

Neighborhood News

A Publication of the Office of Neighborhood Coordination

November/December 2012



Richard J. Berry
Mayor of Albuquerque

Albuquerque 50 Mile Loop Master Plan



This is a plan to fill in gaps in our existing trail system to create a 50 mile bicycling, running and walking trail circling Albuquerque. The primary aim is to promote health and recreation in our community - whether it's for an experienced cyclist or

someone just starting a walking program. Amenities along this trail may include benches, shade structures, water fountains, landscaping, pocket parks, signage, etc. Other anticipated benefits include weekend tourism and small business opportunities like rentals and food concessions. One added benefit with more people cycling and walking instead of driving is for the environment as well. In addition the loop may increase the possibility for large scale regional events, such as bike rides, charity walks, etc.

The City has hired **Wilson & Company, Inc.**, an engineering consultant team with planning, landscaping and design expertise to create a plan to construct the 50 mile loop. As part of this study, Wilson is looking at land ownership, zoning requirements, right-of-way requirements and potential improvements and will provide an implementation plan checklist with phasing recommendations; coordinate with area agencies to create a list of possible uses and costs.

Currently, Wilson is working with a committee comprised of various trail users to recommend the final alignment for the loop as well as best practices for safety, education and trail etiquette. Part of the project is to create a brand for the loop. There will be two Town Hall meetings in December in conjunction with the Rio Grande Vision. The final report is expected in February with construction that could begin next fall depending on available funding.

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“Dedicated to Providing Information About City Government and Increasing Communication Between Neighborhood and/or Homeowner Associations.”



APD Crime Prevention

Submitted By Steve Sink



Holiday Safety

Shopping and Out in Public

- Always be aware of your surroundings and trust your instincts.
Give some thought to what is considered "normal behavior" in a given environment.
Always be aware of other people around you and make note of their behavior.
Walk with authority, purpose and awareness.
Park your vehicle as close to an entrance as possible and/or park in well lit and active locations.
Lock all personal items in the trunk or away from view - roll up windows, take the keys and lock the doors.
Keep all items inside your vehicle away from view.
Anything in full view could potentially be a target of opportunity.
Have your keys ready when approaching your vehicle and limit the number of items in your hands.
Get in you vehicle as soon as possible, lock the doors immediately and then get settled.
Remove all visible targets that might make you a victim of a crime - WOMEN SHOULD NEVER CARRY A PURSE IN PUBLIC.

- If you choose to carry a defensive device like pepper spray - have proper training.
Panhandlers - Avoid panhandlers when ever possible. Their behavior could be potentially unpredictable. Do not give them cash or offer any kind of substitute, like food or other types of assistance.
In most cases, cash will not be used for what they are suggesting. It will typically be used to support a substance abuse habit.
(Note: If you want to assist them, make a donation to one of several service providers available.)

Securing Your Residence Prior to Holiday Travel

- Ask a trusted neighbor to watch your residence and report suspicious activity.
If possible, have a trusted friend or family member stay at your home.
Install automatic timers on lights, TV's and radios to give the impression someone is home.
Do not have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. This information could fall into the wrong hands.
Ask the trusted neighbor to collect them each day.
If you have a rollout trash dumpster, have a neighbor place it in the street on pick up day and return it that evening.
Ask a neighbor to park a vehicle in the driveway when ever possible.
Be extra cautious about locking all doors and windows. All primary window locks should be operational and secondary locks should be installed.
Make sure trees and shrubs are trimmed to allow for good natural surveillance of your property.
Make arrangements to have exterior lights on each night.
Each entrance should have solid core or metal doors and deadbolt locks.
Let neighbors, family and friends know when you plan to return from a trip.

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Mayor's Message - continued from front page

Funding

This plan is funded by \$150,000 in GO Bond funds. Currently there is no construction costs allocated for this project. We plan to fund this project without a tax increase using a variety of smart financing mechanisms including local, state and federal funds.

ABQ the Plan

The 50 Mile Loop is part of ABQ the Plan, Mayor Berry's long term plan to invest in the future of Albuquerque. ABQ the Plan is about large scale public projects that will increase quality of life for residents, enhance economic development, opportunities, promote tourism, and spur private sector investments.

