



# GABAC

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT, PO BOX 1293**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103**

**(505) 768-3658**

**Timothy M. Keller, Mayor**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

**4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

**7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096**

**Old City Hall, (Fifth/Marquette NW)**

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- **Approval of the Agenda**

- **Approval of the February Meeting Minutes**

- **Announcements/Administrative**

- Joint Meeting with GARTC (Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee)**

- Meeting Format.....Josef Jansen, DMD

- Please wait until recognized to begin Comment/Questions

- Written Questions/Comments and/or Response may be requested

- **Public Comment**

- Please register on the sign-in sheet. Comments are generally limited to two minutes or less.

- **Presentations**

- Outerspatial Trails App, Whitney Phelan, COA Parks and Recreation, Strategic Planning and Design Division

- Vision Zero Update, Terra Reed (Vision Zero) and Shanna Schultz (Council Services)

- 50 Mile Loop Detour, Whitney Phelan, COA Parks and Recreation, Strategic Planning and Design Division

- Bosque Trail Rehab, Whitney Phelan, COA Parks and Recreation, Strategic Planning and Design Division

- Bike Map Update, Josef Jansen, Department of Municipal Development, Engineering Division

- Bike to Work Day activities, Josef Jansen, Department of Municipal Development, Engineering Division

- Bike friendly community application, Josef Jansen, Department of Municipal Development, Engineering Division

ULI Event Announcement for April 9th, Whitney Phelan

Other Trails Update, Christina Sandoval, COA Parks and Recreation, Strategic Planning and Design Division

12th and Menaul intersection improvements as well as the NDC at Indian School notch updates, Department of Municipal Development, Engineering Division

- **GABAC Committee Reports/Updates**

- **Staff Reports**

  - DMD Engineering

  - APD

  - Council Services

  - Parks and Recreation

  - Planning

  - Bernalillo County

  - NMDOT District 3

  - MRCOG

- **Discussion/Action Item(s)**

- **Adjourn**

- **Next Regularly Scheduled GABAC Meeting: Monday April 13, 2020**

Members: Dan Majewski (City-SW); Robin Allen (City-At-Large); Josiah Hooten (City-At-Large); Raul S. Chavira (City-NE); Rose McCamey (City-NE); Richard Meadows (EPC); Lanny Toning (Unincorporated East)

City Staff: Josef Jansen, DMD, Engineering (768-3842)

Notice: If you are a person with a disability and require assistance to participate in this meeting, please call 768-2680, 72 hours prior to the meeting. TTY users may access this number via NM Relay at 1-800-659-8331.



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE

**SIGN-IN SHEET**

Tuesday, March 10, 2020- 4:00 p.m.  
7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096, City Hall, (Fifth/Marquette NW)

**GABAC MEMBERS** (Please Initial)

Dan Majewski DM  
Rose McCamey \_\_\_\_\_  
Lanny Toning \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Meadows RM

Robin Allen RA  
Raul Chavira RC  
Josiah Hooten JH

**GARTC MEMBERS** (Please Initial)

Warren Wild WW  
Ian Maddieson \_\_\_\_\_  
Tyler Ashton TA

Likhaya Dayile L.D  
Scott Crago \_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Cole VSC

**STAFF & AGENCY MEMBERS** (Please Initial and/or Sign)

**Note: Please place a check before your name if you wish to provide information**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Josef Jansen DMD, COA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jake Wolff <u>NRICOG</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christina Sandoval
<input type="checkbox"/>	Terra Reed
<input type="checkbox"/>	

<input type="checkbox"/>	



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE

**VISITOR SIGN-IN SHEET**  
Tuesday, March 10, 2020- 4:00 p.m.  
7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096, City Hall, (Fifth/Marquette NW)

**Note: Please place a check before your name if you wish to provide public input.**  
*(Please Print Full Name – First and Last)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Rice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Juackin Becker
<input type="checkbox"/>	<del>Kevin Anthony Brooks</del>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Johnny Chandler
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIANNE CRESS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEVE PIZON
<input type="checkbox"/>	

<input type="checkbox"/>	



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE

**SIGN-IN SHEET**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020- 4:00 p.m.**  
**7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096, City Hall, (Fifth/Marquette NW)**

