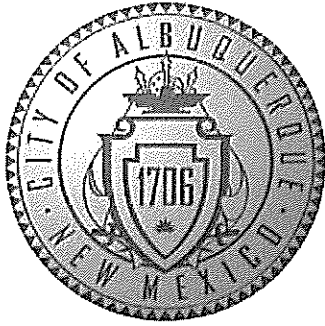


EC-25-341



**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico**  
**Office of the Mayor**

Mayor Timothy M. Keller

**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

March 7, 2025

**TO:** Brook Bassan, President, City Council

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




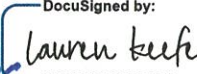
**SUBJECT:** Age-Friendly Quarterly Update for Q2 FY 2025

The Department of Senior Affairs was directed by Resolution No. R-21-221 to provide quarterly updates regarding the Department's efforts to determine the internal staffing capacity and needs for implementing and executing the Age Friendly Action Plan; to build relationships and investment from community groups and organizations across the city; and to work across city departments to identify policy or programmatic change opportunities to meet the needs of Albuquerque's aging population.


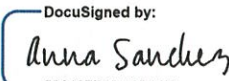
TITLE/SUBJECT OF LITIGATION: Age-Friendly Quarterly Update for Q2 FY2025

Approved:

Approved as to Legal Form:

 Samantha Sengel Chief Administrative Officer	<u>3/11/25</u> Date	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  Lauren Keefe City Attorney	<u>3/10/2025   1:58 PM MDT</u> Date
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Recommended:

	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  Anna M. Sanchez Director	<u>3/10/2025   10:23 AM MDT</u> Date
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## **Cover Analysis**

### **1. What is it?**

The Department of Senior Affairs' Age-Friendly Report covers the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025 and includes a summary of DSA's work to evaluate operations, programs and services and build relationships internally and with community groups and organizations across the City to identify policy or programmatic change opportunities to meet the needs of Albuquerque's aging population.

### **2. What will this piece of legislation do?**

Report the status of the Department of Senior Affairs' efforts to support the aging population from October to December 2024.

### **3. Why is this project needed?**

This update is in response to Resolution No. R-21-221 to provide quarterly reports to the City Council regarding the Albuquerque Age-Friendly Action Plan and to direct the City of Albuquerque's Department of Senior Affairs to plan and identify ways to support Albuquerque's aging population.

### **4. How much will it cost and what is the funding source?**

None.

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

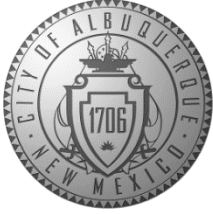
There is no revenue source associated with this legislation. This legislation is for informational purposes only.

### **6. What will happen if the project is not approved?**

N/A

### **7. Is this service already provided by another entity?**

No.



# City of Albuquerque


## Department of Senior Affairs

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

### Memorandum

March 3, 2025

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Anna Sanchez, Director, Senior Affairs 

**SUBJECT:** Department of Senior Affairs - Quarterly Update (FY25 Q2)

In accordance with Resolution No. R-21-221, the Department of Senior Affairs is providing this quarterly update regarding the Department's efforts to assess the current internal capacity in determining staffing needs for implementing and executing the Age Friendly Action Plan; to build relationships and investment from community groups and organizations across the city; and to work across city departments to identify policy or programmatic change opportunities to meet the needs of Albuquerque's aging population. This update reflects work conducted from October to December 2024.

#### **Building a Team of Age-Friendly Advocates:**

In October, the Department of Senior Affairs hosted the second annual Age-Friendly Summit. The theme of this year's summit focused on Housing Equity and featured a keynote address from Jade Aguilar, Ph.D. and Taylor Burton of ECONorthwest, a public policy research group focused on issues of equitable communities, affordable housing and land use. ECONorthwest, through a technical assistance grant from AARP in 2023, worked with the Age-Friendly Action Committee on the development of an Albuquerque specific housing equity presentation. DSA secured a second technical assistance grant that allowed for Dr. Aguilar and Ms. Burton to deliver the presentation in person at the summit.

