

Feedback from Neighborhood Associations and Residents on Draft Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance (NARO) Legislation
Updated May 2022

CATEGORY	NEIGHBORHOOD FEEDBACK	CITY RESPONSE
<p>Annual Meeting</p>	<p>In the Proposed NARO, what constitutes proof of how the membership was notified for the annual meeting?</p> <p>If ONC is not required to attend general membership meetings of the NAs then this notification is another make work project.</p> <p>Proposed NARO requires each recognized neighborhood association to provide a copy of the minutes of their annual membership meeting. Why?</p>	<p>Proposed NARO states that placement of signage in prominent locations in the neighborhood and two or more of the following will constitute notification for the annual meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. mail; or • Delivered flyers; or • Website or social media posting; or; • E-mail, text message, or direct message through social media, or other form of electronic messages delivered to the known address of each member <p>The ONC makes every attempt to attend as many neighborhood meetings as possible and will continue to do so after the NARO is in effect. However, with limited staff resources, it is not always possible to attend all meetings.</p> <p>The current NARO requires neighborhoods to provide annual meeting minutes as a means of confirming democratic voting processes have been adhered to, and this has been carried over into the proposed NARO.</p>

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<p>Board Members</p>	<p>Proposed NARO allows for all members to be eligible for board positions, which goes against individual association “Sector VP” process.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not require members to participate for a certain time prior to holding an officer position and suggests members must be on the board for one year prior to holding certain offices.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO does not prohibit topic-specific or specialty positions on neighborhood boards, and does stipulate that all members are eligible to serve on the board of a recognized neighborhood association.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not stipulate length of time a member must serve prior to holding officer position. Individual neighborhood associations can clarify this in their bylaws if they so wish.</p>
<p>Bylaws</p>	<p>Proposed NARO provides clear guidelines for what bylaws should require.</p> <p>Proposed NARO appears to require currently recognized NAs to change their bylaws to remain recognized and does not give a timeframe within which recognized neighborhoods must conform to new standards. Bylaw revisions must be approved by NA memberships. What if an NA membership does not approve these changes to bylaws – will that NA be stripped of its recognition? Will the ONC override bylaws?</p> <p>Proposed NARO should require all association board members to stipulate in writing that they have (1) read</p>	<p>Feedback noted and reviewed.</p> <p>No recognized neighborhood association already in existence with overlapping boundaries will lose their recognized status under the proposed NARO. All recognized neighborhood associations will be given 18 months to come into full compliance with the proposed NARO, other than recognized neighborhood associations with overlapping boundaries in existence as of October 2017 and at the time the proposed NARO goes into effect. The ONC only enforces the NARO, not bylaws.</p> <p>Recognized neighborhood associations can continue to run their associations as they so</p>

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	and understand NARO, and (2) read and understand their own bylaws.	choose. The ONC enforces the NARO only. Neighborhoods enforce their own bylaws and can include requirements for board members to read the NARO and read their bylaws if they so wish.
Bylaws Revisions	Proposed NARO requires bylaws be revised every five (5) years to reflect changes in election, communication, and/or financial processes. This is burdensome and unnecessary to neighborhood associations, who are voluntary.	Proposed NARO has been revised to clarify that bylaws must be reviewed and revised every ten (10) years or as needed to reflect said changes. If information has not changed, recognized neighborhood associations will not need to update their bylaws.
Clarification of Neighborhood Position	<p>Proposed NARO requires neighborhood associations to clarify that its positions are of the association itself and not the position of others not affiliated with the neighborhood association. It is unnecessary and biased to require this information. Other groups are not required to do the same when speaking on issues in public. If these other organizations as listed in this section are permitted through NARO to have access to all of ONC’s resources, then they too should be required to comply at a minimum with this section as they are not required to disclose any other information.</p> <p>Proposed NARO requires a neighborhood association to clarify how an NA decision or position vote was made. Would the NA have to demonstrate to a newly formed</p>	<p>This is in the current NARO and the City is not requiring anything new or additional. The recognized neighborhood associations determine how these decisions are made and how their positions are arrived at. This section is intended to be a reporting mechanism for when the neighborhood association is presenting a decision or position to the City. This is a requirement for maintaining recognized status.</p> <p>The current NARO requires this, and the City is not requiring anything new or additional.</p>

