INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM September 29, 2026

TO: Klarissa J. Peña, President, City Council

FROM: Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

SUBJECT:
Mayor's appointment of Ms. Ayanna Zahra to the African American Advisory Board

I am submitting for your advice and consent the following name for appointment to the African American Advisory Board in accordance with the City of Albuquerque Ordinance 2-6-21-1.

APPOINTEE NAME	**TERM**
Ms. Ayanna Zahra Albuquerque, NM 87123	October 15, 2027

Ayanna Zahra is Director of Strategic Partnerships and Business Operations at Olive Tree Compounding Pharmacy in Rio Rancho, where she has worked since March 2024. She built the pharmacy's marketing department, and under her direction monthly compound revenue grew from about $60,000 to more than $100,000 by the end of 2025. She manages partnerships with New Mexico hospitals, private practices, and other organizations, including an internship-to-employment program that saves the company an estimated $80,000 a year in hiring costs. She also runs mentorship programs with the University of New Mexico, Central New Mexico Community College, and area public schools. Ms. Zahra holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design from the Savannah College of Art and Design and has completed continuing education in applied business science and AI prompting through UNM. She brings experience in partnership building, mentorship, and community outreach to the African American Advisory Board.

A resident of Council District 9, Ms. Ayanna Zahra will serve as a Community Subject Matter Expert; their first term will expire on October 15, 2027.

The remaining members are:

	Representing	Name	Term
1.	Africa	Rita Powdrell	At Pleasure
	New M		
2.	Albuq	Officer Rob Duren	At Pleasure
	Ambas		
3.	Albuq	Vacant	At Pleasure
	Engag		
4.	Baptis	Rev. Darnell Smith	At Pleasure
5.	Black	Karla Causey	At Pleasure
6.	Center	Patrick Barrett	At Pleasure
7.	Comm	Vacant	
8.	Comm	Vacant	
9.	Comm	Vacant	
10.	Martin	Declined to Participate	At Pleasure
11.	Minist	Bishop David C. Cooper	At Pleasure
12.	NAAC	Clarence Smith	At Pleasure
13.	New M	Felecia Adams	At Pleasure
14.	New M	Rachel Mwadi	At Pleasure
15.	State o	Jordan Locke	At Pleasure
	Affairs		
16.	Univer	Ava Silver	At Pleasure
	Studen		
17.	Univer	Nicole Bedford-Jacobs	At Pleasure
	Ameri		

African American Advisory Board

Appointment of Ms. Ayanna Zahra.

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Samantha Sengel, Chief Administrative Officer Date

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