The City will hold **Town Hall Meetings** on December 4 and 5, 2012 to talk about the 50 Mile Loop and the Rio Grande Vision.

December 4 Town Hall Meeting

When: Tuesday, December, 4, 2012 - 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Where: Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, 2901 Candelaria Road NW, **505-344-7240**

December 5 Town Hall Meeting

When: Wednesday, December 5, 2012 – 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 3615 Los Picaros SE, **505-452-5200**

Learn More about ABQ the Plan

Website: <ABQthePlan.cabq.gov>

Email: <theplan@cabq.gov>

Facebook & Twitter



APD Crime Prevention

Submitted By Steve Sink



Vehicle Identification Number Window Etching Event

Window etching of your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is an excellent deterrent to auto theft. In a matter of minutes the VIN can be permanently fixed in a corner of each window. Placing the VIN on each window can discourage thieves from dismantling your automobile and reselling the parts which is one of the primary reasons our vehicles are stolen.

The next VIN Etching Event, sponsored by the Albuquerque Police Department is scheduled for the following date, time and location.

Saturday, November 17, 2012

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

AAA New Mexico

10501 Montgomery Boulevard NE

(Just east of Morris)

The window etching is **FREE**. Citizens must provide current vehicle registration.

Legal

Submitted By Shannon Beaucaire

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Community Mediation Program

The purpose of community mediation is to bring neighbors together to resolve conflict creatively rather than fighting one another and allowing conflict to get worse.

Mediation helps people reach agreements, rebuild relationships and find permanent solutions to their disputes. Mediation is a process where neighbors speak for themselves and make their own decisions.

This is a **FREE** service to all residents in the City of Albuquerque. To obtain more information please contact the Alternative Dispute Resolution Office at **505-768-4500**.



Planning Department

Submitted By Randall Falkner

Proposed Text Amendment to the Zoning Code

The Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) will consider amending the Zoning Code by adding a new Section 14-16-3-23 to the Zoning Code at its regularly scheduled public hearing on Thursday December 13, 2012. The request proposes to make the launching and landing of Hot Air Balloons a Permissive Use in all Zoning Districts within the City of Albuquerque.

Please contact Randall Falkner, Staff planner at **505-924-3933** for more information.

Cultural Services Department

Submitted By Bree Ortiz

Twinkle Light Parade

The Twinkle Light Parade is coming to Nob Hill! Mayor Richard J. Berry and Nob Hill Main Street invite you to celebrate the holidays at the **Twinkle Light Parade and Nob Hill Holiday Shop & Stroll**, Saturday, December 1, 2012 on Central Avenue between Washington Street and Girard Boulevard. Enjoy holiday carolers, photos with Santa and traffic free shopping from noon to midnight. The parade starts at 5:15 p.m. and heads west on Central Avenue. Call **311** or visit www.cabq.gov for more information.



Albuquerque Fire Department

Submitted By Melissa Romero



Fire Safety for the Elderly

It is that time of the year that people fire up their home appliances to keep warm but they must ensure safety measures have been implemented and they know important fire safety tips to prevent fires. Since the beginning of Fall, the Albuquerque Fire Department has responded to six fires in which half were caused by home heating appliances.

People 65 years old and older are at a significantly higher risk of dying in home fires than the rest of the general population. The risk of fire death increases exponentially with every new decade of age after a person reaches 65. An elderly woman had to be rescued by firefighters because she was trapped behind a double bolted door. Please read over the following safety tips to protect yourself, your family and home from fire.

1. Install smoke alarms in every home, on every level, outside each sleeping area and in each bedroom.
2. Know two ways out of every room and practice a home escape plan once a month.
3. Heating:
 - a. Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
 - b. Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove or portable space heater.
 - c. Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container outside away from anything that can burn.
 - d. Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
4. Install battery operated CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks.
5. If you have elderly family members or neighbors, please check on them regularly to ensure their homes are fire safe.

