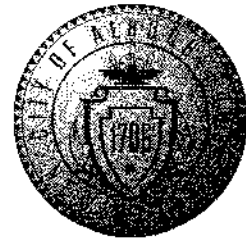


CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



Planning Department

Suzanne Lubar, Planning Director
600 2nd Street NW – 3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Richard J. Berry, Mayor

January 29, 2014

Dear Albuquerque Neighborhood Association Members,

Prolonged or repetitive zoning violations in residential areas – such as junk cars, accumulation of trash and litter, and similar property maintenance problems – cost taxpayers a great deal of money every year, and frequently leave neighborhoods feeling as though their concerns have been ignored, despite continued enforcement action from City code inspectors.

To improve the City's ability to achieve compliance for these common issues, the Planning Department is seeking the support of Albuquerque residents in our efforts to amend existing State statutes to allow municipalities and counties the option of utilizing civil administrative remedies to enforce zoning code regulations. Because the city's zoning code is considered a criminal code, only the Metropolitan or District court systems may impose penalties for continued violations. This process is often time consuming and ineffective. Our departmental history has shown that criminal court judges are often reluctant to impose fines and jail time upon zoning violators, even for repeat code offenders.

PO Box 1293

Albuquerque

New Mexico 87103

www.cabq.gov

Over the past several months, we have been working with Senator Jacob Candelaria and Senator Sander Rue to draft and submit amendments to the current session of the New Mexico Legislature to add civil administrative remedies and the right to conduct administrative hearings to enforce zoning code regulations. These proposed amendments would not take away any rights currently held by other municipalities or counties, nor would the State be asked to provide funding. Rather, by adding civil administrative remedies as an enforcement option, local governments across the state will have the option of dealing more quickly and effectively with ongoing land use and property maintenance problems, without tying up the court system. This proposed legislation has been pre-filed by Senator Jacob Candelaria as Senate Bill 61.

Please join our office and Senators Candelaria and Rue in support of this requested legislative change by contacting the committee members listed on the enclosed committee contact sheets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Lubar".
Suzanne Lubar
Planning Director

Public Affairs Committee Members

2014 Regular Session

Senator Gerald Ortiz y Pino – (D)

District: 12
County: Bernalillo
Senator Since: 2005
Occupation: Social Worker
Address: 400 12th Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Capitol Phone: 986-4482
Capitol Room #: 300A
Office Phone:
Home Phone: (505) 243-1509
Email: jortizyp@msn.com

Senator Bill B. O'Neill – (D)

District: 13
County: Bernalillo
Senator Since: 2013
Occupation: Development Director- PEP
Address: 343 Sarah Lane NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
Capitol Phone: 986-4260
Capitol Room #: 300C
Office Phone: (505) 450-9263
Home Phone:
Email: oneillsd13@billoneillform.com

Senator Jacob R. Candelaria – (D)

District: 26
County: Bernalillo
Senator Since: 2013
Occupation: Law Student
Address: 3501 Atrisco Drive NW #423
Albuquerque, NM 87120
Capitol Phone: 986-4391
Capitol Room #: 414A
Office Phone: (505) 847-5079
Home Phone:
Email: jacob.candelaria@nmlegis.gov

Senator Ron Griggs – (R)

District: 34
County: Dona Ana, Eddy & Otero
Senator Since: 2013
Occupation: Business Owner
Address: 2704 Birdie Loop
Alamogordo, NM 88310
Capitol Phone: 986-4276
Capitol Room #: 416B
Office Phone: (575) 439-1331
Home Phone:
Email: ron.griggs@nmlegis.gov

Senator Daniel A. Ivey-Soto – (D)

District: 15
County: Bernalillo
Senator Since: 2013
Occupation: Association Executive
Address: 1420 Carlisle Blvd. NE, Suite 208
Albuquerque, NM 87110-5662
Capitol Phone: 986-4270
Capitol Room #: 300B
Office Phone: (505) 881-4475
Home Phone:
Email: daniel.ivey-soto@nmlegis.gov

Senator Timothy M. Keller – (D)

District: 17
County: Bernalillo
Senator Since: 2009
Occupation: Businessman
Address: 11023 Vistazo Place SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123
Capitol Phone: 986-4726
Capitol Room #: 120
Office Phone: (505) 332-9441
Home Phone:
Email: tim.keller@nmlegis.gov

Senator Gay G. Kerman – (R)

District: 42
County: Chaves, Eddy, & Lea
Senator Since: 2002
Occupation: Educator
Address: 928 W Mesa Verde
Hobbs, NM 88240
Capitol Phone: 986-4274
Capitol Room #: 415E
Office Phone: (505) 629-8081
Home Phone:
Email: ggkern@valonet.com

Senator Craig W. Brandt – (R)

District: 40
County: Sandoval
Senator Since: 2013
Occupation: Clergy
Address: 7012 Tampico Road NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
Capitol Phone: 986-4267
Capitol Room #: 416F
Office Phone:
Home Phone: (505) 503-5001
Email: craig.brandt@nmlegis.gov