**GABAC MEMBERS** (Please Initial)

Dan Majewski DM  
Rose McCamey \_\_\_\_\_  
Lanny Toning \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Meadows RM

Robin Allen RA  
Raul Chavira RC  
Josiah Hooten JH

**GARTC MEMBERS** (Please Initial)

Warren Wild WW  
Ian Maddieson \_\_\_\_\_  
Tyler Ashton TA

Likhaya Dayile L.D  
Scott Crago \_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Cole VSC

**STAFF & AGENCY MEMBERS** (Please Initial and/or Sign)

**Note: Please place a check before your name if you wish to provide information**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Josef Jansen DMD, COA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jake Wolff <u>NRICOG</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christina Sandoval
<input type="checkbox"/>	Terra Reed
<input type="checkbox"/>	

<input type="checkbox"/>	



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE

**VISITOR SIGN-IN SHEET**  
Tuesday, March 10, 2020- 4:00 p.m.  
7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096, City Hall, (Fifth/Marquette NW)

**Note: Please place a check before your name if you wish to provide public input.**  
*(Please Print Full Name – First and Last)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Rice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jessie Becker
<input type="checkbox"/>	<del>Allen Anthony Bohin</del>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Johnny Chandler
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIANNE CRESS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEVE PIZON
<input type="checkbox"/>	

<input type="checkbox"/>	



Timothy M. Keller,

# GABAC



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT, PO BOX 1293  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103  
(505) 768-2680

## JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES March 10, 2020

### GABAC Members Present

Dan Majewski  
Lanny Tinning  
Robin Allen

Richard Meadows  
Raul Chavira  
Josiah Hooten

### GARTC Members Present

Tyler Ashton  
Warren Wild  
Scott Crago

Likhaya Dayile  
Valerie Cole

### Staff Present

Josef Jansen, COA-DMD  
Petra Morris, COA Council Services  
Whitney Phelan, COA-Parks  
Christina Sandoval, COA-Parks

Johnny Chandler COA-DMD  
Terra Reed, COA Planning  
Jake Wolff, MRCOG

### Members Absent

Rose McCamey - GABAC

Geoff Tweed - GARTC

### Guests

Peter Rice  
Jackie Boukez

Steve Pilon  
Dianne Cress

### Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm. A quorum was present.

Committee members and meeting attendees introduced themselves.

**Public Comment:** A community member asked about an accident involved the death of a cyclist, Stanley Atkinson. He asked if GABAC or GARTC had any questions or concerns. He also asked that meeting minutes be posted online. Terra Reed gave an overview of the crash report data and discussed options for the area to prevent future dangerous interactions between cars, cyclists and pedestrians. She also stated that Lomas Blvd is considered a high hazard area.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Valerie Cole asked for two articles (attached) to be included in the minutes.

GABAC: Dan motioned and Lanny seconded to include the articles to the minutes- approved unanimously.

GARTC: Tyler motioned and Warren seconded a motion to include the articles in the minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

GABAC: Dan motioned to approve the agenda, Lanny seconded. All were in favor. Motion approved.

GARTC: Tyler motioned to approve the agenda, Warren seconded. All were in favor. Motion approved.

### **New Business/Presentations:**

Outerspatial: Whitney Phelan presented on a new app being considered by COA Parks and Recreation staff that would allow the city to share spatial data and information for Trails and Park facilities within City limits. The app would be free to the public. Nonprofits and other outdoor recreation users would also be able to acquire licenses to share outings, volunteer, etc. Parks and Recreation would be able to rate trails, share elevation changes, and alert the public to trail closures, issues, and detours.

Bosque Trail Rehab: Whitney Phelan presented upcoming Bosque Trail work beginning in April and lasting around a month. The work will begin near the parking area at the NW corner of Central Ave. and Tingley. It will extend south to the second parking area at Tingley Beach and will include Siberian Elm tree removal, and replacement of existing asphalt trail and replacing existing asphalt under Central Ave with concrete. More information will be included in a media advisory as well as our website and social media.