To create your own Home Fire Escape Plan, go to http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/pdf/escape_plan.pdf. For more safety tips, go to the City of Albuquerque's website at www.cabq.gov/fire or NFPA's Website at www.nfpa.org.

ABQ RIDE

Submitted By Rick De Reyes



Public Meetings Planned for Proposed ABQ RIDE/Central Corridor BRT Project

As part of the redevelopment of historic Route 66 through Albuquerque, the City of Albuquerque is considering Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Service along Central Avenue. More frequent and timely transit service within this corridor will increase the people carrying capacity of Central Avenue.

Cities throughout the United States are implementing BRT service as a key means of enhancing their respective transportation network and as a component of urban corridor redevelopment plans; because BRT is more versatile in service delivery and in cost. A BRT system provides more timely service than a regular bus line through the use of dedicated lanes, at least for a significant portion of the route and strategically located stations (not just stops) that provide:

1. Boarding platforms level with the floor of the bus.
2. Off bus fare collection enabling riders to purchase tickets outside the bus, reducing dwell time inside the bus.
3. A smart signal system which allows buses to communicate with traffic signals, which reduces bus delays at traffic lights by allowing additional “green light time” for buses.
4. Intelligent information about arrivals and traffic.

As the city is undertaking an Alternatives Analysis as the first step in determining the operational and financial feasibility of a BRT system along Central Avenue, ABQ RIDE needs your input. Starting Tuesday, November 20, ABQ RIDE has scheduled a series of six public meetings along the Central Avenue Corridor to get your ideas and opinions about the project.

- **Tuesday, November 20, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Mesa Verde Community Center – 7900 Marquette Avenue NE**
- **Tuesday, November 27, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Manzano Mesa Multi-Regional Center – 501 Elizabeth Street SE**
- **Thursday, November 29, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Alamosa Community Center – 6900 Gonzales Road SW**

- **Tuesday, December 4, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Loma Linda Community Center - 1700 Yale Boulevard SE**
- **Tuesday, December 11, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Old Main Library/Special Collections, Botts Hall – 423 Central Avenue NE (at Edith)**
- **Thursday, December 13, 2012 - 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Albuquerque Museum of Art and History (Auditorium) – 2000 Mountain Road NW**

Be looking for ads in the Albuquerque Journal and other media with dates, locations and times of these and future meetings. We value your input. That’s why we hope to see you at one of these meetings; to help a growing city plan for a better future with a better system of rapid transit.

Solid Waste Management Department

Submitted By Bobby Sisneros

Fall Green Waste Collection

Residents can recycle their green waste for **FREE**.

When

December 3, 2012 – December 14, 2012

Description

City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Residential Customers can take advantage of free green waste pickup. Green waste will be collected on your regular trash collection day during the following weeks:

- December 3 – December 7, 2012
- December 10 – December 14, 2012

Instructions

Solid Waste Residential customers must place green waste — such as leaves, grass, and brush — in trash bags.

- Bags must not weigh more than 40 pounds each.
- Branches must be cut to four foot lengths and bundled securely.
- Items for green recycling must be placed at the curb for collection by 7 a.m. on the regular trash pickup day.
- Items should be placed five feet away from automated trash containers.

Prohibited Items

Collection crews won’t pick up the following items:

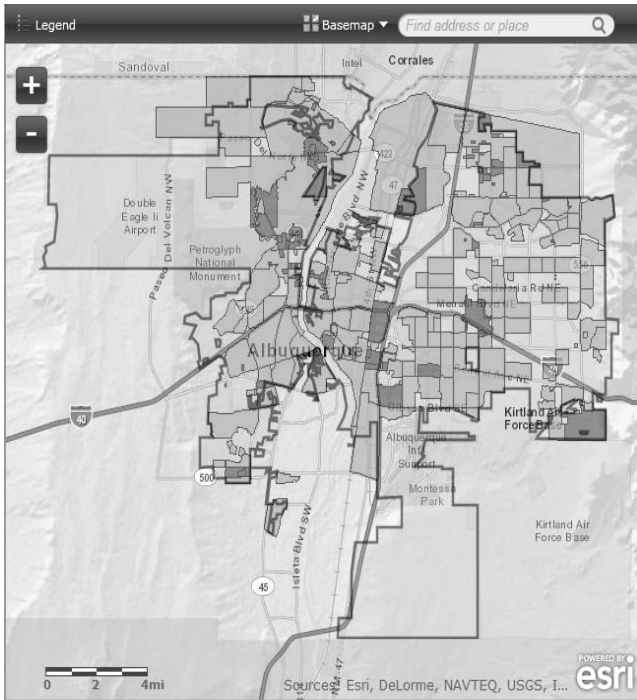
- Dirt
- Construction debris
- Gravel
- Construction material
- Tree stumps