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	board how they came to their decision before they can bring an official position to the city?	
Compliance	Proposed NARO requires providing evidence of compliance within 60 days of receipt of noncompliance. It is not possible for an NA to come into compliance with any section of this proposed NARO relating to bylaws in that timeframe.	Proposed NARO gives 18 months from the date it is passed to come into full compliance. This is stated at the end of the legislation.
Contact information	Proposed NARO allows contact information for recognized neighborhood associations to be requested by anyone who requests it. Contact information should not be public information and made available to anyone who requests it. Contact information should be given out on an as-needed basis. Government should not determine what is public information if not exempted by NM Public Records Act.	Neighborhood association contact information is maintained by the ONC in its normal course of business. Like all other written material maintained by the ONC and all other City agencies, it is subject to disclosure by the public pursuant to the Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA). The City agrees that government should not determine what is public information if not exempted by the NM Public Records Act.
Definition of Good Faith	Proposed NARO needs a more clear definition of "reasonable steps" that a neighborhood association can "in good faith" take to get all persons and legal entities within its boundaries to be "evenly distributed," since neighborhood associations are voluntary. If a neighborhood association is appropriately and evenly distributing notices for board elections and providing membership criteria this provision is unnecessary and arbitrary.	Reasonable steps and good faith are demonstrated in the draft NARO by clearly outlining what is expected of a recognized neighborhood association in term of notifying people and businesses within its boundaries, e.g., posted notice of meetings in a prominent location within the boundaries and utilizing other communication venues such as social media,

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		websites, neighborhood signs, e-mail lists, newsletters and distributed flyers.
Development	<p>Proposed NARO needs more discussion with neighborhood associations since as it's written, it does not involve public input to guide development in the city.</p> <p>Proposed NARO has removed Responsibilities of Applicants and Developers section that is in current NARO. Where will those responsibilities be clarified within the City's ordinances?</p> <p>The NARO and the IDO need to be amended to allow individuals, business coalitions, and any group who requests it to receive developer notifications. Technology should allow any individual to opt in to receive the same notices that recognized neighborhood associations receive.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO does not establish public input process for City development. The Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) does that.</p> <p>The responsibilities of applicants and developers is overseen by the Planning Department, which addresses these in the IDO. The ONC has no oversight over applicants or developers, which is why this section was taken out of the Proposed NARO. However, an amendment was passed that included a section about the responsibilities of developers was added to the Proposed NARO.</p> <p>Notice of project applications is an incentive granted to recognized neighborhood associations. The IDO provides guidance in terms of requirements that individuals and recognized neighborhood associations must go through in order to receive notice. The IDO does allow for proximity-based notice to individuals, as well as recognized neighborhood associations. There are limits on notifications due to lack of staffing within the Planning Department. Notice is provided to the public at large through posted signs at project site, and the ONC provides links to</p>

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		<p>Planning Department-based applicant sites for permit applications, DRB, EPC and ZHE, all of which are available to the public. The Planning Department is in the process of developing map-based technology/GIS functionality for the public to see where development is happening geographically.</p>
<p>Dues</p>	<p>The proposed NARO makes membership dues voluntary. This creates problems in determining level of member involvement, and creates a potential financial problem, as dues are used to pay for newsletter printing, postage, signs, events, etc.</p>	<p>The proposed NARO aims to promote democratic processes that allow access to membership for all persons within the boundaries of the recognized neighborhood association. Requiring even nominal dues as a prerequisite for voting may have an exclusionary effect on some members of the community, which would be inconsistent with the democratic processes promoted by the Proposed NARO. However, recognized neighborhood associations may still require some formal step to establish membership, such as filling out a form, so that the association can keep track of membership without requiring dues. Neighborhood associations may consider establishing an assistance fund to provide assistance for membership; a pay what you can addendum, or possible fund-raising methods. Neighborhood associations are not prohibited from charging dues; they cannot, however, be a prerequisite for membership or voting rights.</p>

