



PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019



NEWS



FALLING INTO SEPTEMBER!



emergency preparedness starts at home.



Make a plan



Build a kit



Stay Informed

are you ready?

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Update on Neighborhood Engagement Process for September



The Neighborhood Engagement Process (NEP) was established as a process to collect community input on the elements that can be integrated in the update of the Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance (NARO).

As the summer begins to turn into Fall, the NEP process has continued to move steadily along. The facilitation team has worked diligently over the summer months to try to ensure that there is equity in the community's ability to engage the Choice Dialogue community input process. Thus far, we have been able to gather and meet with 68 different neighborhood and homeowners associations, while still working to convene people as a part of this process.

While so much of the Phase III input process has been focused on hearing community voice from the neighborhood and homeowners associations, we will also seek input from community members at large. Hearing all the voices of the community and creating pathways for engagement from everyone in the community, including young people, is a really important aspect in this project.

The community convening portion of this project will continue through the end of September, and we will continue to provide updates on the project and our progress. To learn more about the Neighborhood Engagement Process or the facilitators, you can access their bios at: www.cabq.gov/office-of-neighborhood-coordination/neighborhood-engagement-process.

They will continue to keep working diligently into the early fall to coordinate additional choice dialogues and to capture community input data that will support the Office of Neighborhood Coordination and the Albuquerque City Council in their process to update the NARO.

To ensure that your neighborhood association can be reached by the NEP team, please make sure that your contact information (email, phone & address) are up to date with the Office of Neighborhood Coordination. You can contact the ONC by telephone at (505) 768-3334, by e-mail to: onc@cabq.gov; or by visiting the website at: www.cabq.gov/neighborhoods •



Nick Zobel
Office of Emergency Management

September is National Preparedness Month

Disaster can strike anywhere and at any time. Are you prepared?

September is National Preparedness Month and the City of Albuquerque is committed to building a more disaster resilient community.

The goal of the month-long preparedness campaign is to remind individuals and families to be prepared for emergencies or disasters in their homes, businesses, and neighborhoods. The preparedness theme for

2019 is “Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters.” During a disaster, professional emergency responders may be overwhelmed and significantly delayed. Communications may be down and access to essential services may not be available. People must be prepared to take care of families and neighbors.

During September, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) encourages all individuals and families to engage in preparedness actions that will save lives, reduce severity of injury and trauma, and increase

capacity to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours after a disaster.



Each week there will be a different theme, focused on simple, yet critical steps to help you and your communities be safer, stronger and better prepared.

Week 1: September 1-7

Save Early for Disasters Costs

Learn how to prepare your finances for disasters.

Week 2: September 8-14

Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

Learn how to make a family emergency plan.

Week 3: September 15-21

Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Teach your children what to do in an emergency

Week 4: September 22-30

Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

Learn about the hazards that may impact your area



Get started now by visiting the OEM's website:

www.cabq.gov/office-of-emergency-management



TALK WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS and get involved in your community.



READY.GOV/VOLUNTEER



Kid and Teen Programs Offer Fun and Safe Events

After school, evening and weekend programs are a key element to keeping our kids safe and engaged!

With summer winding down and school starting up, the Department of Family and Community Services is busier than ever offering safe and inclusive events for Albuquerque's youth.

Among its many programs geared toward kids and teens, Summer Teen Nights have been a big hit and will continue through the end of September.

Additionally, before and after school programs are still accepting enrollment and registration. Please visit: play.cabq.gov to find available programs nearest to you.

Make sure to check out more information and a listing of events on: www.cabq.gov/youthconnect.





Suicide Awareness is Key in Prevention

Every September, Suicide Prevention Month gives individuals and communities across the country an opportunity to reflect on the ways we can all prevent suicide, including among Veterans.

You don't need special training to help prevent suicide, and even simple actions of support can make a real difference to a Veteran going through a difficult time. For instance, asking how a Veteran is doing and really listening - shows you care.

Other thoughtful ways you can Be There include:

- Calling an old friend to say hello
- Sending a text to check in (for example, "Hey, we haven't talked in a while ... how are you?")
- Reaching out and sharing resources when you read a social media post that may indicate thoughts of suicide
- Sharing positivity on social media

- Getting S.A.V.E. suicide prevention training online from PsychArmor Institute to learn how to talk to a Veteran who is having suicidal thoughts.

If you believe that a service member or Veteran in your life may be contemplating suicide, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1. You can also send a text message to 838255, and you can also chat online at: www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat ●

OTHER VETERAN'S RESOURCES

www.bethereforveterans.com
www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention
www.maketheconnect.net
www.veteranshealthlibrary.org



**Albuquerque
elections are
changing!**

LOCAL ELECTION OVERSIGHT CHANGES

Albuquerque's Regular Local Election takes place Tuesday, November 5, 2019, marking the first time that local governments such as the City, School Boards, and soil and water districts will hold a combined election. In 2018, the State Legislature passed the Local Election Act, which provides cities and other local governmental entities the option to consolidate their elections into one Local Election.

