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# **NEIGHBORHOOD**

AUGUST 2019



NEWS



# SIZZLING IN AUGUST!







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Develop a Family Emergency Plan!

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# **NOTES FROM**

I'll be giving the residents of Albuquerque a short update in the Neighborhood News from my office each month about different initiatives, projects and updates from the City, so pick up a copy and share with your neighbors!

#### PLANNING DEPARTMENT **STAFF CHANGES**

I've appointed Brennon Williams as the Interim Director of the City of Albuquerque's Planning Department.

Throughout his career, Brennon has spent 20 years working in planning, including as a Zoning Enforcement Inspector and as the Deputy Director for Planning at the City of Albuquerque. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from the University of New Mexico and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Phoenix.



Above: Brennon Williams. Image courtesy of Albuquerque Business First. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

I've also asked James Aranda, Planning Administrator, to provide direct supervision and leadership of the Urban Design and Development Division, Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) implementation efforts and the Albuquerque Geographic Information Systems (AGIS) Division.

James will be heavily focused on reaching out to the community to hear concerns and explain how they can be involved. He will attend neighborhood meetings both formal and informal, to coordinate projects and concerns with the Planning Department.



Above: James Aranda

#### PLANNING DEPARTMENT **INTERNAL CHANGES**

City administration also made organizational changes inside of the Planning department including:

- The Real Property Division is moving to the Department of Municipal Development.
- The Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency (MRA) Division will now report directly to Chief Operations Officer, Lawrence Rael.



# Part 1 of a series on neighborhood emergency preparedness

During a disaster, your family may not be together. Communication networks, such as mobile phones, landlines and internet, could be unreliable, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all family members know how to contact each other and where to meet up if communication is completely interrupted.

Prepare yourself and your family with a few simple steps:

1. Keep a cell phone charger in your vehicle if the power is out in your home. Cell phone towers may become overloaded with calls in an emergency. But a text message may still get through.

# Are you prepared?

2. Develop a plan for how your family will contact each other during a disaster. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call within the affected area

because local phone lines are overloaded. Identify an "outof-town or state" contact to help your family reconnect.

During a disaster, family members can call the "outof-town or state" contact to report on their own status and check on others. Each family member should also carry a wallet-size emergency contact card. Include phone numbers for all family members, "out-oftown or state" contacts and caregivers. Also consider work, school and daycare phone numbers, if applicable. A fillable wallet-size emergency contact card can be found at:

www.ready.gov/make-a-plan

3. Identify a meeting site for your family. If your family is not together and communication is completely interrupted, identify a meeting place where your family can go for protection or to reunite.

Identify the following places as possible reunion points for your family:

- In your neighborhood (e.g., park, neighbor's house) if there is a fire or other emergency and you need to evacuate your home.
- Outside your neighborhood (e.g., library, community center, house of worship, or family friend's home) when you're not at home and cannot get home; and
- Outside your town or city (e.g., home of relative or family friend) when you cannot get home, your family is not together or your community is instructed to evacuate the area.

Keep an eye out for future Neighborhood News articles on how you can prepare for emergencies! •





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS BRING APD TO COMMUNITY

Community outreach is a key component to the work the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) does on a daily basis. Each Area Command has officers committed to interacting with neighborhood residents in many unique ways. Whether it's a bike safety event with the Northeast Area Command (shown above) or Multi Housing Safety event with the Foothills Area Command (shown below), face-to-face, positive interaction between APD and the public is essential to a safer city.

To connect with your Area Command, visit: www.cabg.gov/police/area-commands



# PLANNING UPDATES FORMUSE FOR

# **Follow Up Zoning Conversions**

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Pollowing the adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) in May 2018, City Council directed the Planning Department to provide a free, one-year process for property owners to request a zone conversion to a zone that better matched the existing uses or prior entitlements on their properties based on five criteria. The Planning Department received over 1,300 forms from property owners looking to take advantage of this opportunity.

Maps of all properties and spreadsheets with properties in Batch 1 and Batch 2 are available for review on the project website: https://tinyurl.com/zc-project



https://tinyurl.com/batch1zc-map

#### Batch 1

The Planning Department submitted the first batch of zoning conversion requests to the City's review and decision process in November 2018.

Batch 1 will be heard by the City Council on August 5, 2019 at 5 p.m. in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers (a.k.a. City Council chambers) as the final step in the review/decision process. Parking below Civic Plaza will be validated. The zoning conversions will be finalized and added to the Official Zoning Map as soon as possible following final action by the City Council.

## Batch 2

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The Planning Department submitted the second batch of zoning conversion requests to the City's review and decision process in May 2019.

In July, the Environmental Planning Commission reviewed Batch 2 properties and voted to recommend approval to the City Council as the first in 3 steps in the review/decision process.

The Notice of Decision for the EPC's recommendation to City Council is posted here:

www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions/ environmental-planning-commission/epcagendas-reports-minutes

Batch 2 will next be heard by City Council's Land Use, Planning, and Zoning (LUPZ) Committee as



https://tinyurl.com/batch2zc-map

step 2 of 3 in the review/decision process after being reviewed by City Legal and the Mayor's office during routing. Please watch the project website for scheduling updates.