ULI Event: Whitney Phelan shared that there would be a ULI (Urban Land Institute) event on April 9<sup>th</sup> consisting of a reception and speaker from New York City's highline. (Note: This event has since been postponed due to COVID-19).

50-Mile Loop: Terra Reed presented an alternate route for the 50-Mile Activity Loop while Bernalillo County continues work on their portion of the project on Bridge Blvd. The online maps will be updated as well as signage to indicate where trail users should be during County construction. Valerie shared that there should be signage along Paseo to alert users to horses for safety.

Vision Zero: Terra Reed, Chair of Vision Zero Task Force presented about the work that Vision Zero is doing at the City of Albuquerque. Big picture goals are Engineering- prioritize projects where they need it most to promote Equity. Enforcement- they are working with APD. Equity. Education and Encouragement. The City will conduct a Road Safety Assessment in April to study Lomas at Tennessee and San Mateo and potentially do a "Road Buffett" to help slow down drivers and create safer conditions for all users. Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities.

### **Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:**

Richard asked about an Active Transportation Coordinator Position, Dan explained what that role could look like and they would like the City to open that position. Terra stated that there was currently no position.

GABAC: Dan motioned to "vote in favor of the City of Albuquerque to hire an Active Transportation Coordinator", Lanny seconded. All were in favor. Motion passes.

GARTC: Warren motioned to “vote in favor of the City of Albuquerque to hire an Active Transportation Coordinator”, Ashton seconded. All were in favor. Motion passes.

**Staff Reports and Project Updates:**

Josef Jansen presented a staff report on DMD activities:

- Bike Map Update- Bike trails are being removed from Petroglyph National Monument at the request of the NPS. The Map was open for comments, but would be sent to the printer soon. GARTC requested that the map be called the “Albuquerque Bicycle and Trail Map”.

Warren motioned for staff to re-send GARTC letter requesting bike map update to include Trails in the title. Likhaya seconded. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Dan asked to emphasize slower speed bike lanes for safety and to indicate a pleasant ride vs. higher speed roads.

- Bike to Work Day- May 15<sup>th</sup>. 2020, adding a new location at Balloon Fiesta Park (Notice: This event has been postponed due to COVID-19)
- League of American Cycling Application- We dropped to bronze because we don't have a dedicated bicycle position or Active Transportation position at the City of Albuquerque.

Christina Sandoval presented a staff report on other Parks activities:

- Underpass Lighting will begin soon for the Tunnel at Eubank and I-40 and the Notch at the North Diversion Channel and Carlisle near Green Jeans.

Jake Wolff from MRCOG presented a staff report:

- The Final Draft for Connections 2040 is online and will be up for comments until the deadline on April 10<sup>th</sup>. March 25<sup>th</sup> will host an open house at MRCOG from 11 am to 7 pm.

**Adjourn:**

Chair Tyler Ashton adjourned the GARTC meeting at 6:01 pm.

GABAC: Dan motioned to end the meeting at 6:01 pm, Lanny seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passes.

# No help in sight for area plagued by pedestrian deaths

By Matthew Reisen / Journal Staff Writer

Published: Saturday, March 7th, 2020 at 10:08pm  
Updated: Sunday, March 8th, 2020 at 12:02am



A couple run across the street against a no-walk signal Thursday evening near Louisiana and Central. (Roberto E. Rosales/Albuquerque Journal)

*Copyright © 2020 Albuquerque Journal*

Nearly 10 months ago, Mayor Tim Keller and the city of Albuquerque signed onto the Vision Zero pledge, a promise to work to end traffic fatalities in Albuquerque.

“We’re going to make the necessary changes to end needless deaths on our roadways and protect our residents...,” Keller said at the time.

And, indeed, the city has taken a number of steps toward that goal over the last year. It cut the speed limit in Downtown. A task force spent months identifying crosswalks to update at schools citywide. And plans are in the works to revamp travel on West Central and Rio Grande.

But none of those changes is occurring in the place hit hardest by fatalities: a nearly 3-mile stretch of the International District where eight pedestrians were killed last year.

