City Councilor Trudy Jones sponsored a resolution to amend the appeal regulations in the Zoning Code (Bill O-13-63). This amendment will apply city-wide.

The intent of the amendment is to modify Section 14-16-4-4(A)(2)(a) of the Zoning Code as follows: "Appeal of the following actions is to the City Council through the Land Use Hearing Officer: (a) Any action which is authorized by the Zoning Code and is made by the Planning Commission [- except a zone map amendment, the appeal of which shall be heard only by the City Council and not by the Land Use Hearing Officer -]."

Currently, zone changes are the only Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) decision that, upon appeal, does not go to the Land Use Hearing Officer (LUHO) for a recommendation before being heard by City Council. The proposed text amendment would create consistency in the appeal process for all cases heard by the EPC. City Council will remain as the final decision-making body.

The Environmental Planning Commission will consider these amendments on January 9, 2014. The hearing begins at 8:30 a.m. in the basement hearing room at Plaza del Sol, 600 2nd Street NW. The amendment will then be forwarded to the City Council with the Planning Commission's recommendation. The City Council will consider the amendment at a future date.

This application can be reviewed at the City Planning Department offices in downtown Albuquerque at the Plaza del Sol building. If you would like to provide comments to the Environmental Planning Commission, contact Carrie Barkhurst at 924-3879, or kcbarkhurst@cabq.gov. Comments should be received at least 48 hours in advance of the public hearing on January 9, 2014.