As we understand the impacts of historical and current policy on housing equity, it is important to recognize how housing equity intersects with planning and economic development. The Age-Friendly Summit also brought speakers from the City's Office of Equity and Inclusion, Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency and Planning Departments to spotlight their work in creating a more equitable community through their initiatives and programs. Additionally, New Mexico NEW, a program of Central New Mexico Ingenuity, presented on the importance of continued education and training for older adults. Nearly **80 participants from the community, City departments and City Council** attended the summit which was held at the Veterans' Memorial and Museum. Feedback from the participants indicated a high level of satisfaction with the event and interest in continuing the equity conversation.

Also in this second quarter, DSA staff and Age-Friendly Action Committee members connected with various organizations to elevate and highlight actionable items from the age-friendly action plan. This included presenting on state-wide platforms such as the American Planning Association New Mexico State Conference, AARP's "She's the Difference" Townhall, Area Agency on Aging provider training, and to the Albuquerque Affordable Housing Coalition. These relationships engage other potential stakeholders on collaborative efforts under the plan focused on housing and transportation.

Tackling ageism is also a cornerstone of the Age-Friendly movement for Albuquerque. The Department looks to increase ways in which to promote inclusion such as the renovation of the **Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center Splash Pad**. This project is a prime example of incorporating inclusion and all ages and abilities into rethinking the splash pad's use for the public.

### **Building Key Relationships and Investments:**

Senior Affairs' nutrition program was recognized with the New Mexico Grown Golden Chile Award for the second year in a row, moving to a higher level of honor, the Blossom Award. The award was provided by the NM Grown Coalition for supporting local agriculture by serving locally grown food and the Department has made efforts to increase awareness of fresh grown, New Mexican products in its menus.

DSA Home Services program partnered with Plumbers Union 412 for the annual H.E.A.T.S ON project to winterize AC units and ignite heating units in 91 older adults' homes. **A total of 120 volunteers served 840 hours with an estimated impact of \$26,812.** Home Services program staff followed up with consumers whose work orders noted needed repairs offering community resources.

DSA Social Services Division Manager and DSA Community Volunteer Engagement Manager are collaborating on an application for the City of Albuquerque Civic Engagement Office to host an AmeriCorps NCCC crew to assist Home Services. This initiative would bring young adults age 18-26 to Albuquerque with the goal of "strengthening communities and developing leaders through service."

In partnership with New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department DSA's Senior Companion Program is supporting the New Mexico Care Companion Program to place companions with folks at assisted living facilities. Senior Affairs has assigned a SCP Volunteer who has committed to 12 hours a week and has been assigned 8 clients throughout the week at a local assisted living facility. This innovation allows Senior Companions who may have transportation concerns to concentrate their volunteer efforts with consumers who do not receive many visitors.

Also in this quarter, DSA RSVP volunteers and staff worked with New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department and Department of Veteran Services to assemble **275 food boxes** for Veterans and older adults in southern NM. Our dedicated volunteers and staff worked to assemble and distribute over **220 gift bags** for homebound and isolated older adults during the holiday season.

## **Building Recommendations:**

DSA has connected with the “100% Bernco” initiative, a program of NMSU’s Anna Age 8 Institute, which identifies the adverse social determinants of health in the form of families’ lack of access to vital services, and works to eliminate barriers to the 10 vital services for surviving and thriving. DSA Strategic Program Manager and DSA Advocacy Specialist participated in the 100% Bernco summit in the summer. In the fall, they joined the Housing Action Team of the 100% Bernco initiative and have engaged in networking and collaborative meetings with community organizations to promote an age-friendly lens to this work. Specifically, the 100% Bernco housing group initiative is proposing to develop a Family Housing Resource Center potentially as part of community schools. **Central to this proposal is the understanding that skipped-generation households or “grandparents raising grandchildren” often lack access to the 10 vital services.**

The HUD Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant for the International District Neighborhood will create a Transformation Plan that is focused on three areas: People, Housing, and Community. DSA Strategic Program Manager was invited to participate in ABQ Choice Neighborhoods International District housing working group to provide input to the development, outcome and priorities of the project. The work of the ABQ Choice Neighborhood aligns with the Age-Friendly Action Plan Housing domain goal of providing resources and policies that allow for safe and accessible dwelling for people of all ages and abilities.