For more information please visit <www.cabq.gov/solidwaste>.

Planning Department

Submitted By Tim Gauden

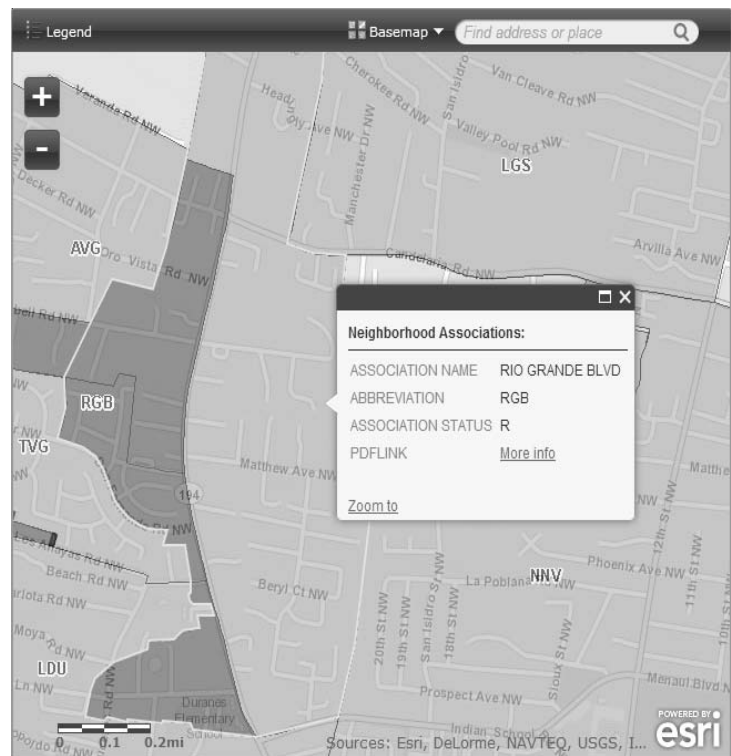
New Interactive Neighborhood Association Map Online



City employees have a new GIS software tool that allows them to create online maps with a theme. The AGIS Division of the Planning Department has created a map of the neighborhood associations that not only lets you zoom into the map for a more detailed view but also lets you get information on the associations when you click on the map. You will find the name, the abbreviation, and the status of each association as well as a link to a PDF map of each individual neighborhood association. The web map shows how some associations overlap each other and when you click on the overlap areas on the map - you will get information for all of the associations that overlap. You can also enter an address to find if it is within a neighborhood association. AGIS is currently in the process of developing an interactive web map for Neighborhood Coalitions.

There are several new interactive thematic maps on the city's web page - such as the address atlas and zone atlas, bike trails, dog parks, public art, etc. This new interactive web map technology is in its early stages and from time to time the maps are a little slow to display. However, this technology will improve over time and there will likely be many more interactive maps on the City's web page in the future.

To access the interactive neighborhood association map, open a web browser and go to www.cabq.gov/planning/developers/forms/agis-downloads/neighborhood-associations-map.