# **Annual Update of the Integrated Development Ordinance**

It's time to revise the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO)! Planning staff submitted proposed changes to the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) for a hearing on September 12, 2019 as the first of three steps required in the review and decision process.

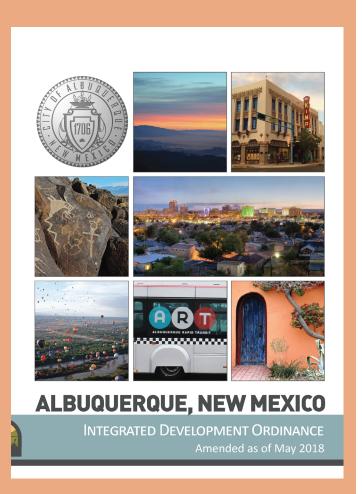
See the project webpage for proposed changes, comments from public review meetings in May and June 2019, and details about the time and location of EPC hearings:

https://abc-zone.com/ido-annual-update-2019

The list of proposed updates will continue to grow and change until City Council takes final action for this annual update.

You can email your ideas, edits, or comments to abctoz@cabq.gov for consideration throughout this process. To be most helpful, please reference a particular page number or

section in the IDO, if possible, so that staff can best understand your suggestion. The Long Range team is also available for office hour appointments on Fridays from 2-4 p.m. See the IDO Effective Draft here: https://ido.abc-zone.com.



# **Open House**

Want to learn more about the proposed changes to the IDO before the EPC hearing? Come visit with staff anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at the West Mesa Community Center, 5500 Glenrio Rd NW!

We look forward to seeing you and answering your questions about the IDO!



# DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM GEARED AT ART LANE SAFETY

If you've driven down Central Avenue anytime in the past two years, you'll surely understand the confusion about how to use the Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) bus lanes. Can you drive in them? Can you make a U-turn here? Can you make a left turn there? What about emergency vehicles?

The City Transit Department (ABQ RIDE) has been working to fully implement ART for many months, and with the resolution of various bus and infrastructure issues, ART is nearly ready to be fully operational and wants to prepare the public for this new style of transit.

The "Stay In Your Lane" Campaign started Monday, July 22 and encompasses a several-month long awareness campaign to get drivers ready for the full operation of ART. With ABQ RIDE bus drivers starting to train on how to operate the ART buses on Central between Coors and Louisiana, it's imperative that motorists understand how to properly drive in those ART lanes.

ABQ RIDE and the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) are educating motorists who are improperly using the ART lanes with warnings, in an effort to give drivers as much lead time as possible to get used to the inclusion of buses in the ART lanes on Central.

This coordinated public outreach campaign aims to fully prepare both ABQ RIDE bus drivers and the motoring public for the new normal along Route 66. Driver safety and education is the focus of "Stay In Your Lane," particularly during the bus driver training period.

Warnings will now be issued to drivers who illegally turn left in the ART lanes, make illegal U-turns at non-designated intersections, and

most importantly, drivers who are illegally driving their vehicles in the ART lanes. This also applies to skaters, skateboarders, users of e-scooters and delivery trucks.

After the training period ends, APD will issue tickets to drivers violating the ART lanes, with fines of \$80 for failing to obey the "Bus Only" signs, or for crossing the double white line. It is possible for drivers to incur fines for both infractions at the same time.

To learn more about ART and ABQ RIDE, visit: <a href="https://www.myabqride.com">www.myabqride.com</a>

# **Bus Driver training will consist of:**

Docking at ART stations
Adjusting to the height of the ART platform
Using the doors on both sides of the buses
Deploying the bridge plates for wheelchairs
Testing of Transit Signal Priority along Central Avenue
Testing the automatic wheelchair constraint







# Mayor

Timothy M. Keller

# **City Council**

Ken Sanchez, District 1 Isaac Benton, District 2 Klarissa J. Peña, District 3 Brad Winter, District 4 Cynthia D. Borrego, District 5 Pat Davis, District 6 Diane G. Gibson, District 7 Trudy E. Jones, District 8 Don Harris, District 9

### **Chief Administrative** Officer

Sarita Nair

# **Director of Council Services**

Stephanie M, Yara

# Want to get involved?

If you want to learn more about neighborhood associations, or find out what resources we can bring to your neighborhood, contact us! Our vison is to have an engaged, connected city based on trust with safe, diverse communities that have a voice and feel empowered to address their concerns in a meaningful way.

**Neighborhood News** is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC).

#### Staff:

Angelo Metzgar, Manager Vanessa Baca, Neighborhood Communication Liaison Vicente Quevedo, Neighborhood Liaison Dalaina Carmona, Senior Administrative Assistant









**7** (505) 768-3334



✓ onc@cabq.gov



cabq.gov/neighborhoods

1 Civic Plaza NW Suite 9087, 9th Floor Albuquerque, NM 87102 TTY 1-800-659-8331