



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

City Council

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District 1	District 2	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 9

September 4, 2026

Dear Mayor Keller,

Serving Albuquerque is demanding work. Every day, we are called upon to tackle complex challenges, make difficult decisions, and work together to improve the lives of the people who call our city home.

In the midst of that work, it is important that we occasionally take a moment to recognize how much good is happening across Albuquerque and how much we can accomplish when we work together. That is why I would like to propose something a little different.

Mayor Keller, I challenge you to a softball game at Isotopes Park.

To keep things fair and make it a little more fun, you and I would serve as team captains: Mayor Tim Keller and City Council President Klarissa Peña.

All City Councilors would be invited to play, along with participating staff from the Mayor's Office and City Council. But there's a catch: neither captain gets to pick their own team.

Instead, the names of all participating Councilors and staff would go into a hat, and we would take turns drawing names until the teams are set. Mayor's Office staff, Council staff, and City Councilors could find themselves playing side by side.

No stacked teams. No handpicked all-stars. Just the luck of the draw.

That is part of what would make this event special. We work together every day on behalf of Albuquerque, often while approaching issues from different perspectives. For one evening, we would have the opportunity to come together in a different way—as teammates, competitors, colleagues, and members of the same City team.

Our disagreements and differences are part of public service. But they should never overshadow the reason we are here in the first place: to serve the people of Albuquerque.

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Sometimes building stronger working relationships can be as simple as stepping away from City Hall, getting out on the field, sharing a few laughs, and enjoying some friendly competition.

And, of course, there are bragging rights on the line.

So, Mayor Keller, what do you say?

Let's settle it on the field.

Mayor Tim Keller and Council President Klarissa Peña as captains.

All City Councilors invited to play.

Mayor's Office and City Council staff in the hat.

Teams determined by the luck of the draw.

A little friendly rivalry.

A lot of team spirit.

And one set of Albuquerque bragging rights.

I hope you'll accept the challenge.

For Albuquerque.

For teamwork.

And for a little fun outside of City Hall.

I look forward to seeing you at the plate.

Play ball!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Peña', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Klarissa Peña

President

Albuquerque City Council