Through a second technical assistance grant provided by AARP, DSA worked with Smart Growth America on recommendations on refining the transportation related components of the Age-Friendly Action Plan that built on the work accomplished in the first technical assistance grant we secured in 2024. The resulting report, “Transportation Foci for an Age Friendly Albuquerque Policy Memo” stressed the importance of emphasizing the relationship between housing and transportation policy. A copy of the report is available.

DSA’s Advocacy Specialist has been working to develop a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) in collaboration with Adult Protective Services (APS). The plan is to have Albuquerque Community Services, and both City Code Enforcement and County Code Enforcement coordinate service calls with APS that come from specific clients with heightened needs. Once formed, the MDT will provide critical information regarding systemic service gaps that can inform policy and program recommendations.

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-21-221 ENACTMENT NO. R-2022-008

SPONSORED BY: Klarissa J. Peña

1 RESOLUTION

2 APPROVING THE ONE ALBUQUERQUE AGE-FRIENDLY ACTION PLAN AND  
3 DIRECTING THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE'S DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR  
4 AFFAIRS TO USE THE AGING POPULATION STUDY TO IMPLEMENT THE  
5 PLAN.

6 WHEREAS, the development of new programs and initiatives aim to  
7 improve the quality of life and support healthy aging for current and future  
8 older adult cohorts; Thereby, strengthening and affirming the City of  
9 Albuquerque's commitment to making Aging a Top Priority; and

10 WHEREAS, adopting this Resolution furthers FY/21 Goal #1 on Human and  
11 Family Development aimed at providing people of all ages the opportunity to  
12 participate in the community and economy, and are well sheltered, safe,  
13 healthy, and educated; and

14 WHEREAS, it is projected, Bernalillo County's older adults will account for  
15 over 40% of the County's population in 2030; and

16 WHEREAS, it has been declared, poor health, economic instability and food  
17 insecurity of emerging older adults' cohorts is negatively impacting how we  
18 are aging as a society; and

19 WHEREAS, it is reported, ageism and workplace discrimination also  
20 negatively impact our aging experience and reduce our ability to earn and  
21 save for retirement; and

22 WHEREAS, the City heavily relies on volunteer labor from the community in  
23 order to provide regular meal service for seniors at community center and  
24 senior center facilities; and

25 WHEREAS, adopting this Resolution furthers FY/21 Goal #1 Priority  
26 Objective #3 aimed at creating a marketing and volunteer recruitment strategy

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1 targeting individuals 50 years of age or older, including recent retirees and  
2 low-income seniors, to increase the number of volunteers in the Department  
3 for innovative opportunities such as addressing senior challenges, promoting  
4 age-friendly initiative and utilizing skills and specialized expertise to improve  
5 services offered by the Department; and

6 WHEREAS, it is suggested that one of the most effective ways cities can  
7 prepare for serving their growing older adult population and become more  
8 resilient is to adopt an age-friendly initiative; and

9 WHEREAS, adopting this Resolution furthers FY/21 Goal #1 Priority  
10 Objective #4 aimed at developing age-friendly policies that focus on the eight  
11 domains of livability and creating partnerships with a variety of stakeholders,  
12 including internal City departments and external businesses and  
13 organizations, to improve existing and/or create new age-friendly initiatives;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, there have been many City Councils around the nation that  
16 have adopted Age-Friendly Action Plan Resolutions, including Tucson and  
17 Phoenix Arizona, and Seattle Washington; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque was designated an age-friendly  
19 community by AARP and the WHO in February 2021; and