**Parks and Recreation,
Open Space Division**

Submitted By Jodi Hedderig



Return of the Cranes Celebration

WHAT: Programs and activities celebrating winter wildlife.
WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Boulevard NW at the end of Bosque Meadows Road NW between Montañito Road NW and Paseo del Norte NW.
WHEN: November 17 & 18, 2012
FEE: FREE
REGISTRATION: Call 505-897-8831.
CONTACT: Jodi Hedderig, 505-897-8831, e-mail: <jhedderig@cabq.gov>, Website: <www.cabq.gov/openspace>

The signal that marks the end of summer sounds a little like the blow of many trumpets high in the sky above us. It is the sound of Sandhill Cranes migrating to their wintering grounds in the Middle Rio Grande Valley and beyond. During the day, cranes find food in open fields, foraging for seeds, roots, bugs, worms, toads and small rodents. At night, cranes roost on open, shallow sandbars in the Rio Grande. Not just a season for sandhill cranes, other species of wintering birds can be seen in the Albuquerque area as well.

On November 17 & 18, come to the Open Space Visitor Center and take part in **FREE** programs that honor the winter migratory season during the Return of the Cranes Celebration. Call 505-897-8831 to register for the programs. Programs will include:

Saturday, November 17, 2012

All Day

- **Waking Up Crane**, short film by Joanne Schmidt.
- **Make an Origami Crane**, Albuquerque Origami Society.
- Web of Life Foundation.
- Children's activities.
- Viewing scopes on the back lawn.

8 a.m. — **Guided Bosque Walk**, Verne Huser.
9:30 a.m. — **Tai Chi with the Cranes**, Dug Corpolango.
10 a.m. — **Water & Wildlife** presentation, Wildlife Rescue, Kristin Madden.
11 a.m. — **Wildlife Rescue Birds on Display**.
11:30 a.m. — **Stories in Flight** with storyteller, Susi Wolf.
12 p.m. — **Tin Punch Workshop** for Families, registration required.

1:30 p.m. — **Love in the Bosque**, original musical by Phil Bock.
3 p.m. — **Love in the Bosque**, original musical by Phil Bock.
5 p.m. — **Crane Flyout Tour** at Los Poblanos Fields, Bill Pentler.

Sunday, November 18, 2012

All Day

- Waking Up Crane, short film by Joanne Schmidt.
- Children's activities.
- Viewing scopes on the back lawn.

7:30 a.m. — Los Poblanos Fields Fly-in, Bill Pentler.
8:30 a.m. — Sandhill Crane Interpretation at Los Poblanos Fields with Wildlife Biologist, Wendy Brown.
9 a.m. — Yoga with the Cranes, \$15.

**Love in the Bosque
A Musical by Phil Bock**

WHAT: A musical celebrating winter wildlife by local playwright, Phil Bock.
WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Boulevard NW at the end of Bosque Meadows Road NW between Montañito Road NW and Paseo del Norte NW.
WHEN: Saturday, November 17th, 2012 - 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
FEE: FREE
INSTRUCTION: Call 505-897-8831 to register.
CONTACT: Jodi Hedderig, 505-897-8831, e-mail: <jhedderig@cabq.gov>, Website: <www.cabq.gov/openspace>

The Sandhill crane migration every year is inspiring to children, adults, artists and now playwrights. The Crane family cast of characters in Phil Bock's "Love in the Bosque" presents with whimsy the daily plights of our winter residents as they winter in the Rio Grande Valley. With musical numbers "Sandy's Complaint" sung by Sandy (Hill) Crane and "Let's Fly Away" by the beautiful and mysterious Japanese crane Michiko a love triangle takes shape with Bob Crane at the center. Special appearances from Coyote and Bobcat.

Join local playwright and composer Phil Bock and his musical crane family for two shows on **Saturday, November 17** at **1:30 p.m.** and **3 p.m.** This show will have you humming along with the visiting cranes. "Love in the Bosque" is one part of many activities at our **Return of the Cranes Celebration** the weekend of November 17th and 18th. Visit <www.cabq.gov/openspace> for a complete listing of events.

Phil Bock

The career of Phil Bock, retired professor of Anthropology, spans forty years as actor, director and playwright with original works such as "Cat on a Streetcar Named Iguana", his most popular and "Not My Department", along with adaptations "This Bloody Business" after Macbeth and "Yellow Cab" after the book by the same name. Open Space Visitor Center is one of many venues, including the Adobe Theater and Vortex. He continues to live and work in Albuquerque.

