



# City of Albuquerque Goals Forum



## FINAL REPORT

- Event Date: July 19, 2016
- Albuquerque, NM

### CONVENER

City of Albuquerque, Indicators Progress Commission

### FACILITATOR

New Mexico First



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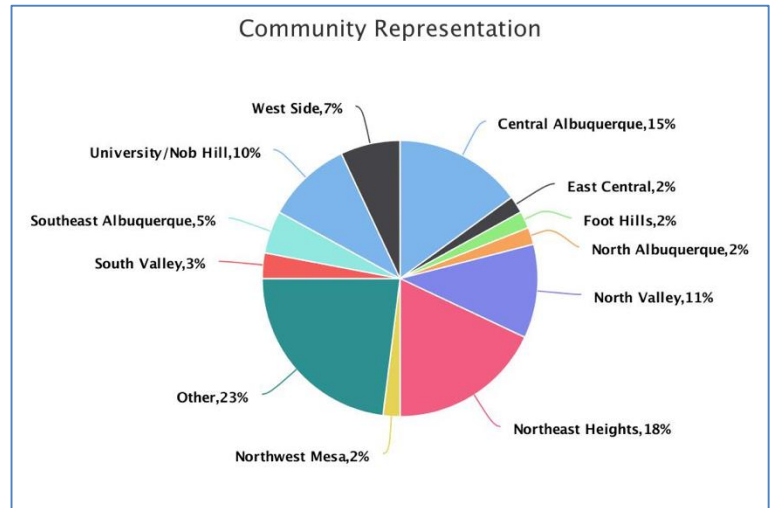
# INTRODUCTION

## Purpose of the Forum

Since 1995, residents of Albuquerque have met to define the community conditions they view as most important to ensuring that the city is an active, thriving, culturally rich and sustainable high desert community. The Albuquerque Goals Forum is one of the primary methods the city uses to obtain resident input into the city’s long-term priorities. The forum provides a unique opportunity for residents to review Albuquerque’s goals for the future and outline a meaningful path for elected officials and community leaders to follow.

The focus of the 2016 event was to review two of the city’s eight goals:

- Goal 1-Human and Family Development:** People of all ages have the opportunity to participate in the community and economy and are well sheltered, safe, healthy and educated.
- Goal 7-Community and Cultural Engagement:** Residents are engaged in Albuquerque’s community and culture.



Geographic Representation of 2016 ABQ Goals Forum Participants

The other goals, which will be addressed in future events, include public safety, public infrastructure, sustainable community development, environmental protection and enhancement, economic vitality, and government excellence and effectiveness.



Prior to the event, participants received the Albuquerque Desired Community Conditions Chart, which provided a foundation for table group discussions. (See Appendix A.) The chart illustrated:

- 1)The city’s eight overall goals
- 2)The desired community conditions that, if achieved, would meet those goals
- 3)Indicators for measuring progress toward the desired conditions

For additional information, participants were encouraged to review the *2014 Albuquerque Progress Report* that provided context on the above variables, as measured two years ago. This document is available at: [www.abqprogress.com](http://www.abqprogress.com)

During the opening session, Albuquerque mayor Richard Berry and city officials provided brief presentations to help set the context. However, the bulk of the

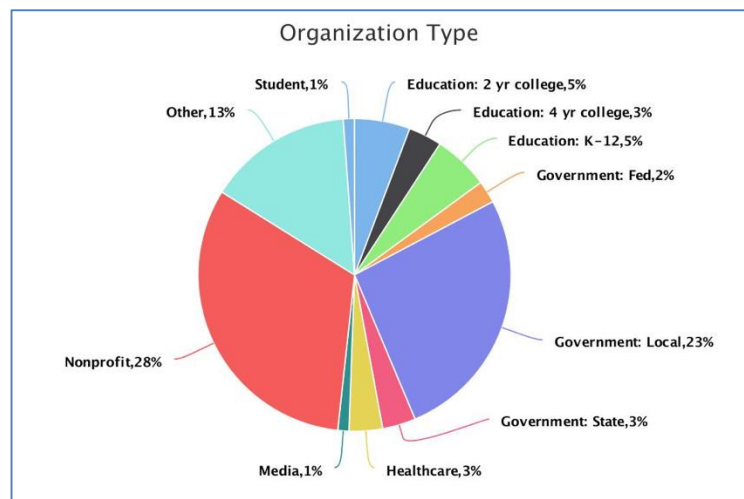
forum was comprised of small group discussions among participants who care about the future of the city and want to update the desired community conditions that will lead to progress.

