

# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

## NINETEENTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY:

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### RESOLUTION

AMENDING THE WEST SIDE STRATEGIC PLAN BY ADDING A NEW SECTION FOR THE “VOLCANO MESA AREA” TO SECTION 3, “SPECIFIC WESTSIDE COMMUNITIES.”

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority to adopt and amend Rank II Area Plans; and

WHEREAS, in 1997 the City of Albuquerque first adopted the *West Side Strategic Plan* and then republished it in 2005 with a compilation of amendments; and

WHEREAS, the *West Side Strategic Plan* currently lacks guidance regarding future, comprehensive development of the Volcano Mesa Area, an area of approximately 3,532 acres that is roughly bounded by the Petroglyph National Monument on the east, west, and south and by Paseo del Norte and the grant line on the north; and

WHEREAS, this amendment to the *West Side Strategic Plan* is intended to provide policy direction for future development in the Volcano Mesa Area, specifically on the issues of development trends, environment and open space, and transportation and transit; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of this amendment is to establish area-wide policies to inform sector-level land uses and zoning in order to conserve and protect the unique character of the area; and

WHEREAS, this amendment proposes the designation of a new Major Activity Center and a new Neighborhood Activity Center within the Volcano Mesa Area to help concentrate high- and moderate-density mixed land use and social and economic activities to reduce suburban sprawl, reliance on single-occupancy vehicular travel, and service-delivery costs; and

1           WHEREAS, this amendment supports and furthers the following applicable  
2 goals and policies of the *Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan*:  
3 Section II.B.1, Open Space, Policies c, f, and j; Section II.B.2, Reserve Area;  
4 Section II.B.5, Developing and Established Urban Areas, Policies c, e, f, g, i, k, m,  
5 and n; Section II.B.7, Activity Centers, Policies c and e; Section II.C.6,  
6 Archaeological Resources, Policy c; Section II.C.9., Community Identity and  
7 Urban Design, Policies b, c, and e; and Section II.D.6, Economic Development,  
8 Policies a and g; and

9           WHEREAS, this amendment supports the following policies in the *West*  
10 *Side Strategic Plan*: Policies 1.1 (Distinct Communities), 1.9 (Designation of  
11 Neighborhood and Community Activity Centers), 1.14 (Community Activity Center  
12 access), 1.16 (Location of Neighborhood Activity Centers), and 1.18 (Mixed-Use  
13 Development in Community Activity Centers); and

14           WHEREAS, this amendment supports the following policies in the  
15 *Northwest Mesa Escarpment Plan*: Policies, 12 (“Structures shall not block views  
16 of the escarpment or visually contrast with the natural environment.”), 20 (“The  
17 predominant colors used on structures within the view area shall blend with the  
18 natural colors of the mesa.”), 21 (“Structures above and below the escarpment  
19 shall not dominate views of the escarpment from the east side.”), and 23 (“A  
20 system of recreational pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trails related to the  
21 escarpment shall be provided on the northwest mesa, including linkages to other  
22 northwest mesa features.”). These policies are supported through Section B.2  
23 and Policies 3.99, 3.112, and 3.113 of this amendment; and

24           WHEREAS, this amendment supports the intent of the *Rank II Trails and*  
25 *Bikeways Facility Plan*, including the Proposed Trail Map on page 22 of that plan,  
26 through the expansion of the trail network in the Volcano Mesa Area; and

27           WHEREAS, this amendment supports the *Rank II Facility Plan for Electric*  
28 *Service Transmission and Subtransmission Facilities* through the addition of  
29 language to address utility easements, landscaping, and access to public utility  
30 facilities; and

31           WHEREAS, this amendment supports the following policies of the *Rank II*  
32 *City of Albuquerque Major Public Open Space Facility Plan*: Section Two, Policies  
33 B.2.G (public access to trails) and B.2.K (coordination of trail access points);

1 Section Three, Figure 4-1 (West Side Major Public Open Space map) and Policy  
2 C.3 (consistency with the requirements of the Northwest Mesa Escarpment Plan).  
3 These policies are supported through Policies 3.102 through 3.108 of this  
4 amendment; and

5 WHEREAS, this amendment, through Exhibits 2 and 5 and Policy 3.98,  
6 supports the *Rank II Facility Plan for Arroyos: Multiple Use of Albuquerque's*  
7 *Arroyos and Floodplains*, Policies II.B – Drainage 1 (Primacy of Drainage  
8 Function) and Multiple Use 1 (Encouraging Multiple Use), II.C.3 (Major Open  
9 Space Arroyos – Drainage Controls for Adjacent Development), II.D.2 (Major Open  
10 Space Links – Trail Development), and II.F.4 (Design Guidelines – Walls); and

11 WHEREAS, the Environmental Planning Commission found that this  
12 amendment to the *West Side Strategic Plan* is not in conflict with any applicable  
13 plans, including the *Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan*; and

14 WHEREAS, on November 4, 2010, the Environmental Planning  
15 Commission, in its advisory role on land use and planning matters,  
16 recommended to the City Council approval of this amendment to the *West Side*  
17 *Strategic Plan* with conditions.

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF  
19 ALBUQUERQUE:

20 Section 1. The *West Side Strategic Plan* is hereby amended to add a new  
21 section for the “Volcano Mesa Area,” attached hereto as Exhibit A, to Section 3,  
22 “Specific Westside Communities.”

23 Section 2. Severability Clause. If any section, paragraph, sentence,  
24 clause, word or phrase of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or  
25 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not  
26 affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this resolution. The council  
27 hereby declares that it would have passed this resolution and each section,  
28 paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of any  
29 provisions being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

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