20 WHEREAS, the Age-Friendly Action Plan focuses on three key areas: 1)  
21 Age-Forward Economic Development, 2) Age-Inclusive City Design, and 3)  
22 Resilient Networks for Healthy Aging; and

23 WHEREAS, as part of being designated an age-friendly community by  
24 AARP and the WHO, the City of Albuquerque will need to re-evaluate its Age-  
25 Friendly Action Plan every 3-5 years to ensure continued progress toward new  
26 age-friendly strategies and to adapt the plan to the changing needs of the  
27 community; and

28 WHEREAS, adopting an Age-Friendly Albuquerque Action Plan will allow  
29 the Department of Senior Affairs and City Council to assess how new age-  
30 friendly strategies are being implemented; and

31 WHEREAS, to continue the momentum behind this initiative, City Councilor  
32 Klarissa Peña commissioned the Department of Senior Affairs in 2020 to



1 conduct a comprehensive study aimed at identifying strategies and  
2 recommendations for implementing the Plan; and

3 WHEREAS, Councilor Peña’s comprehensive study furthered FY/21 Goal #1  
4 Priority Objective #6 aimed at preparing and planning to provide services for a  
5 growing aging population; and

6 WHEREAS, in October 2021, the Department of Senior Affairs presented the  
7 findings and recommendations from their Aging Population Study to the City  
8 Council; and

9 WHEREAS, one of the key recommendations from the Study was to  
10 encourage collaboration and partnerships with the Department of Senior  
11 Affairs and other City Departments to lead future Action Plan strategy cycles;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, one of the key recommendations from the Study was for the  
14 Department of Senior Affairs to designate a team whose primary focus is  
15 advocacy and engagement aimed at building strong relationships among  
16 community businesses, organizations, and other City departments to raise  
17 awareness of aging issues; and

18 WHEREAS, the creation of this new team will also ensure enhancement of  
19 age-friendly programs and policies throughout the City, while allowing City  
20 departments to maintain their primary focus on implementing their respective  
21 programs; and

22 WHEREAS, the new team will also need to manage, assess, and expand  
23 existing programs and services along with special programming for the Age-  
24 Friendly Initiative.

25 WHEREAS, the new team will be responsible for community engagement,  
26 data collection, and quality control evaluation in accordance with the Age-  
27 Friendly Action Plan; and

28 WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Affairs will explore opportunities for  
29 establishing partnerships with the University of New Mexico and Central New  
30 Mexico Community College to develop innovative solutions through “think  
31 tanks” between students and older adults to address important issues facing  
32 the growing older adult population for Albuquerque; and

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1       WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Affairs will also explore opportunities  
2 for creating and offering age-bias awareness programs to implement policies  
3 and practices that aim to change current bias around aging; and

4       WHEREAS, AARP New Mexico and Senior Affairs are currently in  
5 conversation on how to partner in creating age-bias awareness programming;  
6 and

7       WHEREAS, as part of the FY21 Budget Cycle, the Department of Senior  
8 Affairs will be hiring a Strategic Planning Manager who will be responsible for  
9 leading the new team’s efforts in evaluating the department’s internal and  
10 external capacity, coordinating community engagement and advocacy, data  
11 collection, and program and service delivery evaluation; and

12       WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Affairs is in the preliminary stages of  
13 defining the department’s strategic path for services and programs beyond  
14 the Area Agency on Aging grant funding; and

15       WHEREAS, in order to ensure the long-term implementation of the Age-  
16 Friendly Action Plan, the Department of Senior Affairs will need to assess its  
17 internal staffing capacity to implement the strategic plan, work with other City  
18 Departments to assess their own policies and programming as related to  
19 meeting the needs of Albuquerque’s aging population, and most importantly  
20 collaborate with local community groups and organizations who are already  
21 working to address the needs of Albuquerque’s aging population.

