

**Observer Corps Report – Albuquerque City Council meeting
18 Nov/2 Dec 2024
Mary Mulvany/Janet Kirkpatrick**

All nine councilors were present at the 18 Nov. All councilors except Councilor Sanchez (who was excused) attended the 2 Dec meeting. Councilors: 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:

Twelve members of the public spoke at the 2 Dec meeting in protest of the 18 Oct officer-involved shooting of Matthew Solo Garcia at the Tewa Lodge on Central Ave. The speakers called for transparency, particular release of lapel camera video. Speakers called for accountability for Garcia’s family, who also spoke at the meeting.

City/County Boundary Area Advisory Committee

At the 18 Nov meeting the Council passed an ordinance to create an advisory committee consisting of representatives from the city, county, ABCWUA (water utility), AMAFCA (Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority), and MRGCD (Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District). The Boundary Area Advisory Committee will be responsible for creating processes to improve infrastructure and service delivery in areas with adjacent city and county jurisdictions. One public commenter suggested that problems with jurisdictional issues are not limited to city/county borders, but to other city/governmental entity borders as well. The measure passed by a vote of eight for (Baca, Champine, Fiebelkorn, Grout, Lewis, Peña, Rogers, Sanchez) and one opposed (Bassan). The mayor signed this bill. [O-24-49](#)

Required Written Responses to Admin Q&A

At the 18 Nov meeting the Council passed a bill requiring the administration to provide written responses to questions posed by council members during the Administration Question and Answer segment of council meetings. Councilors cited occasions on which they never received responses to questions they have asked. This bill requires a written response if the Administration is unable to answer a question during the meeting. The bill further requires responses to be published on a publicly accessible website. The vote passed by a seven (Baca, Bassan, Champine, Fiebelkorn, Grout, Lewis, Sanchez) to two (Peña, Rogers). The bill was not signed by the mayor, but because he did not veto it, it became effective. [O-24-50](#)

Social Media Policy

At the 18 Nov meeting the Council passed a resolution requiring the Administration to develop and implement a social media policy that ensures appropriate use of the city’s social media accounts. This is in response to reports that the police department’s public information officer has repeatedly engaged in unprofessional and inflammatory

communication through social media. This issue has been discussed at council meetings several times over the past year. The measure passed by a vote of eight in favor (Baca, Bassan, Champine, Grout, Lewis, Peña, Rogers, Sanchez) to one opposed (Fiebelkorn). [R-24-89](#)

Legislative Agenda Priorities

At the 18 Nov meeting the Council passed an ordinance which gives direction to coordinate the Council and Administration interactions in compiling the city's funding and other priorities for the state legislative session. The ordinance was signed by the mayor. [O-24-53](#)

It is evident that such a process improvement is needed because the legislative priorities list that was passed at the 2 Dec meeting was a laundry list of each councilor's priorities and a separate list from the mayor. There was no comprehensive list to narrow the wish lists into priorities. [OC-24-26](#) (Council's priorities). [EC-24-263](#) (Mayor's priorities).