A Journal analysis found that nearly one in five fatal pedestrian crashes in Albuquerque last year occurred in the dimly lit and highly congested portion of Central Avenue between San Pedro and Eubank, a place Department of Municipal Development officials refer to as “forgotten.”

Known for high crime rates, a large homeless population and outdated infrastructure – the area has languished for years. Meanwhile, Keller and the city adopt initiatives to end fatal crashes and pump money elsewhere in Albuquerque.

Pat Montoya, director at the DMD, acknowledged no city projects aimed at pedestrian safety are planned for that area, which he says presents its own challenges because of the population that frequents it.

“It’s unfortunate, and you hate to say it, but the population that’s on Central in that area is much different than the population in Nob Hill and much different than University and much different than Downtown,” Montoya said. “Once you hit Wyoming. ... All the

way up to Juan Tabo. ... That stretch is tough. It's a tough crowd and that makes it hard."

### **'Safer streets for all'**

As part of the Vision Zero commitment and Complete Streets ordinance – aimed at “safer streets for all” – the city is gearing up to use millions of dollars to update 21 crosswalks at schools citywide, revamp West Central and develop a similar plan for Rio Grande Boulevard. Officials also reduced the speed limit in the Downtown area from 25 to 20. Few, if any, pedestrian fatalities last year happened in those areas.

Montoya said Vision Zero is currently one of the department's “primary focuses,” with a task force that meets monthly to review crashes, find fatality hotspots and tries to identify areas for improvement.

“One of the things we look at with Vision Zero is where is the highest number of fatalities,” Montoya said. “We know where these trouble spots are at.”

Montoya said “it's a given” that legislative money will go toward pedestrian safety, but no major city projects are planned “at this point” for the problem area on East Central.

Albuquerque police determined none of the fatalities in that stretch happened at crosswalks or major intersections. All were ruled as pedestrian error.

Montoya questioned whether the fatal crashes happened at night and how many of those pedestrians were drunk, high on drugs or worse.

“To say it's a pedestrian fatality because someone is crossing the street is much different than someone that's crossing the street that is so drunk that person doesn't even know they're on the street,” he said. “... A fatality is a fatality, I respect that, but on the same token, some responsibility falls on the individual.”

“Dumb is dumb, you can't stop behavior,” Montoya later added. “People have to take some responsibility.”

### **Change of mindset**

Scot Key, a traffic safety advocate involved in the Vision Zero initiative, said there's one area for improvement that has nothing to do with medians or better lighting: a change of mindset toward pedestrians in those areas hardest hit.

Key criticized what he sees as a dismissive attitude toward some victims based on their class, living situation and neighborhood – which often have the poorest lighting, farthest distance between signalized crosswalks and highest need of behavioral health services.

He said the authorities, politicians and community as a whole need to care more about every pedestrian fatality in order to drive the numbers down as a whole.

“If we don't change that, this Vision Zero thing is a complete joke, in my opinion,” Key said. “I try to stay optimistic but nothing that has happened since the day the mayor signed that really changed my feeling. ... We've not even scratched the surface.”

He said Vision Zero, which aims to eliminate all traffic deaths by 2040, is an ambitious goal that will take a lot of work to achieve.

“I don't know if the mayor, and those in the mayor's office, ... understand how much is really involved,” he said. Key worries that “there's not a real dedication to Vision Zero” and that “it's just a reaction to these few acute cases where there's so much outrage expressed that the city theatrically reacts to it.”

DMD spokesman Johnny Chandler said multiple departments are working on the Vision Zero initiative and the city is in the process of naming a full-time coordinator. He said the city is planning to release a Vision Zero report and action plan this summer.

Councilor Pat Davis, meanwhile, said the rise in fatalities in the area comes as no surprise.

“It totally makes sense,” he said. “When you look at the maps of where we're dealing with infrastructure needs – pedestrian fatalities, lack of lighting – all of that stuff is decades of underdevelopment.”

Part of a county project, Davis said a HAWK signal will be put in the problem area, at Texas and Central, but has taken years to get going.

“Getting one crosswalk took us four years. It's been kind of frustrating,” he said.

Davis said when he became a city councilor, Zuni was the hotspot for pedestrian fatalities and the county used \$5 million to redo it over four years. The county is planning to use federal dollars to revamp the Wyoming and Central intersection in fall 2020.

