EC-26-99

# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

## Albuquerque, New Mexico

### Office of the Mayor

Mayor Timothy M. Keller

**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM** January 27, 2026

**TO:** Klarissa J. Peña, President, City Council

**FROM:** Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

**SUBJECT:** Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 Annual Report

The Albuquerque Energy Council has developed and published its FY 2025 annual report. Once again, the alliance between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council has demonstrated positive energy conservation results by way of effective planning and implementation of energy conservation projects. The Albuquerque Energy Council and the City have worked in unison on renewable projects. These projects are improving the daily lives of the public by way of lowering utility costs as well as lowering carbon emissions and reducing our reliance on coal burning power plants for electric energy.

We are once again proud to present the annual report to the Albuquerque City Council as a demonstration of a successful relationship between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council.

Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 Annual Report

Approved: Approved as to Legal Form:

Samantha Sengel 3/30/26

DocuSigned by: Lauren Keefe 1A21D96D32C74EE... 3/30/2026 | 12:48 PM MDT

Samantha Sengel Date
Chief Administrative Officer

Lauren Keefe Date
City Attorney

Recommended:

DocuSigned by: Nathan Martinez EAFFE6F4575C4C5... 3/25/2026 | 10:09 AM MDT

Nathan Martinez Date
Director

**Cover Analysis**

1. **What is it?**
    a. **Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 annual report.**

2. **What will this piece of legislation do?**
    a. **This is simply a communication from the Albuquerque Energy Council.**

3. **Why is this project needed?**
    a. **This report is a demonstration of the working relationship and commitment by the city of achieve the highest level of energy efficiency possible.**

4. **How much will it cost and what is the funding source?**
    a. **Every bond cycles the 3% for energy conservation. GO Bond fund is funded with 3% of the cumulative GO Bond total. The Albuquerque Energy Council reviews the energy projects for accountability.**

5. **Is there a revenue source associated with this contract? If so, what level of income is projected?**
    a. **3% GO Bond**

6. **What will happen if the project is not approved?**
    a. **These energy projects provide savings to city operations by reducing energy costs and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Albuquerque.**

7. **Is this service already provided by another entity?**
    a. **Not at this time, the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council are the only alliance that exists for energy conservation and renewable energy projects for the City of Albuquerque.**

# ALBUQUERQUE ENERGY COUNCIL

## FY 2025 Annual Report

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Albuquerque Energy Council

# THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE ENERGY COUNCIL

Established in 2003, the City of Albuquerque Energy Council (AEC) serves as an advisory committee comprised of professionals in the energy and environmental areas. The committee has responsibility for working with City staff to affect energy conservation programs within the residential, commercial, industrial, city government, energy conservation interest groups, transportation, and utility sectors of the community.

Part of the AEC's responsibilities includes oversight of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) monies for energy conservation projects. In 2001, the City of Albuquerque provided a 1 percent set aside for energy conservation and renewable energy capital improvements. This amount was increased to 3 percent in 2007. Energy conservation projects must adhere to strict guidelines to ensure their cost-effectiveness. The return on investment of the CIP set aside funds must be below the life expectancy of the equipment.

The previous investment made by the City of Albuquerque to fund energy projects has been highly effective in reducing the City's energy use and operating costs at City facilities. Since early in the program, the city has accomplished the following.

Albuquerque
Energy Council

### City of Albuquerque Energy Council Members (FY 2025)

- Adam Harper, OE Solar
- Carlos Lucero, PNM
- Danyel Kahumoku, ICF
- Gabriel Pacyniak, University of New Mexico School of Law
- Dr. Linda Sapochak, retired Chemist
- Samantha Salazar, Center for Civic Policy
- Susan Altman, Sandia National Laboratories
- Tara Trafton, Energy Systems Group
- Tom Quirk, Sandia National Laboratories