The Albuquerque Indicators Progress Commission will use the input to produce recommendations for the mayor and city council. If adopted, participants’ suggestions will play an important role in guiding the city’s growth, providing city services, and assisting in allocating the city’s resources.

## About the Participants

Over 100 people from 11 Albuquerque neighborhoods took part. They represented a wide array of interests including education, business, arts and culture, nonprofits, associations, government, natural resources, public safety, healthcare, agriculture, workforce and students.

All participants shared a common vision of working together to ensure that Albuquerque is an active, thriving, culturally rich and sustainable community. While the participants agreed on some things and not on others, they demonstrated how people of diverse interests and backgrounds can come together to address community successes and challenges in a collegial, positive and productive manner.



Organization Representation of 2016 ABQ Goals Forum Participants

## About the Indicators Progress Commission

The Indicators Progress Commission is responsible for coordinating community reviews of goals and supporting metrics of the *Albuquerque Progress Report*. The commission is composed of 12 members appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the city council. They come from private and public organizations representing:

- Community-based organizations
- Business organizations
- Educational institutions

### Commission members include:

Monica Abeita, Senior Policy and Program Advisor, MFA  
 Joaquin Baca, Regional Hydrologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
 Ari Macpherson Herring, Executive Director, Rio Grande Food Project  
 Elvira Lopez, Senior Planner/Manager, Albuquerque Public Schools

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Kendra L. Montanari, Socioeconomic Program Manager, MRCOG

## About New Mexico First

New Mexico First engages people in important issues facing their state or community. Established in 1986, the public policy organization offers unique town halls and forums that bring people together to develop recommendations for policymakers and the public. New Mexico First also produces nonpartisan policy reports on critical issues facing the state. These reports – on topics like water, education, healthcare, the economy, and energy – are available at [nmfirst.org](http://nmfirst.org).

# CITIZEN SUGGESTIONS

To prepare participants for the task of reviewing the desired community conditions (DCCs), the forum began by polling all participants on those conditions. People answered whether each condition should remain as they are written, be updated or set aside as no longer relevant. Participants overwhelmingly voted that the conditions for both Goal 1 and Goal 7 should remain or be updated.

Next, in small groups of approximately 10 people, participants dug into the specifics of the conditions. They ultimately proposed modifications to all the conditions and suggested that one condition (DCC#35) be discontinued. Participants in the small groups also suggested indicators for those conditions that could contribute to the goals' success. These suggested modifications and indicators are listed below. (See Appendix A for a listing of current conditions and indicators.)



*Note 1: The items below do not necessarily represent the consensus of all participants. They are individual ideas that were accepted by each small group. In some cases, they contradict one another.*

*Note 2: Key words, terms and phrases actually expressed by participants that were recorded in the leadership team notes are represented in **bold type**.*

## Goal 1: Human and Family Development

People of all ages have the opportunity to participate in the community and economy and are well sheltered, safe, healthy, and educated.

### DCC#1-Residents are literate and educated.

#### Suggested modifications

- Add to condition that residents are:
  - **Employable**
  - **Self-sufficient in order to live a fulfilling life**
  - **Proficient in life skills**
  - **Proficient in math (rationale: residents must have math proficiency to be considered literate and educated)**
- Expand the term "residents" to include "all segments of Albuquerque's population."

**Suggested indicators**

- Indicators that show individual segments of Albuquerque’s population including age and race
- Mathematical proficiency rate
- Community college, and four-year college graduation rates
- High school equivalency exam passage rates
- Primary and secondary education reading proficiency rates for each school
- Access to early childhood education
- Access to English as a Second Language (ESL) education programs
- Access to financial literacy programs in high school
- Percentage of population that complete high school or equivalent



**DCC#2 - All students graduate and are ready for work, life or school.**

**Suggested modifications <sup>1</sup>**

- **Add to condition that students also:**
  - **Have a high school or equivalent education**
  - **Are ready for continuing education**
  - **Are ready for careers**
- Better define what “ready for life” means.
- Remove “graduation” from the condition since graduation is not essential if people have essential skills.
- Update condition to delete “and” after graduate and instead read, “All students graduate, are ready for work, life or school.” (Participants felt that while graduating is important and should remain in the condition that being “ready for work, life, or school” might not require that a student graduate in the traditional sense.)

**Suggested indicators**

Participants did not suggest indicators for this condition.

<sup>1</sup> Given that discussions occurred in different groups, some of these recommendations contradict one another. The IPC commissioners will consider all alternatives in their revisions to the conditions.



**DCC#3 - Residents are active and healthy.**

**Suggested modifications**

- Add to condition that residents are also:
  - **Well nourished**
  - **Informed**
  - **Able to access to resources, facilities and information that allow for active and healthy lifestyles**
  - **Safe**
  - **Mentally healthy**
- **Change** condition to read, “Residents *of all ages* are active and healthy.”

