

**Observer Corps Report – Albuquerque City Council meeting
21 Oct/4 Nov 2024
Mary Mulvany/Janet Kirkpatrick**

All nine councilors were present at the 21 Oct and 4 Nov meetings: Louie Sanchez – District 1, Joaquin Baca – District 2, Klarissa Peña – District 3, Brook Bassan – District 4, Dan Lewis – District 5, Nichole Rogers – District 6, Tammy Fiebelkorn – District 7, Dan Champine – District 8, Renée Grout, District 9.

General Public Comment:

The Public Comment section of the 21 Oct meeting began at 8:25 p.m. This was after the council held a one hour and twenty minute executive session closed to the public, and after a half hour dinner break. During the Public Comment section 23 people spoke to protest the officer-involved shooting of Matthew Solo Garcia by an APD officer on 18 Oct at the Tewa Lodge on Central Ave. The speakers called for the release of all officer body camera footage and firing of the officers involved.

The Public Comment section of the 4 Nov meeting began at 6:37 p.m. Ten people spoke against a proposed update to the city's homeless encampment policy. According to the speakers the policy redefines the Priority 1 encampments in a way to apply to more encampments. Priority 1 encampments are those which are dismantled with the least notice to the inhabitants.

City Charter Review Task Force-Failed Veto Override

The Council passed a resolution at the 7 Oct meeting calling for creation of a City Charter Review Task Force. The resolution called for an eleven-member task force: one member selected by each city councilor, one at-large member selected by the City Council who would chair the task force, and one member appointed by the mayor. The vote was seven in favor (Bassan, Champine, Grout, Lewis, Peña, Rogers, Sanchez) and two opposed (Baca, Fiebelkorn). [R-24-85](#)

Mayor Keller vetoed this resolution, expressing that he supported the idea of establishing a 10-year task force to review the City Charter. However, he stated this resolution as written does not “maintain an appropriate balance between the geographic representation or legislative and executive branch obligations outlined in the current City Charter.” [EC-253](#)

The Council failed to override the veto at the 21 Oct meeting. The vote was five in favor of override (Bassan, Champine, Grout, Lewis, Sanchez) and four opposed (Baca, Fiebelkorn, Peña, Rogers).

LEDA (Local Economic Development Act) Funding Kairos Power LLC

At the 4 Nov meeting the Council voted to administer and disburse LEDA funding to Kairos Power, LLC. for the acquisition, renovation, development, and improvement of advanced energy technology research and development facilities, the addition of 100 new employees, and the operation of the facility within the City for a minimum of ten

years. The amount of the funding is \$3.5 million (\$3million from the State Economic Development Department, and \$500k from the city). Eight councilors voted for the measure (Baca, Bassan, Champine, Grout, Lewis, Peña, Rogers, Sanchez) and one voted against (Fiebelkorn). [O-24-51](#)

The Council had previously voted at the 16 Sept meeting to authorize issuance of an Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB) on behalf of Kairos Power LLC in the amount of \$300M. [O-24-45](#)