### City of Albuquerque Staff

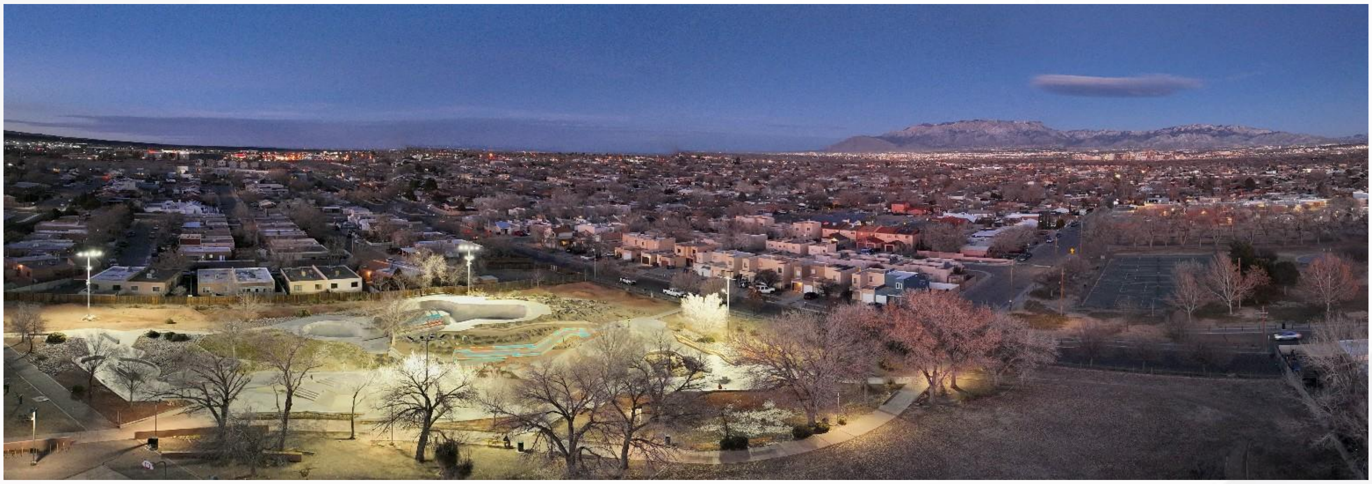
- Saif Ismail, Energy and Sustainability Division Manager, Department of General Services
- Judy Soto, Energy & Sustainability Accountant II
- Nelson Montoya, Construction Project Manager
- Michael Aultman, Building Automated System Specialist
- Michael Nguyen, System Analyst
- Muhamed Abdel-Hack, Energy Specialist

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT THE CITY

Hundreds of energy-saving projects have been completed since an original 1 percent, then the increased 3 percent set aside, was put into place in the city. In the past two years, these projects have resulted in over 220,000 kWh savings of electricity; since the program's inception, the city has saved more than 855,000 kWh savings of electricity.

In this report, the AEC highlights a few recently completed projects that are excellent examples of initiatives that are reducing the City's energy use, saving the city money (ultimately saving taxpayer money), and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to protect the environment. Table 1 lists the savings of various gas, water meter, lighting (LED upgrades), automated HVAC, and solar projects for FY 2025. The total savings and rebates are approximately $840,000.

These projects represent a collaborative effort from the City Government, Utility Providers, Entities, etc. to enhance city infrastructure while reducing utility expenditures. Continued investments in smart systems, clean energy, and conservation measures will yield long-term savings and sustainability.



Albuquerque Energy Council

**Table 1:** Cost savings from various gas saving, water meter, lighting upgrade and controls and building automation projects in FY 2025

| Project Names | FY 25 Savings |
|---|---|
| **Gas Savings Projects** | |
| APD & 401 Marquette | $ 8,636 |
| Balloon Museum | $ 738 |
| Law Enforcement Center | $ 10,616 |
| Sustainability & Energy Management (SEM) Initiatives Savings* | $ 134,153 |
| **Total** | **$ 154,143** |
| | |
| **Water Meter Savings Projects** | |
| ABQ Convention Center | $ 67,723 |
| Alvarado Urban Farm | $ 3,020 |
| Balloon Fiesta RV Parking Building | $ 8,976 |
| City Transit Center | $ 3,020 |
| Department of Municipal Development (DMD) Drainage – Paseo Alameda | $ 29,649 |
| DMD Lift Station 32 | $ 3,020 |
| DMD Parking Facilities | $ 40,517 |
| Joan Jones Community Center | $ 3,020 |
| John Marshal Health and Social Service Center | $ 6,017 |
| Johnny Tapia Community Center | $ 8,976 |
| Montano Storm Station 47 | $ 37,710 |
| North Valley Senior Center | $ 3,020 |
| Rail Runner Station - Montano | $ 17,580 |
| Railyards Market | $ 67,723 |
| Zoo Annex Building | $ 4,851 |
| **Total** | **$ 304,822** |
| | |