**Suggested indicators:**

- Access to healthy food, food security rate, number of people seeking food assistance
- Distance to affordable, good-quality fresh food
- Smoking rates
- Access to gyms, parks or public spaces for exercise
- Domestic violence rates
- Substance abuse rates
- Access to substance abuse and addiction services
- Number of women who access healthcare services in their first trimester of pregnancy

**DCC#4 - Residents have access to physical and mental health care services.**

**Suggested modifications**

- Add to condition that residents have access to:
  - **Widely available, neighborhood physical and mental health care services**
  - **Affordable healthcare services**
  - **Substance abuse treatment services through qualified providers**
  - **Timely healthcare services**
  - **Culturally appropriate healthcare services**
  - **Legal services**
- **Add to condition** that “all residents are socially, emotionally, and physically healthy.”



**Suggested indicators**

- Homeless rate
- Disabled rate
- Obesity rate
- Access to healthy food, food security rate, number of people seeking food assistance
- Number of affordable treatment facilities, providers and programs for substance abuse treatment
- Residents knowledge of how to navigate the healthcare system
- Wait times to see a primary care, specialist and emergency healthcare provider
- Percentage of population that has access to quality, comprehensive and integrated behavioral healthcare
- Number and distribution of medical professionals of all levels (e.g. doctors, nurses, medical assistants) and fields (physical and mental) per capita
- Access to school based health centers
- Access to mental health coverage
- **Number of Medicare beneficiaries, Medicaid recipients, uninsured and underinsured residents**

**DCC#5 - Families are secure and economically stable.**

**Suggested modifications**

- **Add to condition that:**
  - **Families are supported, secure and economically stable**
  - **Families have access to healthy food**
  - **Families are safe**
- Change “families” to “residents” or “individuals and families” since the term “families” is not well defined and provides too narrow a view that does not include individuals.
- Revise condition to read, “Families are *stable* and economically *secure*.”
- Clarify meaning of “secure” and “economically stable.”

**Suggested indicators**

- Employment rate
- Percentage of residents living at a living wage by geography
- Food security rate, number of people seeking food assistance
- Foreclosure rates
- Financial solvency rates
- Social mobility measures
- Measure how families are managing resources versus “simply earning money”
- Domestic violence rates
- Drug use, substance abuse and addiction rates



**DCC#6-Affordable housing is available.**

**Suggested modifications**

- **Add to condition that sufficient affordable housing is:**
  - Available for both rent or purchase
  - Safe
  - Located throughout the community, not concentrated in one area
  - Quality

**Suggested indicators**

- Location of affordable housing in relation to public transportation
- Location of jobs in relation to public transportation
- Access to services that help residents navigate rental and purchase housing market

**DCC#7- Senior citizens live and function in optimal environments.**

**Suggested modifications**

- **Add to condition that senior citizens:**
  - Engage in optimal environments
  - Live in universally designed places with intergenerational opportunities nearby
  - Have access to resources to live and function optimally
  - Are allowed to age in place with dignity
  - Live in supportive communities



**Suggested indicators**

- Walking distance for all residents to programs and facilities that offer intergenerational programs
- **Number of public facilities within 100 feet of a transit stop**
- **Number of times people volunteer and/or attend existing activities as a proportion of total senior population**

**DCC#8 - Residents are protected from public health risks.**

**Suggested modifications**

- **Add to condition that residents are:**
  - Aware of and have access to information about public health risks
  - Treated for public health risks
  - Have access to an adequate range of community support services
  - Are protected from environmental risks
  - Provided quick and effective responses to public health risks

**Suggested indicators**

- Immunization, vaccination rates
- Air quality
- **Water quality**

**Goal 7: Community and Cultural Engagement**

Residents are engaged in Albuquerque’s community and culture.

**DCC#34 – Residents participate in civic activities and community improvement.**

**Suggested modifications**

- **Add to condition that residents:**
  - Have awareness and access to participate
  - Work to improve the community
  - Participate and are engaged in civic activities and community improvement
  - Participate in activities and events in all areas of the city
- **Clarify meaning of “community improvement.”**
- **Revise condition so that it more clearly relates to how residents contribute to the community.** DCC#34, 35 and 36 sound very similar. Clarify difference between “civic activity” and “community activity”. (See DCC#36 for suggested modifications.)
- **Revise condition to read, “Citizens are empowered to engage and participate in civic activities and community improvement.”**



**Suggested indicators**

- Identify source of donations as coming from nonprofit, for profit or from individuals.
- Clarify existing indicator: “percent of donations by median income.”
- Number of hours residents volunteer in their community
- Number of residents who access 311 app or city website
- Resident attendance at government related meetings and forums (e.g. city council, neighborhood, school board, county commission)
- Percentage of neighborhoods that have active neighborhood associations
- Location of public facilities, events and activities in relation to public transportation

**DCC#35 – Residents participate in community activities and events.**

**Suggested modifications**

- Delete condition as it is duplicative.
- Combine this condition with DCC#36.
- Revise condition to read, “Residents participate in *cross cultural* community activities and events.”
- Revise condition to read, “The city cultivates participation in community activities and events.”

