

# **CITY of ALBUQUERQUE**

## **TWENTY FIFTH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL BILL NO. R-23-183 ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**SPONSORED BY: Isaac Benton, Tammy Fiebelkorn, Renée Grout**

**1 RESOLUTION**

**2 REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TO**  
**3 PLAN, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCT AN OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL SPACE AT**  
**4 THE WESTSIDE EMERGENCY HOUSING CENTER. PROVIDING AN**  
**5 APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT.**

**6 WHEREAS, homelessness is a pressing and ongoing issue affecting**  
**7 individuals and families in our community, and it is our moral and social**  
**8 responsibility to address this crisis effectively; and**

**9 WHEREAS, the largest homeless shelter in our community, the Westside**  
**10 Emergency Housing Center (WEHC), has been serving those in need for many**  
**11 years, but it is in need of significant improvements to better meet the basic**  
**12 needs and safety of its residents; and**

**13 WHEREAS, a safe and supportive shelter environment is essential to help**  
**14 individuals experiencing homelessness regain their stability and work towards**  
**15 self-sufficiency; and**

**16 WHEREAS, the recent economic challenges and unforeseen circumstances**  
**17 have led to an increase in the number of people seeking shelter and services,**  
**18 making it crucial to enhance our shelter facilities; and**

**19 WHEREAS, investing in the WEHC is a long-term solution that can contribute**  
**20 to improving the quality of life for all residents; and**

**21 WHEREAS, every person who lives in Albuquerque deserves a safe and**  
**22 inviting outdoor recreational space to improve their physical and mental well-**  
**23 being; and**

**24 WHEREAS, creating an improved outdoor recreational space is an**  
**25 opportunity to foster a sense of community, belonging, and hope among shelter**  
**26 residents, which can be a crucial element in their journey toward stability and**  
**27 self-sufficiency; and**

1       WHEREAS. Enhancing the outdoor recreational space of the WEHC aligns  
2 with our commitment to providing holistic and comprehensive support to those  
3 in need, recognizing that their well-being extends beyond just shelter and food;  
4 and

5       WHEREAS, by investing in the outdoor recreational space at the WEHC, we  
6 are investing in the resilience and potential of individuals experiencing  
7 homelessness, which will contribute to their ability to transition into stable  
8 housing and employment; and

9       WHEREAS, it is our responsibility to create a shelter environment that not  
10 only provides for the basic needs of residents, but also supports their personal  
11 growth, social connections, and future opportunities.

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF  
13 ALBUQUERQUE:

14       SECTION 1. The Department of Family and Community Services is directed  
15 to plan, design, and construct an outdoor recreational space at the Westside  
16 Emergency Housing Center (WHEC) with the following objectives:

- 17       1. To create a safe and welcoming environment that promotes the well-  
18       being and social interaction of shelter residents.
- 19       2. To provide facilities and amenities suitable for recreational activities,  
20       exercise, relaxation, and community gatherings.
- 21       3. To ensure adequate outdoor shade and seating, making the space  
22       suitable for year-round use for shelter residents.
- 23       4. To provide spaces for pets of WEHC residents to exercise.
- 24       5. To ensure the outdoor space is accessible to all shelter residents,  
25       including those with disabilities.

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