborhood. Additionally, APD and the City of Albuquerque will conduct a free security assessment of your house, advising you on subjects like the use of monitor lights and other security measures.

If you have any questions or you want to request a security assessment, you can reach me at 768-4873, [pgeabert@cabq.gov](mailto:pgeabert@cabq.gov).

❖ **West-Side Fire Battalion #4 Update**  
**Battalion Chief Robert Lujan**

**10 minutes**

**Battalion Chief Robert Lujan:** The City of Albuquerque has 37,000 acres of open space, in the Bosque, the West Mesa, and in the Foot Hills. From the Council bond money set-aside for District-5, Council Vice-President Borrego purchased a new brush truck for Albuquerque's Northwest area fire stations. It is a beefed up four wheel drive truck capable of addressing open space fires. The addition of the brush truck brings the City's total to five open space capable stations.

There are four types of fire alerts in Albuquerque:

Stage I prohibits open burning, i.e. campfires and fuel stoves and smoking, except within enclosed vehicle.

Stage II includes all of stage I prohibitions and includes power tools such as chainsaws, welders/cutters.

Stage III includes all of stage I, II prohibitions and requires visitors to remain on designated paved trails.

Stage IV mandates a park is totally closed to all personnel and visitors.

Stage I is always in effect. Volunteers are trained and utilized to avoid escalation to stage IV restrictions and allow emergency responders to be available for emergency calls.

Albuquerque Fire and Rescue is training 40 volunteer to patrol the open space areas from 7:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. during the fire work season. We will all be wearing bright yellow shirts so we cannot be missed. The volunteers add to the number of official monitors available to ensure safety on Albuquerque's open space lands.

Ten days prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, on the weekend preceding the 4<sup>th</sup> and through the weekend after the holiday, we will patrol the open space areas. 244 fire fighters in

six units will be patrolling the various areas. Teams of APD, fire fighters, and the fire marshal will be patrolling the area's looking for illegal fireworks.

If a firework label reads 'WARNING' it is illegal. If it reads 'Caution', the firework is allowed. Go to [www.Cabq.gov/fire](http://www.Cabq.gov/fire) for further information.

**District 5 Constituent:** Is it legal to burn weeds?

**Battalion Chief Robert Lujan:** Yes, under certain conditions burning weeds is legal. The pile of burning material must be no more than 3 ft. around. The burning material cannot be more than 1 inch in diameter, and the fire must not be closer than 10ft to a structure.

### ❖ District 5 Projects

30 minutes

#### District 5 Council Vice-President Cynthia D. Borrego

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** Set-aside spending items are listed along with associated costs on her City of Albuquerque website at <https://www.cabq.gov/council/find-your-councilor/district-5> Councilor Borrego's District 5 expenditures include items such as the AFR Wildland Firetruck and equipment, 3 AFR Thermal Imaging Cameras, Fire station 18 Landscaping, 17 AFR Lucas Devices for aid to patients in cardiac arrest, Fire station 21 roof repairs, 2 APD Speed Trailers, 6 APD Laptops, 5 APD Bicycles, Ventana Ranch Park's new automatic gate where past wire theft occurred, Mariposa Park's new signs and 10 new trash receptacles. There will be a press conference to announce the arrival APD's 2 new real time cameras and 6 APD laptops on July 9, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

There is a press conference tomorrow morning July 11, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. on the Corner of Kimmick and Paseo del Norte announcing state and local funding secured to design the expansion of Paseo del Norte from Rainbow Blvd. to Calle Norteña. The expansion of Paseo del Norte is necessary to accommodate our Westside's growing neighborhoods. All are welcome to attend.

As yet, the Paseo del Norte expansion project requires the acquisition of 40 properties. The State and City government is well aware of the expense to complete the Paseo del Norte expansion project and considering all funding options.

Unser Blvd.'s expansion from Kimmick Drive to Paradise road is on the official list for Federal funding prioritization to be finalized by the Mid-Region Council of Government (MRCOG) in mid-July.