Neighborhood News November/December 2012

19 - 30	1 - 6	7 - 18	19 - 31
Monday, November 19 •GABAC – 4:30 p.m. •City Council – 5 p.m. •ZHE – 9 a.m.	NO MEETINGS: •ZHE •District 4 Coalition •Westside Coalition •District 6 Coalition •District 7 Coalition •District 8 Coalition •East Gateway Coalition	Monday, December 10 •GABAC – 4:30 p.m.	Wednesday, December 19 •DRB – 9 a.m. •EPC Pre-Hearing – 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 21 •District 4 Coalition – 7 p.m.		Wednesday, December 12 •DRB – 9 a.m. •SEPC – 9 a.m. •LUCC – 3 p.m.	Thursday, December 20 •AAB – 9 a.m.
Thursday, November 22 City Offices CLOSED - Thanksgiving Day	Monday, December 3 •City Council – 5 p.m.	Thursday, December 13 •EPC Public Hearing – 8:30 a.m. •POC – 4 p.m. •South Valley Coalition – 6:30 p.m.	Tuesday, December 25 City Offices CLOSED - Christmas Day
Friday, November 23 City Offices CLOSED - Day After Thanksgiving	Tuesday, December 4 •SWAN – 6 p.m.	Monday, December 17 •City Council – 5 p.m.	Wednesday, December 26 •DRB – NO MEETING - WINTER BREAK
Tuesday, November 27 •BOA – 9 a.m.	Wednesday, December 5 •DRB – 9 a.m.	Tuesday, December 18 •BOA – 9 a.m.	
Wednesday, November 28 •DRB – 9 a.m.	Thursday, December 6 •EPC Study Session – 3 p.m.		
			

2012 CALENDAR/LEGEND

AAB - Airport Advisory Board, Aviation Department Executive Conference Room
ACCC - Albuquerque Citizens Corp. Council, 1615 University Boulevard NE (Association of General Contractors Building Branch), 505-610-9563 (formally known as the LEPC)
ADC - Albuquerque Development Commission - Hearing Room (Basement Level), Plaza del Sol, 600 Second Street NW
BOA - Board of Appeals, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, Basement Level, 600 Second Street NW
City Council - Vincent E. Griego Council Chambers, Basement Level, City Hall
District 4 Coalition - North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center, Community Room, 7521 Carmel Avenue NE
District 6 Coalition - EXPO NM, Alice B. Hopes Pavilion on San Pedro NE and Copper NE
District 7 Coalition - Grant Middle School, Library, 1111 Easterday NE
District 8 Coalition - James Joseph Dwyer Police Memorial Substation, 12700 Montgomery Boulevard NE
DRB - Development Review Board, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room (Basement Level), 600 Second Street NW
East Gateway Coalition - Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center, 501 Elizabeth Street SE
EPC - Environmental Planning Commission, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, (Basement Level), 600 Second Street NW
EPC Pre-Hearing - Plaza del Sol, 600 Second Street NW, Third Floor, Conference Room
EPC Study Session - Planning Department, Plaza del Sol, Hearing Room, (Basement Level), 600 Second Street NW
GABAC - Greater Albuquerque Bicycling Advisory Committee, City Hall, Room 302
GARTC - Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee - Locations vary, call 505-768-5308 for information
LUCC - Landmarks and Urban Conservation Commission, Plaza del Sol, Hearing Room (Basement Level), 600 Second Street NW
POC - Police Oversight Commission, City/County Building, Lower Level, 1 Civic Plaza, Fifth and Marquette
SEPC - Special Events Permitting Committee - 6th floor, Cultural Services Department Conference Room, City Hall, Fifth and Marquette
SVCNA - South Valley Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, Sheriff's Department South Area Command, 2039 Isleta Boulevard SW
SWAN - South West Alliance of Neighbors, Alamosa Multi-Purpose Center, 6900 Gonzales Road SW
Westside Coalition - Don Newton/Taylor Ranch Community Center, 4900 Kachina Drive NW
ZHE - Zoning Hearing Examiner Offices - 1820 Randolph Rd. SE (near Yale and Gibson), 505-924-3918; ZHE Hearings are held in the Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, (Basement Level), 600 Second Street NW

EPC Hearing Notice

Neighborhood Alert – Be aware that public comments at EPC Meetings have a time limitation due to the length of the EPC Hearings. The 48-Hour Rule of the EPC: All written materials and other documents shall be submitted to the Planning Department no later than 9 a.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the Public Hearing Week. For an Appeal Hearing – no communication with EPC is allowed within five days of the Public Hearing.

