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1       **WHEREAS, meaningful engagement with communities of African descent**  
2 **requires structured, consistent, and representative input into municipal**  
3 **decision-making; and**

4       **WHEREAS, the establishment of a permanent advisory body will**  
5 **strengthen the City’s ability to develop informed, responsive, and equitable**  
6 **policies.**

7 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**  
8 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

9       **SECTION 1. A new Part 21 is hereby adopted in Chapter 2, Article 6 of the**  
10 **Revised Ordinances of Albuquerque, 1994 as follows:**

11       **§ 2-6-21-1. SHORT TITLE.**

12       **This Ordinance may be cited as the “African American Advisory Board**  
13 **Ordinance.”**

14       **§ 2-6-21-2. AFRICAN AMERICAN ADVISORY BOARD ESTABLISHED.**

15       **There is hereby established the African American Advisory Board**  
16 **(“Board”), which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City**  
17 **Council.**

18       **§ 2-6-21-3. PURPOSE AND DUTIES.**

19       **(1) Economic Mobility – workforce development, entrepreneurship,**  
20 **housing stability, and wealth-building opportunities;**

21       **(2) Missing and Murdered Black Family – prevention strategies,**  
22 **interagency coordination, advocacy, and support for impacted families;**

23       **(3) Cultural Events and Heritage – preservation, promotion, and support**  
24 **of African diaspora cultural programming and institutions;**

25       **(4) Health Outcomes – physical health, behavioral health, maternal and**  
26 **infant health, health equity, and access to culturally competent care; and**

27       **(5) Civic Engagement and Representation - Ensuring that Black voices**  
28 **shape policy at every level is critical to securing and protecting rights and**  
29 **resources. Protecting access to the ballot and ensuring redistricting fairness.**

30       **§ 2-6-21-4. BOARD COMPOSITION.**

31       **(A) The Board shall consist of 17 voting members. The Board shall be**  
32 **comprised of the following members:**

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1 (B) Permanent Organizational Seats. The following organizations shall  
2 hold permanent seats on the Board and may designate one representative to  
3 serve on their behalf.

- 4 (1) State of New Mexico Office of African American Affairs
- 5 (2) Martin Luther King Jr. State Commission
- 6 (3) Black Chamber of Commerce of New Mexico
- 7 (4) African American Museum and Cultural Center of New Mexico
- 8 (5) New Mexico Black Leadership Council
- 9 (6) University of New Mexico African American Student Services
- 10 (7) University of New Mexico Hospital – African American  
11 Community Liaison
- 12 (8) Center for New Mexico Black Excellence
- 13 (9) New Mexico Black Lawyers Association
- 14 (10) Albuquerque Police Department Black Ambassador(s)
- 15 (11) Ministers Fellowship
- 16 (12) Baptist Ministers Union
- 17 (13) NAACP Albuquerque Branch
- 18 (14) Albuquerque Public Schools AA Equity & Engagement  
19 Coordinator

20 (C) Community Subject Matter Experts. Three (3) members shall be  
21 community subject matter experts. Applicants are to be reviewed by  
22 permanent members with a recommendation(s) to be appointed by the Mayor  
23 and confirmed by the City Council, with demonstrated lived experience and/or  
24 professional expertise in one or more of the Board’s focus areas.

25 (D) Health Expertise Requirement. At least one Board member shall  
26 possess demonstrated expertise in public health, behavioral health,  
27 healthcare administration, or health equity.

28 § 2-6-21-5. APPOINTMENT, TERM, AND REMOVAL OF MEMBERS.

29 (A) Organizational seats are permanent. Organizational designees may  
30 be changed at the organization’s discretion by written notice to the City and  
31 shall not constitute a vacancy.

32 (B) Community subject matter experts shall be appointed by the Mayor  
33 and confirmed by the City Council. Each appointment shall be for a term of

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1 three years from the date of appointment, unless the appointment is to fill a  
2 vacancy. The initial terms shall be staggered and shall be for either one, two  
3 or three years.

4 (C) Vacancies. Vacancies in community subject matter expert seats shall  
5 be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6 (D) Removal. Community subject matter experts may be removed by the  
7 Mayor or by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Councilors after due notice  
8 and hearing if such member has violated any law, regulation or charter  
9 provision, or for other good cause such as the intentional failure to carry out  
10 the duties of the Board.

11 § 2-6-21-6. ORGANIZATION, MEETINGS, AND OPERATING  
12 REQUIREMENTS.

13 (A) Meetings: The Board shall meet monthly unless otherwise  
14 determined by the Chair or requested by three (3) or more members.

15 (B) Officers: The Board shall elect one of its members to serve as the  
16 Chair of the Board. The Board shall elect one of its members to serve as Vice  
17 Chair to serve in place of the Chair in their absence. Officers shall be elected  
18 for a term of one year.

19 (C) Attendance: Members who miss three (3) consecutive meetings or  
20 fifty percent (50%) of meetings in a calendar year without good cause may be  
21 subject to removal or replacement. Absences for organizational seats shall be  
22 addressed by requesting a new designee.

23 (D) Alternate Representatives: Each organization member outlined in  
24 section 2-6-21-4(B) may designate one alternate representative who may  
25 attend and vote in the absence of the primary representative.

26 (E) Quorum: Quorum shall consist of nine (9) members, one of which  
27 shall be the Chair or Vice Chair.

28 (F) Voting: Decisions of the Board shall be made by a majority vote of  
29 the members present. The Board shall not vote on matters unless a quorum of  
30 members are present as defined in subsection (E) above.

31 (G) Reporting: The Board shall submit an annual written report to the  
32 Mayor and City Council summarizing activities, findings, and policy  
33 recommendations. The report shall be publicly available.

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1 (H) Bylaws and Policies and Procedures: The Board shall adopt bylaws  
2 and policies and procedures consistent with City requirements governing  
3 meeting procedures, officer roles, voting, and Board operations. Bylaws and  
4 policies and procedures shall be adopted within the Board's first year of  
5 operation, shall be reviewed on an annual basis, and updated as necessary.

6 SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause,  
7 word or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or  
8 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not  
9 affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. The Council  
10 hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section,  
11 paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of any  
12 provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

13 SECTION 3. COMPILATION. SECTION 1 of this Ordinance is to be  
14 compiled as a new Part 21 in Article 6 in Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances  
15 of Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1994, titled "African American Advisory Board."

16 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance takes effect five days after  
17 publication by title and general summary.

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1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF March, 2026  
2 BY A VOTE OF: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST.

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Klarissa J. Peña, President  
City Council

APPROVED THIS 11 DAY OF March, 2026

Bill No. O-26-11



Timothy M. Keller, Mayor  
City of Albuquerque

ATTEST:



Ethan Watson, City Clerk

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