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	<p>Proposed NARO makes dues voluntary. This is beneficial as neighborhood association members should not have to “pay to vote.” Previous neighborhood treasurers did not keep accurate membership and donation lists.</p> <p>Proposed NARO should be revised to state payment of dues cannot be a prerequisite of membership and voting rights in the association for persons residing within the boundaries of the association if such person does not have the means to pay membership due and offer alternative methods for membership tracking and dues generation, or include a waiver of dues for financial reasons.</p>	<p>Comment noted and reviewed.</p> <p>Neighborhood associations may consider establishing an assistance fund to provide assistance for membership; a pay what you can addendum, or possible fund-raising methods. Neighborhood associations are not prohibited from charging dues; they cannot, however, be a prerequisite for membership or voting rights.</p>
<p>Election and Voting Processes</p>	<p>Proposed NARO raises concerns about voting done by one means and not using another, and election results could be challenged by not providing for multiple methods. Concerns about how ballots are tallied and whether members allege they didn’t receive electronic ballot results could arise. The expense and burden of using U.S. mail to send ballot results would be problematic, particularly if dues are not mandatory.</p> <p>Proposed NARO needs to more clearly explain how elections are handled, specific to consistency with state statues for NAs that are incorporated. The section needs to be revised to state the general requirements for a democratic process by law, and let neighborhood associations define the method.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO provides for a variety of election and voting methods, intended to allow recognized neighborhood associations to decide which method works best for them. Mailed ballots are not deemed mandatory under the proposed NARO. Bylaws can be revised to clearly delineate processed for ballot tallying to avoid conflict or confusion.</p> <p>The Proposed NARO clearly defines a democratic process for recognized neighborhood association elections. Nothing in the Proposed NARO is intended to impact any requirements for incorporation with the State. If a specific instance</p>

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	<p>Neighborhood associations should not have to report their election processes in their bylaws to the City, since they are voluntary, independent organizations.</p> <p>Proposed NARO indicates a neighborhood association cannot have a board election unless it meets the (B)(7) notice requirements. Confusing language. Should be revised to state that annual meetings at which boards are elected must meet notice requirements.</p> <p>Proposed NARO requires at least 7 days advance notice of a vote taking place. NA boards regularly vote on issues at every meeting. Requiring NAs to predict every motion that may be put forth by a board member at every meeting seven days in advance of the meeting is untenable.</p> <p>Proposed NARO appears to suggest that all NA members be permitted to vote on decisions or positions made on behalf of the association, conflicting with (B)(11) requiring only a majority vote of the association’s officers. This section is problematic in that it requires NAs permit</p>	<p>of conflict arises, it will be addressed within the NARO.</p> <p>The ONC will not become arbiter of neighborhood election processes. The ONC enforces the NARO itself, not individual recognized neighborhood association bylaws or processes.</p> <p>Comment noted and reviewed. Draft NARO revised for clarity.</p> <p>Minimum of 7 days notice is in the current NARO and has been carried over into the draft NARO. This section does not mean that a meeting only has 7 days advance notice; but that the board has at least 7 days, if not more, to notice the meeting where voting will take place. Recognized neighborhood associations can give more than 7 days advance notice should they wish.</p> <p>Proposed NARO provides for a variety of election and voting methods, intended to allow recognized neighborhood associations to decide which method works best for them. Mailed ballots are not deemed mandatory under the proposed</p>
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	<p>members to vote via mailed ballot or electronic means. Requiring NAs to provide mailed or electronic ballots to any member is a significant cost and time burden on board members in terms of tracking, deadline enforcement, responsibility for ballot receipt, oversight of counting process, vote tracking in different formats etc.</p>	<p>NARO. Bylaws can be revised to clearly delineate processed for ballot tallying to avoid conflict or confusion.</p>
<p>E-mail address requirement</p>	<p>Neighborhood associations should not have to have a designated e-mail address. Neighborhood associations should not be mandated to use electronic communications. Using electronic communications could be a security issue.</p> <p>Stipulate that an email addresses be set up to auto-forward to anyone in the association boundaries who requests such.</p>	<p>This section has been removed from the revised draft NARO.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not prohibit auto-forwarding of e-mail addresses to others within association boundaries. Bylaws can be revised to require an automatic forwarding should the recognized neighborhood association so wish.</p>
<p>Expansion of existing recognized neighborhood association boundaries</p>	<p>Proposed NARO restricts limits on new recognized neighborhoods. This seems arbitrary. Restricting existing neighborhood association growth is not beneficial as neighborhood association growth is centered around active membership.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO would eliminate overlapping neighborhood boundaries for new recognized neighborhood associations, but existing recognized neighborhoods with overlapping boundaries will be “grandfathered” in. The geographic limitation of 1 square mile is in the current NARO and was carried over into the Proposed NARO. This requirement is intended to promote localized self-determination among the</p>

