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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

OCTOBER  
2019



## FLYING HIGH IN OCTOBER!





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# Neighborhood Engagement Process (NEP) for October



As we near the beginning of Fall, our community engagement team, through the Neighborhood Engagement Process (NEP), has reached out to nearly all neighborhood associations and homeowners associations multiple times, by phone and email. One goal of the engagement process was to create equity by accessing neighborhoods from everywhere in the City in order to provide input to the update of the Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance (NARO). Our team has worked diligently to accomplish this goal.

We want to thank each and every one of you who has returned our calls and emails to arrange in-person Choice Dialogues. We appreciate having lively discussions with your neighborhoods and have enjoyed gathering your insights and your input about potential changes and recommended amendments for the impending NARO update. Your insight is invaluable.

To date, we have met with nearly 100 different neighborhood associations and homeowner associations, spoken in person to over 200 residents, and are rapidly coming to the end of our community input and community engagement process. If you have been contacted by one of our facilitators but have not yet had an opportunity to get back with us to schedule a Choice Dialogue with your neighborhood association or homeowners association, we would love to schedule a time to meet with you! NOTE: Our deadline for holding Choice Dialogues within neighborhoods is October 10, 2019.

We will continue to work steadily into the early fall to coordinate our remaining Choice Dialogues and to capture community input data that will support the City Council in their process to rewrite the NARO.

If you would like to know more about the NEP or the facilitators, please access their bios and other information at: [www.cabq.gov/office-of-neighborhood-coordination/neighborhood-engagement-process](http://www.cabq.gov/office-of-neighborhood-coordination/neighborhood-engagement-process).



# Association Works to Beautify Neighborhood

Recently, the La Mesa Community Improvement Association (LMCIA) in Southeast Albuquerque took on another type of neighborhood beautification program - a needle and syringe pickup event at Mesa Verde Community Center and Park.



"La Mesa Community Improvement Association is a wonderful group of committed neighbors and we want to do everything we can to make our neighborhood both beautiful and safe, especially for our kids," said Idalia Lechuga-Tena, President of LMCIA. "Mesa Verde is the heart of our community and if our own neighborhood kids and families don't feel safe there, then we need to be doing something about that. That's at the heart of everything we do."

Mesa Verde Community Center features a large park with numerous trees and bushes, making it a hot spot for needle disposal. The City Environmental Health Department works closely with the community to provide safe, hands-on trainings to neighborhoods, residents and community groups who want to both clean up their neighborhood parks and open spaces and also empower themselves to make a difference.

"We are fortunate to have had training from Environmental Health on how to safely dispose of needles," said Lechuga-Tena. They have come out to all of the needle pickups our neighborhood has sponsored over the past two

years and they are wonderful partners for our association."

Needle pickup is an unfortunate occurrence in all parks citywide and the City works hard to respond to all 311 calls reporting syringes in public spaces. Neighborhoods are also getting in on the action and coordinating needle pickups on their own, contributing directly to the well-being and safety of their own parks and public spaces.

"We really encourage other neighborhoods to get trained and start similar programs citywide," added Lechuga-Tena. "Us being able to clean up our own park frees up City resources and is a great way to encourage meeting new residents and neighbors and creates a wonderful sense of community!"

To schedule a needle pickup training for your neighborhood or community group, visit: [www.cabq.gov/environmentalhealth/sharps-disposal/request-sharps-training](http://www.cabq.gov/environmentalhealth/sharps-disposal/request-sharps-training)



Nick Zubel  
Office of Emergency Management



# Annual Earthquake Drill Encourages Readiness

**Following “National Preparedness Month” in September, the City of Albuquerque will participate in the Great Albuquerque ShakeOut earthquake drill!**

Held annually, the 2019 ShakeOut Drill is set for Thursday, October 17 at 10:17 a.m. The goal of the drill is to encourage residents and organizations to be prepared to survive and to recover quickly during a major earthquake. While damaging earthquakes here may be fewer compared to other areas, they can occur at any time.