Council Vice-President Borrego is initiating a study of Golf Course Rd. to scope its consistency and safety in light of new and prospective real-estate development in

the corridor. She met with City Engineer's and will meet with the Regional Planning Authority, MRCOG to advance the substance and projected cost of this work.

**District 5 Constituent:** Will we activate the traffic light at Paseo del Norte and Kimmick?

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** This light's activation is pending further development in the area. Westside Blvd. is still in the design phase. Though projected to be fully funded through the City and my own commitment to its inclusion on the November 2019 voter decided ballot, Westside Blvd. is scheduled to begin construction in 2021. Cibola Loop Community Complex is also included in the upcoming City November 2019 ballot.

To Address Capital Outlay Projects: Albuquerque's District 5 through my office submitted 14 Capital Outlay Requests to the New Mexico State Legislature. Paseo del Norte and Cibola Loop Multi-generational Center Community Complex were partially funded to complete their design. Paseo del Norte's full design funding will also drawn from local City funds we identified.

The Cibola Loop Community Complex design will require additional funds approved by voters included in the 2019 November ballot. The design will include plans for a library, and a pool. A senior preferred housing complex at this site is funded from federal Housing and Urban Development monies. This housing project's Request for Developer Proposals will be issued this month as managed by the City of Albuquerque Family and Community Services Department.

Additionally, The State legislature approved enough funds for the design of safety improvements to McMahan between Anasazi Ridge Ave. /Kayenta St. to Unser Blvd. We received New Mexico State legislature funding for Petroglyph Little League park improvements. The City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation department, The Petroglyph Little League Inc. Managers, and I, as your District 5 Councilor are coordinating efforts to make lighting and ADA accessible improvements to the Petroglyph Little League Park located in Mariposa Park. District 5 also received New Mexico State funding to make Piedras Marcadas Park ADA accessible. It is located in the Piedras Marcadas and Richland Hills neighborhood areas' parking lot.

### **3. Conversation and Questions**

**20 minutes**

**District 5 Constituent:** How will we fill the empty spaces in Cottonwood Mall?

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** I am working with the manager of Cottonwood Mall to address dis-investment concerns.

**District 5 Constituent:** How will you vote on approving or denying Ranked Choice Voting?

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** I am undecided at this point.

**District 5 Constituent and 2019 City of Albuquerque Library Board Member:** We are launching the 2019 Summer Reading Program. There is a sign up log at every library. Prizes will be awarded to participants through drawings. Adults and children are encouraged to enter the Program.

**District 5 Constituent:** It would be great to have a Grower's Market at the Irving Village Open Air Market at Irving and Coors. We also would benefit from more artistic company performances on the Westside of Albuquerque, for instance, showings of the plays produced by the New Mexico Shakespeare Company.

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** Irving Village Open Air Market is privately owned. We have spoken with the New Mexico Shakespeare Company about locating performances on the Westside. We want to build community.

**District 5 Constituent:** There are Federal Grants for economic incubator projects.

**District 5 Constituent** We could use a Super Smiths complex at Unser and Rainbow.

**District 5 Constituent:** There are U.S. Economic Development Administration Grants.

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** We've identified funding in part to begin to call out and promote the different Business Association District's in District 5.

**District 5 Constituent:** Though there are no walking paths to the breweries, and the area is largely undeveloped, the breweries at Unser and McMahan are neighborhood assets.

**District 5 Constituent** It is great we are looking to develop Unser and re-design McMahan. Still, our area has limited bike lanes.

**District 5 Constituent** Montecito West Park needs park lights.

**Council Vice-President Borrego:** Coors Blvd. is controlled by the DOT. I am working with Bernalillo County District 1 Commissioner Debbie O'Malley and also the New Mexico Department of Transportation State Engineer to District 3 Kenneth Murphy to consider bike and walking trails along Coors similar to those built on Tramway.

The District 5 Open House was adjourned at 7:30 p.m