In order to make maximum use of the following information – please note:

- Scan the entire list to see if your neighborhood association has a case this month.
➤ The name and phone number of the developer/agent is listed so that you can easily contact them should you have any questions.
➤ The assigned staff planner is identified with each agenda item should you need additional information (i.e., check on the actual placement of your case on the agenda). All staff may be reached at 505-924-3860.
➤ On the day of the EPC Public Hearing, call the Planning Department at 505-924-3860 and the receptionist will give you the status of the EPC Public Hearing.
➤ Staff Reports are available at the Planning Department beginning at 3 p.m. on the 1st Thursday prior to the EPC Public Hearing.

On the 1st Thursday of each month, the EPC has a Study Session to review the applications scheduled for the all-day Public Hearing which occurs on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

As with the Public Hearing, the public is invited to attend the Study Sessions, however, Study Sessions do not provide an open forum. Discussion is limited to staff and the EPC. Study Sessions regularly begin at 3 p.m. in the Planning Department Hearing Room, Plaza Del Sol Building. Please call the Planning Department at 505-924-3860 to confirm the Study Session schedule will happen at the times listed, as time adjustments are made occasionally.

The EPC Public Hearing will be held on December 13, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Planning Department Hearing Room, (basement level), 600 Second Street NW for the following cases:

Citywide

All Neighborhoods and/or Homeowner Associations and Coalitions; 12EPC-40073, Project #1001620; City of Albuquerque, Planning Department at 505-924-3860; Proposed Text Amendments to the Zoning Code by adding a new Section 14-16-3-23 to the Zoning Code - the request proposes to make the launching and landing of hot air balloons a permissive use in all zoning districts within the City of Albuquerque; Randall Falkner at 505-924-3933, e-mail: <rfalkner@cabq.gov>.

The City of Albuquerque does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, disability, age, gender, Vietnam Era or disabled veteran status, sexual orientation or medical condition in employment or in the provision of services.

If you have a disability and will need special assistance to benefit from any of the meetings, hearings or workshops, etc., appearing in this newsletter, contact the office sponsoring the event two weeks prior to the date of the meeting you plan to attend. When ever possible, TTY phone numbers will be listed. TTY users may call any phone number listed in this publication via Relay New Mexico at 1-800-659-8331.

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

Submitted By Patti Watson



***SEVERE DROUGHT CONTINUES:
Water Authority Reminds Residents to Cut Watering to Once a Week;
Time-of-Day Restrictions Ended November 1, 2012***

With one of the driest years on record so far and a rainfall deficit of more than three inches, the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority is reminding residents to cut back on outdoor watering to once a week that began on Thursday, November 1, 2012. "As part of our Water by the Numbers Program, we encourage everyone to reduce their watering to just once a week in November and to stop watering altogether after the first hard freeze," said Katherine Yuhás, the Water Authority's Water Conservation Officer.

Residents are encouraged to water only as much as needed. "Because temperatures are cooler the ground tends to retain moisture longer, so you may only need to water for five or ten minutes in each zone," Yuhás said. Yuhás continued, "We are in a severe drought, so every drop of water counts. Also we are at the very end of the growth season, so over watering won't do your landscape any good."

Once the Albuquerque area experiences its first hard freeze (where temperatures drop to 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below and stay there for several hours), it's time to stop watering outdoors entirely. Parts of New Mexico experienced the first hard freeze last weekend but temperatures in Albuquerque hovered above the 32 degree mark.

The Water Authority also reminds customers that time-of-day watering restrictions end on November 1, 2012. Fines can still be assessed for water waste and for creating ice hazards. Besides creating dangerous conditions on sidewalks and roads, ice can also damage pipes and irrigation systems. As area residents shut down their sprinkler systems, it's a good idea to detach and drain outdoor hoses and to insulate or cover outdoor faucets.