During the drill, participants practice how to “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.” Endorsed by the City’s Office of Emergency Management

and first responders, the safe response to an earthquake is to:

- **DROP** where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby.
- **COVER** your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (avoid exterior walls, windows, hanging objects, mirrors, tall furniture, large appliances, and kitchen cabinets with heavy objects or glass). Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs.

- **HOLD ON** until shaking stops; Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts, or if there is no shelter, hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands.

Large earthquakes can occur with little to no warning, and New Mexico residents are not immune. Our region is home to several active seismic zones capable of producing damaging earthquakes, including the Rio Grande Rift zone which runs southward through Colorado and New Mexico.

To participate in the ShakeOut, individuals and organizations can register at [www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org). •



# Community-Oriented Program Works to Decrease Crime

**Community infrastructure like parks, streets, and public transit are just a few areas this innovative program focuses on improving.**

The Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office recently introduced an innovative new program aimed at helping reduce crime in the International District. The Community Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) Initiative brings together partners, including local law enforcement, researchers, community leaders and residents to plan and implement innovative solutions to crime reduction.

The program is community-oriented; it is data-driven, encourages revitalization and builds partnerships. The CBCR Initiative engages with residents to identify concerns and select strategies while building trust with law enforcement and collaborating with UNM Innovation Academy to collect and analyze data, assess evidence-based solutions, and track progress.

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**"We're working to improve infrastructure and to help create a healthy community for kids, families and neighborhoods."**

*Raul Torres,  
District Attorney*

CBCR partners work to revive problem areas or properties such as unsafe parks, streets, and transit. "CBCR partners are working to improve community infrastructure, assess behavioral health needs, support kids and families, discuss law enforcement initiatives, and foster economic development in the area," said District Attorney Raul Torres.

The District Attorney's Office collaborates with nonprofit and community leaders through working groups to craft and put in place plans of action. Working group participants ensure community perspectives are incorporated into crime reduction and that those efforts are both attainable and measurable.

The project will be carried out over a period of three years. As the first year concludes, the DA's Office will share the CBCR implementation plan and build community capacity for the second and third years. One way they plan to do this is by partnering with ABQ CiQlovía 2019, taking place in the International District this month.

Please join the District Attorney's Office staff, partners and volunteers to learn more about their crime reduction efforts. For more information, please contact Virginia Perez-Ortega, Project Administrator, at: [cbcr@da2nd.state.nm.us](mailto:cbcr@da2nd.state.nm.us) or (505) 382-7479.



# City Bright Brings Experimental Scale Art Downtown

New light will shine downtown now that the City of Albuquerque's Public Art program has announced the selection of five proposals for its City Bright initiative.

City Bright is a new opportunity offered under the In-Sight Temporary Public Art program, and inspired by One Albuquerque Engage, that aims to activate Albuquerque's downtown with light-based artworks during autumn

Out of the 17 submissions received, the following proposals were selected at the specific sites:

