

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-25-183 ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY: Dan Lewis

1

### RESOLUTION

2     ESTABLISHING AN EMERGENCY PARKS GRASS AND TURF REPLACEMENT  
3     FUNDING SOURCE TO ADDRESS THE DYING TURF GRASS IN PARKS CITY-  
4     WIDE.

5       WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque recognizes that its system of  
6     neighborhood and regional parks is one of the community's most visible and  
7     frequently used public assets; and

8       WHEREAS, much of the turf grass in the City's parks show signs of  
9     significant deterioration, including large swaths of grass dying in parks City-  
10    wide; and

11       WHEREAS, investment in the systematic restoration and enhancement of  
12    parks, especially grass areas, is essential to protect these public assets,  
13    ensuring that residents of all ages and abilities have equitable access to safe,  
14    functional, and attractive recreational green spaces; and

15       WHEREAS, the City wants to avoid the total replacement of additional turf  
16    grass areas which would cost more, and take those parks offline for at least a  
17    year; and

18       WHEREAS, City parks are being overrun with weeds, including silverleaf  
19    nightshade, spurge and puncture vines; and

20       WHEREAS, the City Council has repeatedly identified concerns with the  
21    Parks and Recreation Department's capacity to adequately address park turf  
22    grass deterioration through its existing resources and operational framework;  
23    and

24       WHEREAS, during the FY26 budget hearings, the administration testified  
25    their departmental budget was adequate, yet the visible and ongoing decline  
26    of City parks, especially the dying grass, demonstrates this statement was

[Bracketed/Underlined Material] - New  
[Bracketed/Strikethrough Material] - Deletion

1 inaccurate and misleading, leaving the Council without a credible plan to  
2 restore these vital public spaces; and

3 WHEREAS, the absence of an intentional, dedicated strategy for restoring  
4 and enhancing the grass and turf areas has contributed to a growing backlog  
5 of needs; and

6 WHEREAS, without targeted investment in park restoration and renovation,  
7 the City risks further decline in the quality and safety of public parks,  
8 undermining community trust and diminishing the long-term value of these  
9 critical public amenities; and

10 WHEREAS, establishing an emergency Parks grass and turf replacement  
11 funding source will ensure a dedicated and transparent process for allocating  
12 resources to restore dying grass areas in City Parks for current and future  
13 generations.

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

16 **SECTION 1.** Following the finalization of Fiscal Year 2025 financial reports,  
17 no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) of fund balance shall be  
18 appropriated to an emergency Parks grass and turf replacement project.

19 **SECTION 2.** The Mayor's Administration shall establish and execute an  
20 emergency Parks grass and turf replacement project, dedicated to revitalizing  
21 and enhancing City parks through targeted planning.

22 The scope of the project is to renovate, rehabilitate, restore, and  
23 reconstruct existing City parks grass and turf areas for the purpose of  
24 improving their appearance and public usability.

25 **SECTION 3. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.** The funds appropriated pursuant to  
26 Section 1 of this Resolution shall be distributed equally among the three (3)  
27 Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) operations/maintenance areas. Each  
28 area shall receive one third of the available funding.

29 **SECTION 4. REPORTING.** The Mayor's Administration shall provide a  
30 written report, in the form of an Executive Communication, to the City Council  
31 by December 1, 2025, detailing the project, parks in order of priority, budget  
32 allocations, and implementation timelines. Monthly updates shall be provided  
33 thereafter until funds are expended by Executive Communication.

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

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

[Bracketed/Uncrossed Material] - New  
[Bracketed/Crossed Material] - Deletion