Cold temperatures and safety were the topic of New Mexico Winter Weather Awareness Week, sponsored by the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) National Weather Service in partnership with the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management from October 29-November 2, 2012. This annual campaign is designed to promote winter storm and cold weather awareness and safety by educating New Mexicans on how to survive cold weather, how to stay informed of forecasts for warnings and winter storm conditions and how to prepare ahead of time to handle difficult travel conditions and other exposure to harsh, cold weather. More information is available through Kerry Jones, Warning Coordinator Meteorologist at **505-244-9149**, ext. 223 or <www.weather.gov/abq>.

Although temperatures are dropping, however, it is still very dry. According to the National Weather Service, the Albuquerque area usually receives about 8.31 inches of precipitation a year. The Weather Services reports that Albuquerque has received 5.23 inches and our area remains in a "severe drought."

The Weather Service is predicting that the Albuquerque area has "equal chances" of a dry, moderate or wet winter season. Even if we receive the normal amount of precipitation, our area will still lag behind average precipitation for the year. "Despite a dry year, our community has done well in conserving water so far. We encourage everyone to keep up the good work and to be safe as it gets colder so that we can all start 2013 off in good shape," Yuhás explained.

More information about water conservation and the Water Authority's Water by the Numbers Program is available at <www.abcwua.org> or by calling **505-768-3655**. More information about winter weather predictions and/or safety is available at <www.cpc.noaa.gov/> and <www.nmdhsem.org>.

**NM State Association of
Parliamentarians**

Submitted By Janice Strand

Parliamentary Pointers

**Meeting Minutes.... The written legal and public
record of the proceedings of a meeting.**

Minutes must state what was done or adopted at a meeting, not what was said! Minutes must be concise and complete. Minutes should not reflect the opinion of the secretary.

A secretary can save time and energy by completing skeletal minutes before the meeting and filling in the details. With a computer and prepared skeletal minutes, the secretary can have the minutes nearly complete at the end of the meeting.

The first paragraph of the minutes should contain:

1. The kind of meeting (regular, special, etc.).
2. The name of the organization, the date and time of the meeting (place if not always the same).
3. A statement that the chairman and secretary were present (or the names of the persons who served for them).
4. Whether the minutes of the previous meeting were approved....or approved as corrected.

The body of the minutes should contain:

1. All main motions, including the name of the person who made the motion and the final disposition of the motion (adopted or lost). The wording of the motion as it was adopted.
2. Motions that were referred to a committee or postponed.
3. Motions that came from committee reports.

The last paragraph should contain:

1. The time of adjournment.

Minutes should be signed by the secretary and can also be signed by the president. The words *Respectfully*

submitted –although occasionally used represent an older practice that is not essential in signing the minutes.

The draft of the minutes can be sent to all members in advance of the meeting, usually with the notice of the meeting. **The legal record is only the minutes that are adopted.**

When minutes are corrected the actual corrections are made in the text of the minutes being approved. The minutes of the meeting making the corrections merely state corrections were made.

At the meeting the president (presider) does not have to conduct the procedures for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The presider can state, “Are there corrections to the minutes?... If there are no corrections (or no further corrections), the minutes are approved as printed/read.” (This is an assumed motion).

When the next regular meeting will not be held within a quarter (three months) it is advised that a committee be appointed to approve the minutes. Then, at the next meeting, the secretary reports that “the minutes of the _____ meeting were approved by the minutes approval committee on _____(date). The members of the committee were _____, _____, and _____ (usually two or three members).”

Parliamentary Pointers will appear each month. If you have a parliamentary question that could be covered or would like a “Smart Meeting” presentation on Taking, Writing, Approving and Correcting Minutes at your meeting, contact Jan Strand at <jan_str@msn.com> or **505-466-1326**.





NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
 A Publication of the Office of
 Neighborhood Coordination

Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC), a division of the Planning Department, City of Albuquerque. Articles and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

ONC reserves the right to edit and/or reject any submissions.

***** Submissions Are Due By
 The 1st of Each Month*****

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