

Observer Corps Report – Albuquerque City Council meeting

5 Jan 2026

Mary Mulvany/Janet Kirkpatrick

All Councilors attended the 5 Jan 2026 meeting: Stephanie Telles – 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

The council welcomed one new member: Stephanie Telles who replaces Louie Sanchez in District 1. The council elected Klarissa Pena as Council President and Dan Champine as Council Vice President.

General Public Comment

Speakers were allowed one minute for comment.

Nine members of the community spoke about proposed amendments to the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). The IDO amendments were not a part of this meeting's agenda. Five people spoke in favor of the amendments. Four people spoke in opposition, stating the process is flawed and lacks transparency.

Six speakers (including local author Brittany Means) called for a moratorium on the city's sweeps of homeless encampments in which people's belongings are discarded. One speaker pointed out that the sweeps have not led to a reduction in homelessness. Other speakers mentioned the lack of humanity in such actions and called for the city to make greater effort to bring services to unhoused people where they are.

Local Economic Development Act Funding

The council voted unanimously to approve a Project Participation Agreement between the City and Indus Synergies, to support completion of a Business Accelerator Enterprise located at Mesa Del Sol. The agreement includes \$5M in funding from the State Economic Development Department and \$750K in city funds. The legislation was sent to the mayor for signature. [O-25-106](#)