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		diverse neighborhoods of the city, and an open and democratic process.
Overlapping Boundaries	<p>Proposed NARO is detrimental to neighborhoods expanding as it curtails power of neighborhood associations. Boundary restrictions will prevent neighborhoods from annexing unrepresented areas nearby.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not correct problem of existing neighborhood associations with overlapping boundaries. Will NAs with overlapping boundaries lose recognized status if the proposed NARO goes into effect?</p> <p>Limiting the creation of neighborhood associations with overlapping boundaries is foolish and arbitrary; that will limit community involvement and create mistrust and division.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO would eliminate overlapping neighborhood boundaries for new recognized neighborhood associations, but does not otherwise restrict neighborhoods from expanding. The geographic limitation of 1 square mile is in the current NARO and was carried over into the Proposed NARO.</p> <p>No recognized neighborhood association with overlapping boundaries that was in existence as of October 2017 and that is in recognized status at the time of the proposed NARO going into effect, will lose its recognized status.</p> <p>Proposed NARO would eliminate overlapping neighborhood boundaries for new recognized neighborhood associations, but does not otherwise restrict neighborhoods from expanding.</p>
Film notifications	Proposed NARO does not clearly include or define how City Film Office sends neighborhood notifications.	Proposed NARO has been revised to include responsibility for Film Office notifications to neighborhoods and residents within 300 feet of filming location.

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<p>Membership</p>	<p>Proposed NARO could be interpreted as the ONC being the decision-maker and involved in quasi-judicial issues about what constitutes membership.</p> <p>Proposed NARO has contradictory language that states "only those persons within the boundaries of the association who have affirmatively joined the neighborhood association may be counted as members: and also states that membership is open to "owning property."</p>	<p>The ONC enforces the NARO only. The recognized neighborhood association establishes how membership is determined in its bylaws, not the ONC. The bylaws must clearly identify how membership is established.</p> <p>Proposed NARO states that membership must be open to all adult persons residing within the neighborhood boundaries, and to each place of business within the boundaries.</p>
<p>Miscellaneous NARO Feedback</p>	<p>Proposed NARO will destroy neighborhood associations and voices of residents. Proposed NARO makes it difficult for volunteer neighborhood association members to accomplish new requirements.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not address the use of Nextdoor in neighborhood associations.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not address establishing a polling system to educate neighborhood associations in city issues.</p>	<p>Any specific examples of how Proposed NARO may appear to reduce City's responsibility to neighborhood will be evaluated. Proposed NARO requires more engagement with a wider group of residents.</p> <p>Nextdoor is an independent organization and the ONC as a branch of city government does not have any oversight of Nextdoor processes and policies.</p> <p>The role of a neighborhood association should include polling among its members and other associations. If a neighborhood association wants</p>