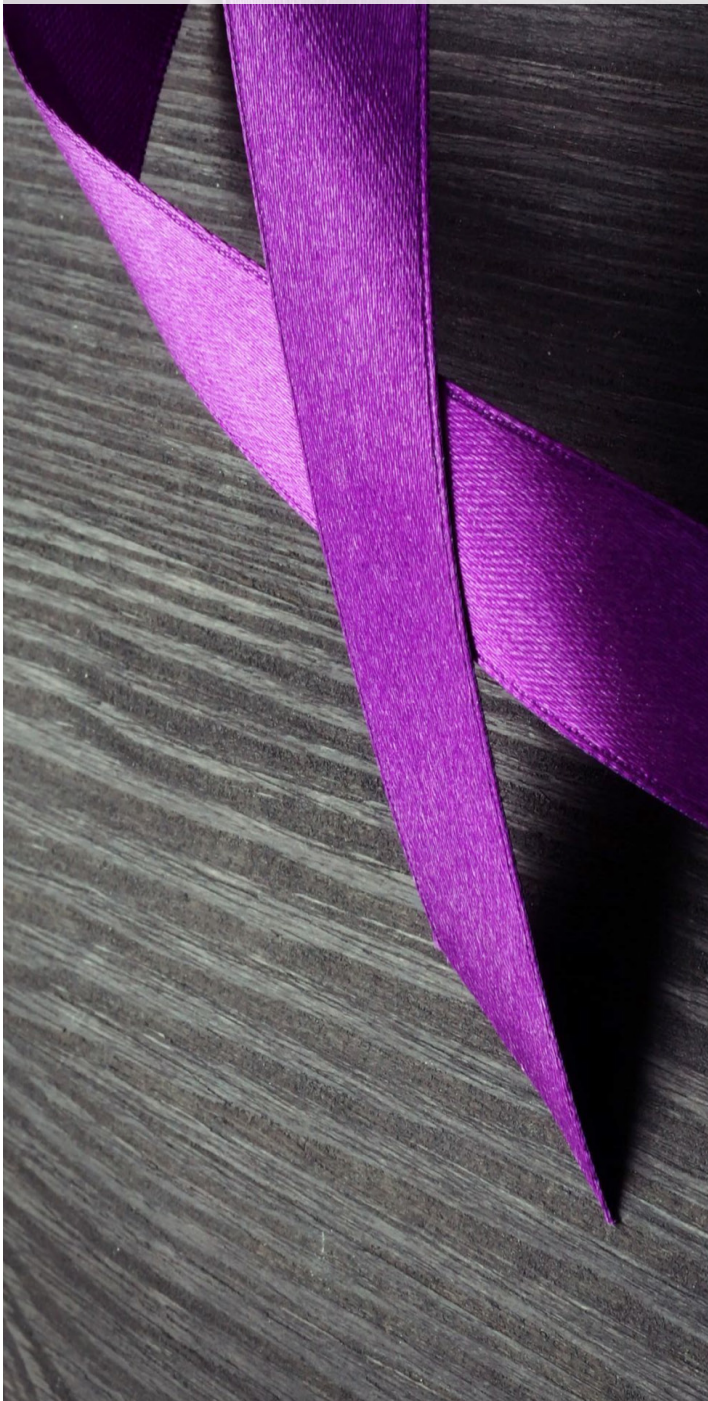
**Adrian Pijoan - KiMo Theatre storefront**  
**Andrea Polli - The Box Theatre**  
**Entropic Industries - The Rosenwald façade**  
**Lance Ryan McGoldrick - Contract Associates**  
**Taylor Hedum - Alvarado Transportation Center**

Through December, these installations will beautify downtown by creating brightly lit spaces. Some sites will house stationary installations which will be consistently on view for several months while other sites can be activated more performatively on four First Fridays.

Visit downtown as it "brightens up!" ●



# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



This month marks 32 years of the nationally recognized Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to statistics listed by the National Center for Disease Control, approximately 10 million Americans suffer partner abuse per year, equaling roughly 20 victims per second.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence states that one in 4 women, and one in 9 men, experience some form of abuse by their intimate partner. Too often, children are witnesses. Sadly, New Mexico mirrors these national statistics where approximately 59% of incidents are not reported to law enforcement.

Domestic violence is defined as violence or abuse inflicted by one person on another in marital, partner and LGBTQ relationships. Some forms of abuse are physical, sexual (rape), homicide, stalking, and economic, social and emotional control.

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and its re-authorizations, is funded by the U.S. Congress. VAWA authorizes grants for resources such as: prevention, legal aid for survivors, rape crisis centers, protection programs and more. Resource agencies in New Mexico are issued grant dollars to assist victims and survivors.

To learn more about domestic abuse and resources, go to New Mexico Domestic Violence Resource Center at [www.nmdvrc.org](http://www.nmdvrc.org). The Rape Crisis 24-hour Hotline is 505-266-7711. ●



# Forum on Domestic Violence Encourages Community Partnering

The Northeast Community Policing Council (CPC), in conjunction the other five CPCs, will jointly host a Domestic Violence Forum Saturday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at the African-American Performing Arts Center, 310 San Pedro Drive NE, inside EXPO NM.

There will be free admission and free parking for this event.

Speakers will discuss how to report domestic violence, available resources, and programs to protect victims and their children from abusers. Other presentations will include information about filing charges in a domestic abuse case, how to file a restraining order, and possible reparations.