22       BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY  
23 OF ALBUQUERQUE:

24       Section 1. The City Council will formally approve the One Albuquerque  
25 Age-Friendly Action Plan.

26       Section 2. The Department of Senior Affairs will formally create an  
27 advocacy, engagement and quality control team to help implement the Age-  
28 Friendly Action Plan.

29       Section 3. The Department of Senior Affairs will work with the new team to  
30 focus on three key areas: 1) building relationships and investment from  
31 community groups and organizations working across the city, 2) assessing  
32 the Department of Senior Affairs’ current internal capacity to determine  
33 staffing needs for implementing and executing the Age-Friendly Action Plan,

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1 and 3) working across City Departments to identify any particular policy or  
2 programmatic change opportunities as related to meeting the needs of  
3 Albuquerque’s aging population.

4 Section 4. The Department of Senior Affairs and the new team will keep City  
5 Council informed about the Department’s most recent efforts by providing  
6 them with quarterly updates in the form of Interoffice Memorandums as well  
7 as Annual Reports. While quarterly Interoffice Memorandums will be used to  
8 update City Council on the internal work efforts of the Department of Senior  
9 Affairs, the Annual Reports will include policy and/or programmatic  
10 recommendations that could impact other departments’ work, such as  
11 amendments to the Integrated Development Ordinance or priority projects in  
12 the Capital Improvement Plan.

13 Section 5. The Department of Senior Affairs and the new team will regularly  
14 meet with various City Boards and Commissions to evaluate and review  
15 policy and programming that relates to meeting the needs of Albuquerque’s  
16 aging population in order to incorporate their most recent efforts into the  
17 Interoffice Memorandums and Annual Reports. These Boards and  
18 Commissions include but are not limited to the Americans with Disabilities  
19 Act Advisory Council, Older American’s Act Advisory Council, Senior Affairs  
20 Advisory Council, and the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council.

21 Section 6. The Department of Senior Affairs and the new team will continue  
22 to develop 1) the age-friendly asset inventory and 2) community partner age-  
23 friendly commitment statements. The age-friendly asset inventory provides  
24 the City a comprehensive list of age-friendly programs and services from  
25 private, public and non-profit partners. The inventory is created from  
26 community partners and City department commitment statements. With these  
27 statements, community partners sign a commitment supporting an age-  
28 friendly Albuquerque and list their age-friendly resources, services, and  
29 programs. This inventory can grow to become an important database of City  
30 and community-based aging resources and can assist Albuquerque’s aging  
31 network, including the Bernalillo County Area Agency on Aging, in growing  
32 alternative points of service for older adults.

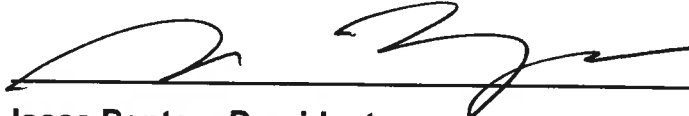
1 Section 7. The Department of Senior Affairs will work closely with the  
2 Office of Neighborhood Coordination, Office of Civic Engagement, and the  
3 Office of Equity and Inclusion to identify best practices for coordinating  
4 equitable outreach to community members and organizations and other  
5 stakeholders.

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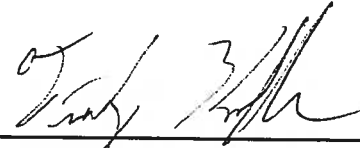
1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF January, 2022  
2 BY A VOTE OF: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST.

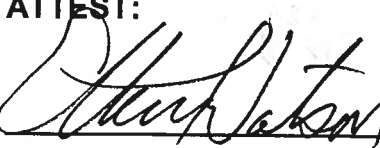
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Isaac Benton, President  
City Council

APPROVED THIS 1 DAY OF February, 2022

Bill No. R-21-221

  
Timothy M. Keller, Mayor  
City of Albuquerque

ATTEST:  
  
Ethan Watson, City Clerk

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