Albuquerque Energy Council

| LED Lighting Projects | |
|---|---|
| 6th Floor Senior Affairs lighting upgrade | $ 1,599 |
| AFR Fleet | $ 3,260 |
| AFR logistics/2nd St | $ 4,411 |
| AFR Station 1 | $ 20,215 |
| Alamosa Community Center (Exterior) | $ 5,036 |
| Alamosa Parking Lot | $ 3,699 |
| Alamosa Skate Park | $ 9,570 |
| Barelas Community Center | $ 8,653 |
| Barelas Softball Parking | $ 3,083 |
| Civic Plaza Play Ground Lighting | $ 801 |
| Duke City BMX Park | $ 6,237 |
| Greenhouse | $ 1,567 |
| Herman Sanchez Community Center | $ 11,636 |
| Highland Pool | $ 1,056 |
| Highland Senior Center | $ 13,269 |
| Krogh Park | $ 1,321 |
| Los Altos Skate Park | $ 4,831 |
| North Domingo Baca Park and Walkway | $ 5,924 |
| North Domingo Baca Park Playground | $ 3,260 |
| North Valley Senior Center (Interior) | $ 16,770 |
| Northeast Area Command | $ 13,711 |
| Northwest Modular Skate Park | $ 3,581 |
| Palo Duro Senior Center | $ 19,797 |
| Pino Yard lighting upgrade to PNM poles | $ 3,700 |
| Santa Barbara Multigenerational Center Park Exterior Lighting | $ 2,729 |
| Taylor Ranch Community Center | $ 17,180 |
| Tingley Park | $ 3,841 |
| Tower Skate Park | $ 1,953 |
| Valley APD Command (Exterior Campus) | $ 20,400 |

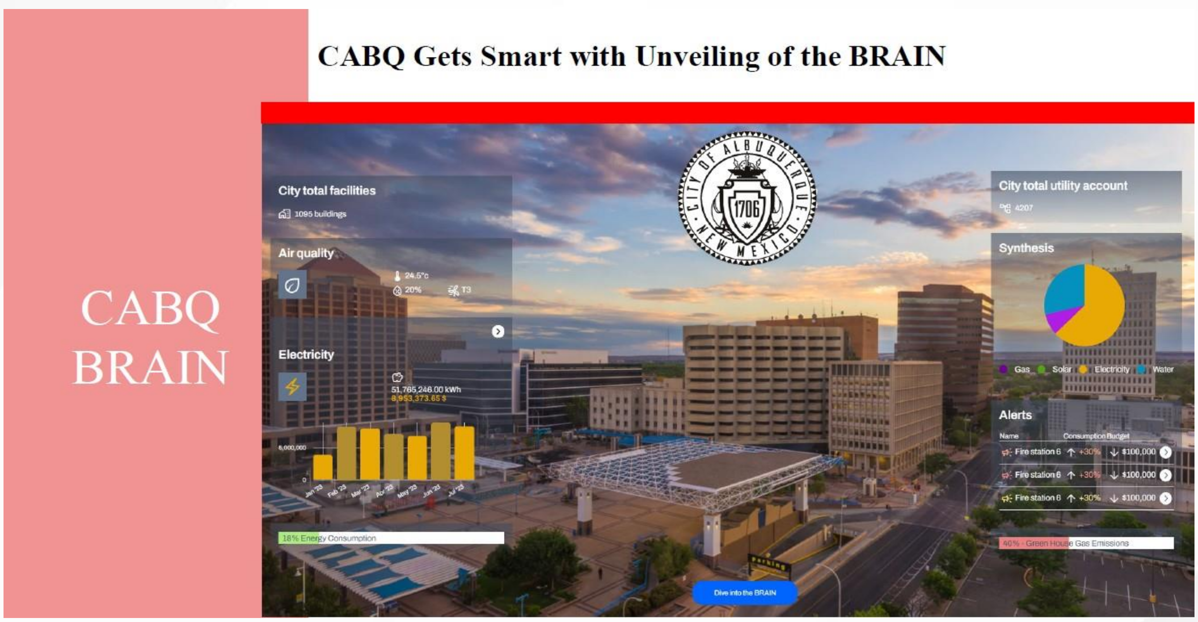
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Valley APD Command (Interior) | $ | 12,170 |
| West Mesa Community Center Lighting | $ | 7,235 |
| **Total** | **$** | **232,495** |
| | | |
| **Automated HVAC Project Savings** | | |
| APD Metro Forensics Science Center | $ | 20,356 |
| AWD Eastside Animal Shelter | $ | 3,266 |
| DMD Plaza Del Sol | $ | 29,056 |
| Transit Daytona Transit Facility | $ | 20,524 |
| **Total** | **$** | **73,202** |
| | | |
| **Solar Project Savings** | | |
| Gateway Center | $ | 75,000 |