The CPC voting members are community volunteers tasked with helping connect the community with the Albuquerque Police

Department (APD) and foster a relationship of mutual cooperation and trust. The CPCs are independent of APD and the City and though they work closely with both, they are not under City or APD jurisdiction.

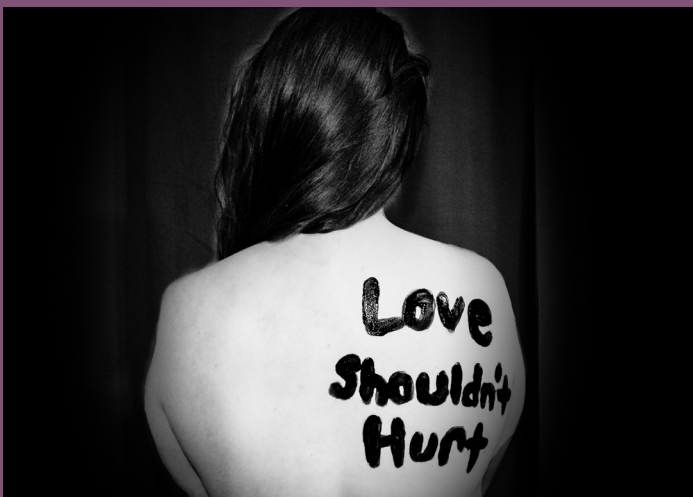
Domestic violence affects everyone, whether you are a direct victim or not. Community members are encouraged to reach out to law enforcement if abuse is suspected. It could mean the difference between life and death.

If you would like more information about this very important event, if you would like to participate or be part of it, or if you need sign language interpretation, contact the Northeast CPC at:

[necpcvicki@gmail.com](mailto:necpcvicki@gmail.com)

or

[doryWnecpc@gmail.com](mailto:doryWnecpc@gmail.com)







# Planning Department Hosting Workshops in October



The City of Albuquerque Planning Department is hosting a series of public workshops throughout the month of October and the public is encouraged to attend!

### **Civic Skills Workshop:**

These workshops will cover a history of land use and planning processes and decisions and how those have impacted communities of color. The department seeks to engage the public in a discussion about equity in planning moving forward.

Staff from the Planning Department, Economic Development, and Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency will be presenting on how the city is actively promoting equity and inclusion through planning.

Each Workshop is roughly 2.5 hours. Lunch or dinner will be served. Activities for youth ages 6+ will be available. Spanish interpretation will be available. To request additional language translation, please contact Francine Pacheco at: [fpacheco@cabq.gov](mailto:fpacheco@cabq.gov) or (505) 924-3345

### **CPA:**

The City of Albuquerque's Planning Department seeks community input to prepare for upcoming Community Planning Area (CPA) Assessments process. The City will collect feedback that best represents neighborhood and community needs. Lunch or dinner will be served at all sessions. Activities for youth ages 6+ will be available. As well, simultaneous Spanish interpretation services are being offered at each workshop.

### **Civic Skills Workshops**

Tuesday, October 8 at 5:00 p.m.  
Jeanne Bellamah Community Center

Thursday, October 10 at 12:00 noon  
Mesa Verde Community Center

Saturday, October 12 at 10:00 a.m.  
Holiday Park Community Center

Tuesday, October 22 at 5:00 p.m.  
Johnny Tapia Wells Park Community Center

Thursday, October 24 at 6:00 p.m.  
Asian Family Community Center

Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 a.m.  
Barelas Community Center

Tuesday, October 29 at 5:30 p.m., International District  
Economic Development Center

Thursday, October 31 at 12:00 noon  
Joan Jones Community Center

### **Community Planning Area (CPA) Assessment Workshops**

Tuesday, October 15 at 5:30 p.m.  
International District Economic Development Center

Thursday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m.  
Jack Candelaria Community Center

Saturday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m.  
Los Duranes Community Center

[www.cabq.gov/planning/events](http://www.cabq.gov/planning/events)





## CITY LEADERSHIP

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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).

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Creating Community Together



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