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	<p>Proposed NARO would make finding new volunteers for neighborhood difficult.</p> <p>Proposed NARO should be revised to eliminate bureaucratic language.</p> <p>Proposed NARO should only be revised, not replaced.</p> <p>Proposed NARO should be revised to correct numeric errors, and to clarify confusing language pertaining to elections, what type of information should be shared, what constitutes “best efforts,” etc.</p>	<p>to establish polling within their boundaries, they can add this process to their bylaws.</p> <p>The proposed NARO aims to promote democratic processes that allow access to membership for all persons within the boundaries of the recognized neighborhood association.</p> <p>Comment noted and reviewed. All legislation relies on specific language in order to clearly define legal requirements, which is the case with the proposed NARO.</p> <p>When there are significant revisions to legislation, it is customary to rewrite the legislation instead of revising.</p> <p>Numeric errors have been corrected. Language has been reviewed and revised to more clearly define “best efforts” and “good faith,” namely, that reasonable steps, best efforts and good faith are outlined by specifying what is expected of a recognized neighborhood association in term of notifying people and businesses within its boundaries, e.g., posted notice of meetings in a prominent location within the boundaries and utilizing other communication venues such as</p>
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	<p>Proposed NARO needs more time for public review and comment submission. People not involved in neighborhood associations are at risk of being inaccurately represented or not being notified of city projects.</p> <p>Proposed NARO provisions, both in the original and this draft revision, limit opportunities for other persons and non-recognized groups.</p> <p>Proposed NARO needs to have a provision for someone outside the association or outside the ONC or the City to make complaints about noncompliance and what the hierarchy is in order to take complaints up the chain.</p>	<p>social media, websites, neighborhood signs, e-mail lists, newsletters and distributed flyers.</p> <p>The NEP process was a two-year effort in which 222 neighborhoods, and members of the general public were contacted for their feedback on what should be included in the updated NARO. 83 neighborhood associations did not respond to requests for information from the NEP contractors. The feedback that was collected via survey, face-to-face interviews, telephonic conversations and flash interviews, was incorporated into the NEP draft summary report and several of those recommendations were incorporated into the Proposed NARO.</p> <p>The proposed NARO requires more outreach to a wider variety of residents and expands opportunities for more individuals from a variety of economic, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds to be part of a recognized neighborhood association.</p> <p>The ONC enforces the NARO only, not individual neighborhood bylaws nor alleged noncompliance. The ONC can and does recommend dispute resolution for neighborhood complaints; however, the ONC is not the arbiter of neighborhood bylaws or allegations of non-</p>
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		<p>compliance. The City’s Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program helps address conflict and complaints among neighborhood groups.</p>
<p>Neighborhood Engagement Process (NEP)</p>	<p>Residents and neighborhoods were not aware of the two-year NEP and did not have opportunity to give their input. Input was not garnered from individuals.</p> <p>Residents requested NARO draft ordinance in 2019, as well as NEP processes.</p>	<p>The NEP process was a two-year effort in which 222 neighborhoods, and members of the general public were contacted for their feedback on what should be included in the updated NARO. 83 neighborhood associations did not respond to requests for information from the NEP contractors. The feedback that was collected via survey, face-to-face interviews, telephonic conversations and flash interviews, was incorporated into the NEP draft summary report and several of those recommendations were incorporated into the Proposed NARO.</p> <p>The proposed NARO did not exist in 2019. All records on file specific to the NEP processes, including a draft summary report which was presented at City Council in November 2019, was sent to all neighborhood associations on file with the ONC at that time. The NEP processes and summary reports are still available to the public on the ONC’s website. The current proposed NARO was sent to all neighborhood associations on file with the ONC in January 2021, and the</p>

