

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-24-80 ENACTMENT NO. R-2024-013

SPONSORED BY: Klarissa J. Peña

1 RESOLUTION

2 DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE AN ACTION PLAN TO
3 ENSURE LOCAL POLICIES ARE PRIORITIZING THE BEST INTERESTS OF
4 CHILDREN AND YOUTHS.

5 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque recognizes the importance of creating
6 a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all its residents, including
7 children and young people; and

8 WHEREAS, children and young people represent the future of
9 Albuquerque, and their well-being is critical to the long-term prosperity and
10 vibrancy of the City; and

11 WHEREAS, an age-friendly City plan specifically designed for children and
12 young people can enhance their quality of life, promote their physical and
13 mental health, and ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the UNICEF USA Child-Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) provides
16 a child rights framework aimed at integrating the rights, voices, needs, and
17 priorities of children into public policies, programs, and decisions, ensuring
18 communities are truly child-friendly; and

19 WHEREAS, the CFCI framework emphasizes five priority areas for child-
20 friendly communities: safety and inclusion, children's participation, equitable
21 social services, safe living environments, and opportunities for play and
22 leisure; and

23 WHEREAS, Albuquerque's commitment to becoming a Child-Friendly City
24 aligns with global best practices and frameworks such as those outlined by
25 the UNICEF USA CFCI, promoting the safety, health, and happiness of children
26 and young people; and

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1 **WHEREAS, the development of an age-friendly City plan will involve**
2 **sustainable mechanisms for meaningful child and youth participation,**
3 **enhancing their awareness of rights and encouraging civic engagement; and**

4 **WHEREAS, implementing child-friendly governance strategies such as**
5 **appointing advocates for children, establishing coordinating units, and**
6 **ensuring child-responsive budgeting and policy-making will significantly**
7 **improve the well-being of Albuquerque's youth; and**

8 **WHEREAS, the active involvement of children and young people in the**
9 **planning process will empower them, ensure their needs and priorities are**
10 **heard, and foster a sense of community and belonging; and**

11 **WHEREAS, creating a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for**
12 **young residents will enhance their overall quality of life, promote healthy**
13 **development, and contribute to the City's long-term prosperity and social**
14 **cohesion.**

15 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**
16 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

17 **SECTION 1. The City Administration shall develop and administer a**
18 **comprehensive Child-Friendly Community Plan in alignment with the UNICEF**
19 **USA Child-Friendly Cities Initiative framework, incorporating the principles of**
20 **child rights and prioritizing safety, inclusion, participation, equitable services,**
21 **and opportunities for play and leisure, including:**

22 **A. Developing and implementing a Child-Friendly Community Plan,**
23 **ensuring coordination across departments and with community stakeholders.**

24 **B. Ensuring meaningful child and youth participation in the planning**
25 **process through community meetings, workshops, and/or advisory councils**
26 **to ensure their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.**

27 **C. Integrating child-responsive budgeting and policy-making practices**
28 **across all City departments to prioritize investments in programs and**
29 **infrastructure that benefit children and young people.**

30 **D. Collaborating with local schools, community organizations, parents, and**
31 **youth groups to support the implementation of the plan and leverage**
32 **community resources and expertise.**

33 **E. Tracking and biannually reporting progress to the City Council on the**

1 development and implementation of the Child-Friendly Community Plan,
2 including milestones, challenges, and outcomes, to ensure transparency and
3 accountability.

4 SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, paragraph, sentence,
5 clause, word, or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid
6 or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall
7 not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Resolution. The
8 Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution and each
9 section, paragraph, sentence, clause, word, or phrase thereof irrespective of
10 any provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

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1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF October, 2024
2 BY A VOTE OF: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST.

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10 Dan Lewis, President
11 City Council

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14 APPROVED THIS 15 DAY OF October, 2024

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18 Bill No. R-24-80

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22 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor
23 City of Albuquerque

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26 ATTEST:

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28 _____
29 Ethan Watson, City Clerk

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