



Dear Neighbors and Friends of District 3,

***You may lose your City Council voice through redistricting!***

**Summary**

**One City Council District is moving to the West Side – will it be our District 3?** Our Downtown and UNM-area neighborhoods are a unique Community of Interest. We need a strong advocate for

- Protection and revitalization of historic neighborhoods,
- Attention to the urban infrastructure needs area – this is the oldest infrastructure needs area in the City
- Metropolitan Redevelopment issues that need careful Council oversight, such as Downtown, the Rail Yards, and El Vado/BioPark

**Take Action Now!**

**Redistricting Proposal Affects District 3**

For the last 10 years, population growth on the West Side has occurred, requiring an existing Council district to move. **It is being proposed that District 3 move to the West Side.** If that happens, our representation be diluted on the City Council and our neighborhoods will be divided into surrounding districts.

This is not about me personally, although I have fought for our historic neighborhoods and am willing to continue to serve you if you will have me. It is also not about Democrats vs. Republicans. Our City fathers intended our government to be non-partisan.

### How the Redistricting Proposal Affects You

Our adjoining city councilors can't properly represent their North Valley and Southeast Heights districts and also attend to the unique needs of our UNM and Downtown areas. Any odd-numbered district can be vacated and relocated; why the push that it be ours? I suspect it may have just looked easy on a map due to its adjacency to the southwest area.

Future projects and planning efforts like the ones we've worked on together in recent years are at risk! <http://www.cabq.gov/council/councilors/district-3/budget-highlights> and <http://www.cabq.gov/council/councilors/district-3/planning-efforts> .

### History of Redistricting Changes

After the 2000 census, a centrally-located Northeast Heights district was vacated and relocated to the West Side. The surrounding Northeast Heights council districts absorbed it without great effect. Its demographics and issues were not unique when compared to other Heights districts.

### Take Action!

If your voice matters to you, get involved! Do as many of the following as you can. **Use talking points from the Summary above.**

- Email or call other City Councilors:

Councilor Ken Sanchez	<a href="mailto:kensanchez@cabq.gov">kensanchez@cabq.gov</a>	768-3183
Councilor Debbie O'Malley	<a href="mailto:domalley@cabq.gov">domalley@cabq.gov</a>	768-3159
Councilor Brad Winter	<a href="mailto:bwinter@cabq.gov">bwinter@cabq.gov</a>	768-3101
Councilor Dan Lewis	<a href="mailto:danlewis@cabq.gov">danlewis@cabq.gov</a>	768-3189
Councilor Rey Garduño	<a href="mailto:reygarduno@cabq.gov">reygarduno@cabq.gov</a>	768-3152
Councilor Michael Cook	<a href="mailto:mcook@cabq.gov">mcook@cabq.gov</a>	768-3136
Councilor Trudy Jones	<a href="mailto:trudyjones@cabq.gov">trudyjones@cabq.gov</a>	768-3106
Councilor Don Harris	<a href="mailto:dharris@cabq.gov">dharris@cabq.gov</a>	768-3123
- Attend City Council meetings when redistricting will be discussed and speak during public comment (more information to follow as these meetings are scheduled in November).
- Talk to your neighbors and forward this information.
- Start a petition. Send signed petitions to:  
Clerk of Council  
Albuquerque City Council  
P.O. Box 1293  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
or  
[cortega@cabq.gov](mailto:cortega@cabq.gov)
- Write letters to the editor:  
<http://www.abqjournal.com/letters/new>  
[letters@alibi.com](mailto:letters@alibi.com) (include name, address, daytime phone number)

Please do not hesitate to contact my Policy Analyst, Diane Dolan at 768-3186 or [ddolan@cabq.gov](mailto:ddolan@cabq.gov) if you have questions.

Yours for our District,  
City Councilor Isaac Benton