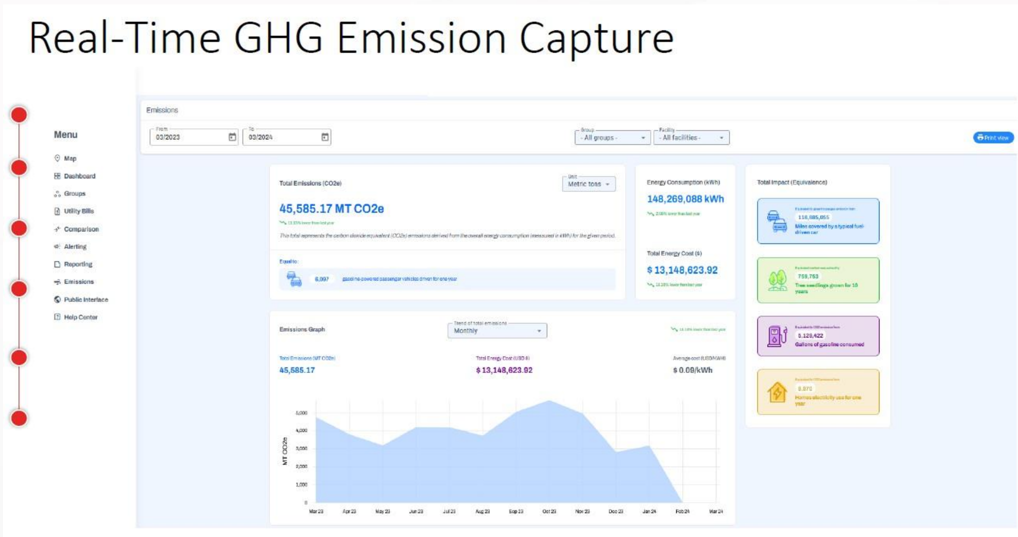
***Participating Facilities increasing energy savings by optimizing systems and reducing waste**

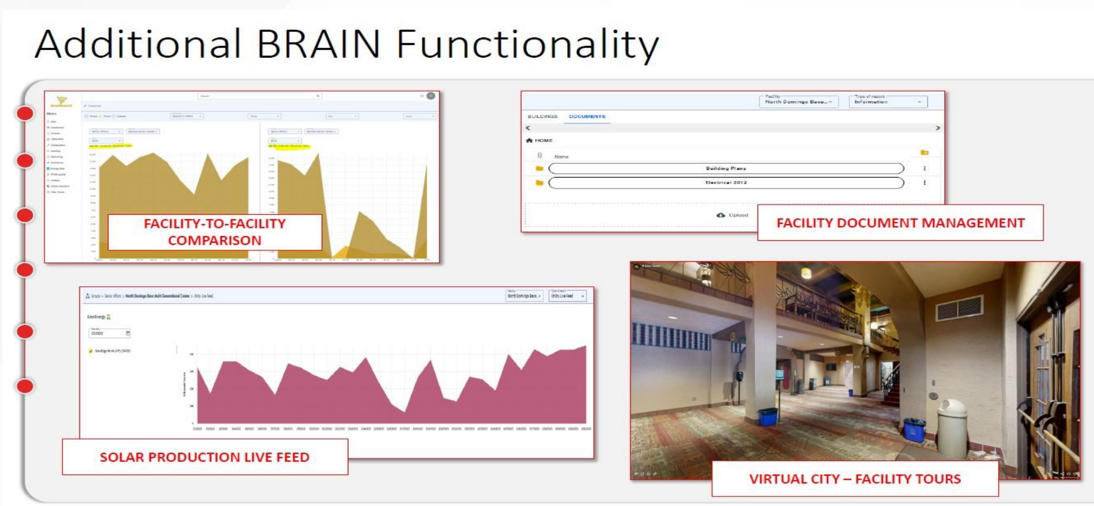
## Balanced Resource Acquisition Information Network (BRAIN)

In 2021, the City of Albuquerque's Energy and Sustainability Management Division (ESMD) and the State of New Mexico's Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) partnered to establish the Balanced Resource Acquisition and Information Network (BRAIN). This initiative is designed to create a centralized data platform that integrates real-time and historical utility data to improve visibility, flexibility, and responsiveness across CABQ facilities.