“We're just having to take on this one at a time and there are other parts of town that have gotten a lot more attention. We're trying to make up for it,” he said.

However, Davis said he is encouraged by the work done by Keller's administration to update sidewalks and streets around the Trumbull neighborhood in the International District.

He hopes that commitment carries over to the Central corridor.

"We took one neighborhood off the table in one year – compared to 30 years of not doing anything. I think it was a big step but we have a long way to go," he said.

More from ABQJournal.com

### Pedestrian deaths down in state, but rise in ABQ



340 people struck, with 42 killed in 2019... *continue reading* » (March 8, 2020 )



Albuquerque Journal and its reporters are committed to telling the stories of our community.

• Do you have a story about how coronavirus has affected you, your family or your business? Do you have a question you want someone to try to answer for you? What issues related to the topic would you like to see covered? Or do you have a bright spot you want to share in these troubling times?

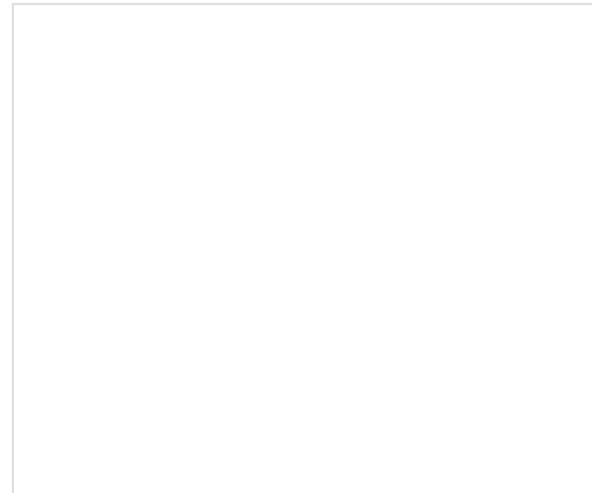
We want to hear from you. [Please email journal@abqjournal.com](mailto:journal@abqjournal.com) or Contact the writer.

## Auto Racing



**F1 CEO Carey says sorry to fans after early races canceled**

2 hrs ago



ADVERTISEMENT

# Pedestrian deaths down in state, but rise in ABQ

By Matthew Reisen / Journal Staff Writer

Published: Saturday, March 7th, 2020 at 10:02pm  
Updated: Sunday, March 8th, 2020 at 12:02am



Albuquerque Fire Rescue speak with a man who was hit by a vehicle on Thursday evening near Louisiana and Central. (Roberto E. Rosales/Albuquerque Journal)

*Copyright © 2020 Albuquerque Journal*

They pop up all over town.

A cluster of candles, rosaries draped over a small wooden cross and messages like “rest in peace” scrawled on the pavement.

Long after the debris has been cleared away, these silent memorials remain.

There were at least 340 crashes involving pedestrians in the Albuquerque area last year. Among those, 42 people were killed – a 20% increase over the prior year, and the total doesn’t include the deaths of three cyclists. In 2018, the numbers were 331 and 35.

As the state saw a 6.6% drop in pedestrian crashes, from 625 in 2018 to 584 last year, Albuquerque – the largest contributor – continued to see an increase.

For three years in a row, in a 2017 report and preliminary reports for 2018 and 2019, the Governors Highway Safety Association ranked New Mexico as worst in the nation for pedestrian fatalities.



A man jaywalks on Thursday evening near Wyoming and Central.

The uptick in such fatal crashes in Albuquerque comes on the heels of local officials signing onto a national initiative to make streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists. As part of that effort they have lowered speed limits in one part of town, assessed school crosswalks and are gearing up to pump legislative money into infrastructure citywide.

But Scot Key, a state traffic safety advocate, said so far he has been underwhelmed by the city's efforts. As someone who pores over hundreds of crash reports and studies traffic safety measures, Key argues that a "massive overhaul of minds" is needed for change.

"The saddest part is that there is that apathy, that failure to see the need to reduce the numbers and to do something about it," he said.