**Suggested indicators**

- Newspaper indicator is outdated. Augment by also measuring social media engagement

**DCC#36 – Residents participate in Albuquerque’s arts and cultures.**

**Suggested modifications**

- Add to condition that residents:
  - **Increasingly participate in and appreciate Albuquerque’s arts and culture**
  - **Participate in activities and events in all areas of the city**
- **Combine DCC#35 and DCC#36 as one indicator to more clearly relate to how residents participate in arts and cultural events.**
- **Revise condition to read, “Residents participate in Albuquerque’s arts and cultural activities and events.”**

**Suggested indicators**

- Growth in arts and culture related nonprofits
- Number of residents using social media to connect with arts and culture activities
- Growth in resident participation in Albuquerque arts and culture activities and events
- Number of public events offered
- Resident attendance per capita for performing and studio arts events
- Resident attendance at tribal activities and events
- Ratio of event space to the number of participants at activities and events measured against an appropriate standard for the type of event (i.e., some event locations are too small)
- Location of public facilities, events and activities in relation to public transportation

**DCC#37 – Relations among Albuquerque’s cultures and races are positive and respectful.**

**Suggested modifications**

- Add to condition:
  - **Relations are constructive, open and inclusive**
  - **Relations among individuals, cultures and races**
  - **Replace term race with ethnicity**
  - **Active and engaged dialog and interaction is encouraged**
- **Revise condition to read, “Albuquerque celebrates, highlights and respects the diversity of our populations.”**

**Suggested indicators**

- Disparities in school discipline actions, arrests and incarceration
- Educational attainment and proficiency comparison among groups
- Unemployment rates by race/ethnicity
- Number of reported incidents of discrimination
- How well government agencies work together to support successful outcomes for children from diverse backgrounds
- Multicultural impact of safety, education, economic development and other city policies on communities within the city



# PROPOSED NEW CONDITIONS

During the forum, participants also offered new conditions for Goal 1 and Goal 7. Each small discussion group came to agreement on one new proposed condition. Then the full group was polled on the urgency of each new proposal. The tables below list the recommended new conditions. The results are prioritized by those ranked “very urgent.”

## Goal 1: Human and Family Development

**People of all ages have the opportunity to participate in the community and economy and are well sheltered, safe, healthy, and educated.**

Goal 1: Proposed New Desired Community Conditions	Very Urgent	Urgent	Not urgent
Children and families have access to affordable, quality early childhood physical and mental development resources.	45	30	25
Residents embrace drug free lifestyles and, if needed, receive substance abuse treatment in a timely manner.	42	25	27
All children are ready for, and succeed in school.	39	38	23
Consistent culturally relevant communication is provided about health and community services.	31	21	43
All residents have access to learning job skills and becoming job ready.	30	38	27
All neighborhoods are desirable places to live, stay and contribute.	30	27	41
Residents are aware of, have access to, and utilize pertinent community services.	25	31	38
Provide an open and welcoming community that accepts all individuals.	17	32	49
Albuquerque is an age-friendly community that embraces multiple options (e.g. transportation, housing, social engagement, technology) for inclusive participation and communication.	16	36	46



## Goal 7: Community and Cultural Engagement

Residents are engaged in Albuquerque’s community and culture.

Proposed New Desired Community Conditions	Very Urgent	Urgent	Not urgent
Albuquerque is a place where youth feel engaged and believe they can build a future.	63	16	14
Persons from diverse backgrounds (eg. races, cultures, orientations etc.) are empowered to be represented in civic arenas in an equitable and intentional manner.	59	18	20
Residents are racially integrated, which increases the knowledge of various cultures and races within the community.	42	27	25
Diverse populations (individuals, community groups and governmental entities) actively collaborate to achieve successful outcomes for students through public education.	41	33	22
The arts are a vibrant component of Albuquerque’s economy and education.	24	35	39
Offer residents diverse opportunities for arts and cultural participation.	20	33	48
Cultivate the diversity, history and uniqueness of each neighborhood and its residents.	19	33	44
Public, private and nonprofit partnerships strengthen the community.	18	38	36
Community groups collaborate to sponsor events to strengthen community relations.	16	33	49
Residents have opportunities for artistic and cultural expression.	10	24	59