The BRAIN will support participation in demand-side energy programs, enhance coordination with PNM during peak demand events, and enable future integration of dispatchable energy resources. The long-term vision includes an integrated data lake, machine-learning predictive models, and user-friendly dashboards for both internal operations and public transparency. The platform is built to be scalable and replicable, allowing other public agencies in New Mexico to adopt similar capabilities within their secure environments.






### The Future of Energy Savings at the City of Albuquerque

The City of Albuquerque has a roadmap to achieve a 100% Renewable goal by 2025. City staff is currently working on building efficiency and renewable projects as well as implementing smart building technologies which would impact all City government facilities.

# AEC Recommendation – Increase The CIP Set Aside to 5%

The Albuquerque Energy Council (AEC) strongly recommends increasing the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) set-aside for energy conservation and infrastructure modernization from 3% to 5%. This targeted investment will drive significant, recurring cost savings for the city—enabling Albuquerque to strengthen essential services, harden its infrastructure, and support public safety and first responders, all without raising taxes or fees. Since 2006, energy and infrastructure projects funded through the CIP set-aside have saved Albuquerque millions of dollars and reduced ongoing utility and maintenance costs across City departments. These savings go straight back into the City's General Fund, creating flexibility to fund public safety, street repair, parks, and other core priorities.

## Why increase to 5%?

With rising energy costs, new facility demands, and increasing risks from natural and man-made disasters, the current 3% allocation is no longer sufficient to deliver the level of resilience and reliability our community expects. Raising the set-aside will allow the city to make timely upgrades—such as advanced building controls, backup power, and facility hardening—ensuring that vital resources like emergency responders and community centers remain operational when Albuquerque needs them most. These investments also position the city to better withstand grid failures, extreme weather, and cyber threats, all while improving budget stability for years to come.

## Key Financial and Operational Benefits:

- Major Cost Savings: Past CIP projects have yielded millions in avoided utility and maintenance costs—funds that are reallocated to other departments and services.
- No New Taxes or Fees: Savings from energy and facility upgrades allow the city to invest in core services, protect jobs, and improve amenities, without burdening taxpayers.
- Infrastructure Resilience: New funding will strengthen critical buildings—such as public safety and emergency operations—ensuring continuity of service during blackouts or emergencies.

- Support for First Responders: Facilities that serve police, fire, and EMS will receive priority for upgrades like backup power, modern controls, and improved security, maximizing readiness and response capability.
- Operational Reliability: City facilities will become more dependable, reducing service disruptions and costly repairs.
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### With a 5% set-aside, the City will:

- Install backup power (AC coupled batteries, microgrids) to keep services running during power outages or disasters.
- Enhance facility security and reliability against both physical and cyber threats.
- Free up additional operating budget to be redirected to other critical needs—including public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and community services—year after year.
- Address district-specific priorities surfaced in an upcoming AEC-led listening tour (more below), ensuring investments match real community needs.

### Why Vote Yes?

Raising the CIP set-aside to 5% is a proven, fiscally responsible way to lower operating costs, make City infrastructure disaster-ready, and support first responders—while protecting taxpayers from future utility rate hikes and emergency repairs. Every dollar invested returns value year after year, strengthening Albuquerque's services and public safety without increasing taxes or fees.

## AEC Future Action

### Community Engagement & Listening Tour

Beginning with a formal Council presentation in Q1 2026, the AEC and City Councilors will engage each district in a listening tour to identify facility needs and infrastructure priorities. These sessions will focus on where energy and modernization projects can most effectively improve public safety, emergency readiness, and City operations. Community and councilor feedback will directly inform which projects receive funding. To ensure every project delivers measurable value, the AEC will launch a citywide district listening tour in partnership with City Councilors. This transparent process will identify high-impact opportunities in every part of Albuquerque, prioritize critical infrastructure, and guarantee accountability to taxpayers. All input will be integrated into the final round of project recommendations, with funding allocations presented in Summer 2026 for Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam T. Harper, Chair
Albuquerque Energy Council