### **Driver rarely faulted**

Nearly all of the pedestrian crashes in Albuquerque last year have a common thread. Authorities determined the fault lies with the pedestrian in almost all of those cases.

"It's very rare" to see a driver face serious charges like vehicular homicide – even in deadly crashes, said Sgt. Michael Loftis, with APD's traffic unit. When someone is charged in these cases, it's typically for something like careless driving or leaving the scene of an accident.

"We can debate. ... 'Should the driver have seen this person? Would I expect the driver to see this person?'" he said. "We can debate that all the time, usually it's that pedestrian error."

Loftis said most pedestrian crashes in 2019 – as with previous years – happened at night, in dimly lighted areas with the person wearing dark clothes and not being in a crosswalk. The fatalities cluster in the languishing Central corridor between San Pedro and Eubank, where street lights are few and far between. Several crashes also dot the length of Coors as a business boom has led to more foot traffic but little change in driving habits or roadway changes. Very few happen in the North Valley or Northeast Heights.

Some crashes are more frustrating, and senseless, to authorities than others.

Loftis said that in two separate crashes last year, a person was struck and killed after jaywalking within 50 feet of the Gibson overpass walkway, near San Mateo and adjacent to the old Lovelace Hospital.

"I think there's a lot we could do, static-type of obstacles, to keep people from walking in the road," he said. "But eventually they're going to walk in the road."

Many of the people killed in pedestrian crashes last year passed with little notice. Others, due to their circumstances, garnered widespread attention and newspaper headlines – like the 15-year-old struck by a stolen truck as it fled police on the West Side or the mother of two killed when a Kirtland airman struck her near the base.

So far no suspect has been named in the teen's death, but the airman is set for a court martial in June on charges of reckless driving, voluntary manslaughter and negligent homicide.

A particularly high-profile case in 2018, the death of 12-year-old Eliza Almuina outside Cleveland Middle School, sent shock waves through the community that are still being felt.

"We heard about that for a long time," Loftis said. "In the same week, we probably had two other people hit and killed around the city, and we didn't hear anything."

Within months of Almuina's death the city put a new \$350,000 HAWK signal outside the school and formed a task force to study hundreds of school crosswalks citywide.

"You can attribute it to how much the media cares or how much the general public cares about the people that will walk out in the street, that's something that I couldn't comment on," Loftis said.

### 'End of the story'

In the deadliest crash in 2019, two people died and APD didn't send out a notification or news release.

Around 9:15 p.m. on June 1, Tony Rubio, 49, and Eleanor Cole, 29, used a crosswalk at the intersection of Coors and Fortuna NW. They were both hit by a man in a truck and eventually died from their injuries. The driver told police "it was dark" and he couldn't see the two until they were "right in front of him."

The driver was found to be intoxicated and was arrested for vehicular homicide that night. However, further investigation revealed the driver was below the legal limit and Rubio and Cole were walking against a "do not walk" signal. When the case was forwarded to the 2nd Judicial District Attorney's Office, prosecutors found there was "not enough evidence to prove vehicular homicide or DWI in this case."

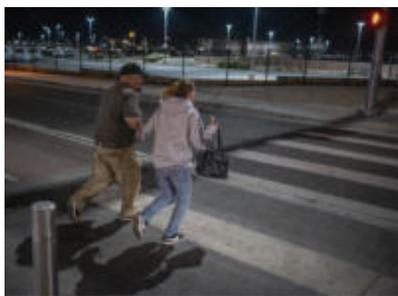
It's one case, of many, that shows the complexities of pedestrian fatal crash investigations that can take months to complete. Key said it's another example of leaning on blame instead of enacting change.

He said changes are needed at state and local levels, including rewording statutes that now make it easy for police and prosecutors to blame pedestrians and enacting policies that require marked crosswalks at specified distances.

"You have to change the mindset to 'Oh, yeah, maybe we should actually start doing stuff that reduces it' as opposed to 'These are the reasons the victim should be blamed and that's the end of the story from our perspective,'" Key said.

More from ABQJournal.com

### No help in sight for area plagued by pedestrian deaths



2020 )

City has no major projects planned for East Central Avenue... *continue reading* » (March 8,