Appendix A:

# COMMUNITY CONDITIONS CHART

City of Albuquerque Progress Report				
Vision, Goals, Desired Community Conditions & Indicators				
VISION: Albuquerque is an active, thriving, culturally rich, sustainable, high desert community.				
Goal Area	Goal Statement	DCC#	Desired Community Condition	Indicators
<b>1. HUMAN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT</b>	People of all ages have the opportunity to participate in the community and economy and are well sheltered, safe, healthy, and educated.	1	Residents are literate and educated.	(1) Residents with high school education or more; (2) High school graduation rate (peer by state)
		2	All students graduate and are ready for work, life or school.	(1) High school on-time (cohort) graduation rate; (2) School standards based assessment proficiency; (3) Developmental asset inventory; (4) Teens not attending school and not working
		3	Residents are active and healthy.	(1) Percent of residents frequently exercising; (2) Percentage of obesity in population
		4	Residents have access to physical and mental health care services.	Percentage of population with health insurance coverage
		5	Families are secure and economically stable.	Percentage of families living in poverty
		6	Affordable housing is available.	Percent of homeowners paying 30%+ for housing costs
		7	Senior citizens live and function in optimal environments.	Senior citizens below the poverty level.
		8	Residents are protected from public health risks.	(1) Sexually transmitted diseases rates; (2) West Nile and Hanta virus outbreaks rates; (3) Plague rates
<b>2. PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	The public is safe, secure, and shares responsibility for maintaining a safe environment.	9	The public is safe.	
		10	The public feels safe.	
		11	Public safety agencies are trustworthy, effective, transparent, and accountable to the communities they serve.	
		12	The community works together for safety.	
		13	Domestic and wild animals are appropriately managed and cared for.	
		14	The community is prepared to respond to emergencies.	
<b>3. PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	The community is adequately and efficiently served with well planned, coordinated, and maintained infrastructure.	15	The water and wastewater system is reliable and meets quality standards.	
		16	The storm water system protects lives, property, and the environment.	
		17	High speed Internet is accessible and affordable throughout the community.	
		18	Integrated transportation options meet the public's needs.	
		19	The street system is well designed and maintained.	
		20	Sustainable energy sources are available.	

5.	Protect	25	Air, water, and land are protected from pollution.	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</b>	Albuquerque's natural environments - its mountains, river, bosque, volcanos, arroyos, air, and water.	26	Water resources are sustainably managed and conserved to provide a long-term supply and drought reserve.	
		27	Solid wastes are managed to promote waste reduction, recycling, litter abatement, and environmentally-responsible disposal.	
		28	Open Space, Bosque, the River, and Mountains are preserved and protected.	
		29	Residents participate and are educated in protecting the environment and sustaining energy and natural resources.	
		<b>6. ECONOMIC VITALITY</b>	The community supports a vital, diverse and sustainable economy.	30
31	The economy is vital, prosperous, sustainable, and strategic based on local resources .			
32	There are abundant and competitive career oriented employment opportunities.			
33	Entrepreneurs and businesses of all sizes develop and prosper.			
<b>7. COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT</b>	Residents are engaged in Albuquerque's community and culture.	34	Residents participate in civic activities and community improvement.	(1) Voting participation rate (peer rank by state); (2) Percent of donations from median income; (3) Newspaper circulation per 10,000 residents
		35	Residents participate in community activities and events.	Newspaper circulation per 10,000 residents
		36	Residents participate in Albuquerque's arts and cultures.	Arts and culture event resident attendance per 1000 population
		37	Relations among Albuquerque's cultures and races are positive and respectful.	(1) Perceived relations among people of different cultures and racial backgrounds (survey); (2) Income by racial and cultural background
<b>8. GOVERNMENTAL EXCELLENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS</b>	Government is ethical, transparent, and responsive to its citizens. Every element of government contributes effectively to meeting public needs.	38	All city employees and officials behave ethically.	
		39	City of Albuquerque participates in mutually beneficial cooperative relationships with other governments.	
		40	Government protects the civil and constitutional rights of citizens.	
		41	Customers conveniently access city services, officials, public records, and information.	
		42	Financial and capital assets are maximized and protected and reported accurately and timely.	
		43	City employees are competent and well-trained to deliver city services efficiently and effectively.	
		44	The work environment for employees is healthy, safe, and productive.	

Appendix B:

# FORUM REGISTRANTS

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