"Previously, elections in Albuquerque were split – Mayoral and City Council elections were in October, School Board elections were in February, AMAFCA was in June – it was confusing and made it hard for voters to keep track of when and where to vote," said City Clerk Katy Duhigg. "Because of this, many local entity elections have historically had very low voter turnout."

By opting in to this new statewide law, the City agreed to move its election from October to November, and now when Albuquerque voters go to polls they will get to vote on all local positions at once, from City Councilors to School Board members to soil and water districts, making it easier for voters to make their voices heard.

Consolidating elections this way is the number one thing that increases voter turnout, even more so than a competitive election race, according to the City Clerk's Office. It reduces confusion, and provides citizens a "one-stop shop" for exercising their voting rights.

The upcoming Local Election includes candidates for City Council seats in Districts 2, 4, 6, and 8, as well as General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds that, if approved by voters, will help fund local libraries, roadways, and a variety of City services. A quarter-cent transit tax renewal and public financing reform questions will also be on the ballot this year. None of this year's ballot issues increase taxes.

Aside from the election consolidation, the other major change to elections in Albuquerque is that the Bernalillo County Clerk's Office now

early voting, so make sure you are registered by October 8 if you plan to vote on Election Day itself.

"Our office will still be involved in the Local Election," said Duhigg. "Issues relating to campaign finance, public financing for city candidates, verification of nominating petitions, and voter education programs are still under our purview. And don't forget that our office is always happy to help any resident with questions they have about the new Local Election, or with any other election-related question or issue.

To request an absentee ballot, call the Bernalillo County Clerk at: (505) 243-VOTE (8689) Option 2, e-mail: clerk@bernco.gov, or visit www.bernco.gov/clerk/absentee-voting.aspx

oversees and administers the Local Election, as it is called, rather than Municipal Election. Voters can now request absentee ballots directly from the County Clerk's Office, and not from the City Clerk. Voters will be able to vote early at 19 early voting locations around the County, and for the first time this year, people who are not already registered to vote can register right at the polls when voting early. Those who prefer to vote on Election Day will have 69 Voter Convenience Centers available to them throughout Bernalillo County, but same day registration is only during

And don't forget that we encourage public engagement with the voting process in any way possible, so contact our office if you want more information," Duhigg said.

To contact the City Clerk, call (505) 924-3650, e-mail: cityclerk@cabq.gov, or visit: www.cabq.gov/vote

See you at the polls! •



Planning Updates for September

Mikaela Renz-Whitmore
Planning Department



Follow-up Zoning Conversions

Following 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.

Batch 1

The City Council approved zoning conversions for Batch 1 properties in August, and the zoning is officially changed. The Planning Department is working to update the Official Zoning Map, and you can confirm the new zoning for all properties in this map: <https://tinyurl.com/batch1zc-map>.



<https://tinyurl.com/batch2zc-map>

Batch 2

Batch 2 properties will next be heard by City Council's Land Use, Planning, and Zoning (LUPZ) Committee, likely in September or October, as the second of three steps in the review/decision process. LUPZ meets the second Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. in the Council Committee Room in City Hall. Check for updates on the schedule on the project webpage:

<https://tinyurl.com/zc-project>

Annual Update of the Integrated Development Ordinance

The Environmental Planning Commission (EPC)

will review proposed changes to the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) at a public hearing on September 12, 2019 as the first of three steps required in the review and decision process.

WHAT:

EPC Hearing #1

WHEN:

Thursday, September 12, 2019

WHERE:

Vincent E. Griego Chambers, Basement of City Hall, 1 Civic Plaza

The agenda and staff report will be posted on the EPC on Thursday, September 5th, by 3 p.m. at: www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions/environmental-planning-commission/epc-agendas-reports-minutes

You are also welcome to join the EPC for a study session about proposed changes on Tuesday, September 10th at 10 a.m. in the Basement Hearing Room of Plaza del Sol, 600 2nd St. NW.

See the project webpage for proposed changes: <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: abcto@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.

See the IDO Effective Draft here:

<https://ido.abc-zone.com>



CITY LEADERSHIP

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

HOWDY NEIGHBOR!

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 vision 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, ONC Manager
- Vanessa Baca, Neighborhood Communication Liaison
- Vicente Quevedo, Neighborhood Liaison
- Dalaina Carmona, Senior Administrative Assistant



Office of Neighborhood Coordination

Creating Community Together



- (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