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	<p>Proposed NARO seems to be a reaction to complaints about current situation. It would be helpful to know who is complaining: neighborhood associations, residents who are not members, city administration, or developers.</p> <p>Groups were not contacted as part of the Neighborhood Engagement Process, and NEP contractor did not follow up with members who were contacted and didn't respond initially. Due diligence of NEP contractor questioned.</p> <p>NEP facilitators were told that asking only associations for input was like the "fox guarding the henhouse" and that</p>	<p>revised NARO incorporating feedback from neighborhoods was sent out again in July 2021.</p> <p>Cities around the country have been updating their NARO equivalents over the past few years due to the fact that the role and value of neighborhood associations has changed since the NARO was first enacted. In this respect, the decision to update the NARO in the City of Albuquerque was not as much complaint-driven as much as it was an opportunity to expand the role of neighborhood associations in Albuquerque and also to clarify and enhance the ONC's role.</p> <p>The initial focus of the NEP was on neighborhood associations, as the small-scale, grass root representatives who communicate their concerns to the larger coalitions. The NEP eventually expanded outreach to neighborhood coalitions and individuals not affiliated with neighborhood associations. Over 222 neighborhood associations and coalitions were contacted for their feedback, with 83 associations not responding to NEP inquiries for feedback.</p> <p>The processes from the NEP consultants included outreach to individuals and groups who were not</p>
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	<p>the City needed to get input from those outside associations.</p> <p>Results from NEP surveys and interviews should have been incorporated into Proposed NARO. Actual concerns of residents such as improve 311 engagement, who in the City government to contact with concerns and an Office of Neighborhood Coordination that is able to help us with questions and concerns, were not addressed.</p> <p>The proposed NARO does not meet the goals of the NEP and contradicts them.</p>	<p>affiliated with neighborhood associations, as indicated in the NEP Phase III Draft Summary Report, which was presented at City Council in November 2019. The report remains on the ONC’s website to this day.</p> <p>The NEP process was a two-year effort in which 222 neighborhoods, and members of the general public were contacted for their feedback on what should be included in the updated NARO. The feedback that was collected via survey, face-to-face interviews, telephonic conversations and flash interviews, was incorporated into the NEP draft summary report and several of those recommendations were incorporated into the Proposed NARO. The ONC does not have any oversight of 311 nor of any other City agency. The ONC has and will continue to assist with connecting neighborhoods to specific departments and resources. Specific examples of questions and concerns that the ONC has not been able to assist with would be welcome so they can be addressed.</p> <p>Most survey responses and feedback from the NEP were incorporated into the Proposed NARO. The ones that were and were not were clarified in an e-mail sent to all neighborhood associations on January 15, 2021. Specific examples of how the</p>
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		proposed NARO does not meet the goals of the NEP and contradicts them would be welcome.
Notice of Annual Meeting on Neighborhood Signs	Proposed NARO requires recognized neighborhood associations to place two or more prominent signs at the entrances and exits to the neighborhood association as part of their notice and outreach about annual meetings. This is problematic because many neighborhoods do not have neighborhood signs; and most neighborhoods don't have clear entrance or exit points. It could also be problematic as neighborhood associations do not have funds to pay for maintenance and possible liability related to neighborhood signs.	Posting about meetings does not have to be on neighborhood signs at entrance and exit of neighborhoods. The proposed NARO was revised to reflect this. The City owns all neighborhood signs and is responsible for any liability issues related to them.
Oversight by City	Proposed NARO is micromanagerial and gives City excessive authority over neighborhood associations, which are volunteer-based and should not have such oversight from government.	Proposed NARO is not intended to micromanage neighborhood associations; but rather, provide guidance and technical assistance to address specific criteria for what would constitute democratic processes for recognized neighborhood associations, including open membership, dues not being required in order to vote or to be a member, and no overlapping boundaries for new recognized associations. Recognized neighborhood associations have opportunities to receive notice on development matters, automatic appeal standing, and to speak as neighborhood representatives in front of various decision-making bodies. It is appropriate

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	<p>ONC should not have to enforce bylaws or what were once voluntary compliance with the NARO.</p> <p>Neighborhood associations are not subject to the Open Meetings Act, nor are they a City department or entity.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>that such recognized neighborhood associations be held to a higher standard of expectations. The democratic processes called for in the Proposed NARO are in place to ensure that a recognized NA can govern itself without enforcement of bylaw provisions by the City. The NARO has always required that recognized neighborhood associations adhere to democratic processes but that requirement lacked clarity. These revisions are intended to help ensure recognized neighborhood associations are truly representative of their community, inclusive to all residents in their neighborhood, and transparent in their processes.</p> <p>The ONC does not enforce bylaws under the current NARO, and they will not enforce bylaws under the proposed NARO nor when it is enacted into law. The ONC enforces the NARO only.</p> <p>The proposed NARO does not require recognized neighborhood associations to comply with the Open Meetings Act. The proposed NARO does not propose to make neighborhood associations a branch of city government, but does require those in recognized status and with standing in land use cases to abide by basic requirements that illustrate they are operating in an inclusive, democratic and transparent way.</p>
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<p>Recognition Status</p>	<p>Proposed NARO does not include homeowner associations and neighborhood coalitions in its definition of recognized neighborhood association. HOAs and neighborhood coalitions should be given recognized status. Proposed NARO does not clarify if coalitions need to abide by any of the rules and guidelines, since they are not recognized associations. Changes for coalitions are uncalled for and eliminate their influence on development on a broader scale of an area. Coalitions have a holistic understanding of neighborhood issues.</p> <p>The definitions of groups in the proposed ordinance do not cover some of the groups. The city and county should not be demanding that groups have to follow their guidelines and requirements to receive recognition or notifications. The City and County should work to provide free and transparent information to communities and residents.</p> <p>Proposed NARO does not offer an appeals process for neighborhood associations who fall out of recognized status.</p>	<p>Homeowner associations limit their membership to property owners only, which goes against the intent of the Proposed NARO to clarify open and democratic processes for recognized neighborhood associations. Neighborhood coalitions will be allowed recognized status in the revised proposed NARO once they have come into compliance with standards of recognition designated for coalitions.</p> <p>The City would like specific examples of what groups are not defined in the Proposed NARO. Permit and developer notification information are free and available to the public through the Planning Department’s website. The ONC’s communication list is open to anyone who wants to be on it.</p> <p>The ONC sends recognized neighborhood associations several reminders of their upcoming expected annual report deadline. The ONC also notifies neighborhood associations who have not met recognition requirements that they are in danger of losing their recognized status within a specific timeframe and informs them of actions necessary to maintain their recognized status</p>
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	<p>Coalitions losing recognized status will limit public comment, which is an American right and required by federal legislation and the New Mexico Open Meetings Act.</p> <p>Proposed NARO ensures access for non-recognized groups to receive ONC resources, such as the newsletter, trainings, communications and annual neighborhood summit.</p>	<p>within that timeframe. Neighborhoods who lose their recognized status can regain this status by filing their annual report with the ONC.</p> <p>Coalitions will not lose recognized status in the revised proposed NARO, if they come into compliance with recognition standards within 18 months of the enactment of the proposed NARO.</p> <p>Comment reviewed and noted.</p>
Revenue	<p>Proposed NARO states bylaws must specify how neighborhood association revenues are spent. This is problematic because it circumvents independence of neighborhood association, which is a voluntary group.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO has been updated to remove this section completely.</p>
Roles and responsibilities of the ONC	<p>Proposed NARO weakens ONC’s ability to help neighborhoods. Proposed NARO limits ONC potential. Proposed NARO would make ONC merely a funnel of information and tasked with enforcing compliance. They would no longer provide essential help and support.</p>	<p>Proposed NARO increases ONC’s role and responsibilities by stipulating services provided to recognized neighborhood associations as well as to the general public. The ONC has always provided essential help, support and information to neighborhoods and residents citywide and will continue to do so. While clarifications and specific additions have been made regarding the ONC’s services, no previously existing services have been</p>

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	<p>ONC should not have to provide City department listings and contact information to the public as it is burdensome.</p> <p>Proposed NARO makes no provision to provide resources for outreach/communication but rather add to NA outreach burdens and costs.</p> <p>Putting the onus of encouraging individuals to participate in their NAs should not be placed on the NAs but is a function of COA/ONC possibly.</p> <p>How do these updates promote working closely with ONC to help build capacity for effective outreach and communication with NA members?</p>	<p>altered or removed. ONC will continue to provide its newsletter, trainings and other resources to recognized neighborhood associations and the public.</p> <p>The ONC has provided City department listings on their website since 2017 and previously provided a hard copy of this information for over 20 years. The ONC has always provided information on other City departments to the public as requested, and will continue to do so when the Proposed NARO is in effect.</p> <p>Neighborhood associations, as a member-driven grassroots organization, should be the entity that reaches out to individuals to participate. The role of the ONC is to support the work of neighborhood associations and that will continue under the proposed NARO.</p> <p>Neighborhood associations, as a grass roots organization, should be the entity that reaches out to individuals to participate. The role of the ONC is to support the work of neighborhood associations and that will continue under the proposed NARO.</p> <p>The role of the ONC is to support neighborhood associations and that will continue under the</p>
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Feedback from Neighborhood Associations and Residents on Draft Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance (NARO) Legislation
Updated May 2022

		<p>proposed NARO. The ONC’s responsibilities will increase to provide information and support to potential neighborhood members, potential new neighborhood associations and the general public, as well as existing neighborhood associations. The updates in the draft NARO are intended to clarify the ONC’s role and responsibilities, and in doing that, the ONC will have increased capacity to assist with outreach and communication.</p>
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