

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Office of the Mayor

Mayor Timothy M. Keller

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

January 27, 2026

TO: Klarissa J. Peña, President, City Council

FROM: Timothy M. Keller, Mayor



SUBJECT: Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 Annual Report

The Albuquerque Energy Council has developed and published its FY 2025 annual report. Once again, the alliance between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council has demonstrated positive energy conservation results by way of effective planning and implementation of energy conservation projects. The Albuquerque Energy Council and the City have worked in unison on renewable projects. These projects are improving the daily lives of the public by way of lowering utility costs as well as lowering carbon emissions and reducing our reliance on coal burning power plants for electric energy.

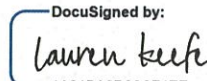
We are once again proud to present the annual report to the Albuquerque City Council as a demonstration of a successful relationship between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council.

Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 Annual Report

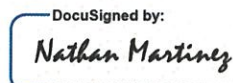
Approved:

Approved as to Legal Form:


Samantha Sengel Date 3/30/26
Chief Administrative Officer

DocuSigned by:
 3/30/2026 | 12:48 PM MDT
Lauren Keefe Date
City Attorney

Recommended:

DocuSigned by:
 3/25/2026 | 10:09 AM MDT
Nathan Martinez Date
Director

Cover Analysis

- 1. What is it?**
 - a. Albuquerque Energy Council FY 2025 annual report.**
- 2. What will this piece of legislation do?**
 - a. This is simply a communication from the Albuquerque Energy Council.**
- 3. Why is this project needed?**
 - a. This report is a demonstration of the working relationship and commitment by the city of achieve the highest level of energy efficiency possible.**
- 4. How much will it cost and what is the funding source?**
 - a. Every bond cycles the 3% for energy conservation. GO Bond fund is funded with 3% of the cumulative GO Bond total. The Albuquerque Energy Council reviews the energy projects for accountability.**
- 5. Is there a revenue source associated with this contract? If so, what level of income is projected?**
 - a. 3% GO Bond**
- 6. What will happen if the project is not approved?**
 - a. These energy projects provide savings to city operations by reducing energy costs and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Albuquerque.**
- 7. Is this service already provided by another entity?**
 - a. Not at this time, the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Energy Council are the only alliance that exists for energy conservation and renewable energy projects for the City of Albuquerque.**



ALBUQUERQUE ENERGY COUNCIL

FY 2025 Annual Report
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025



THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE ENERGY COUNCIL

Established in 2003, the City of Albuquerque Energy Council (AEC) serves as an advisory committee comprised of professionals in the energy and environmental areas. The committee has responsibility for working with City staff to affect energy conservation programs within the residential, commercial, industrial, city government, energy conservation interest groups, transportation, and utility sectors of the community.

Part of the AEC's responsibilities includes oversight of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) monies for energy conservation projects. In 2001, the City of Albuquerque provided a 1 percent set aside for energy conservation and renewable energy capital improvements. This amount was increased to 3 percent in 2007. Energy conservation projects must adhere to strict guidelines to ensure their cost-effectiveness. The return on investment of the CIP set aside funds must be below the life expectancy of the equipment.

The previous investment made by the City of Albuquerque to fund energy projects has been highly effective in reducing the City's energy use and operating costs at City facilities. Since early in the program, the city has accomplished the following.



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE ENERGY COUNCIL MEMBERS (FY 2025)

- **Adam Harper, OE Solar**
- **Carlos Lucero, PNM**
- **Danyel Kahumoku, ICF**
- **Gabriel Pacyniak, University of New Mexico School of Law**
- **Dr. Linda Sapochak, retired Chemist**
- **Samantha Salazar, Center for Civic Policy**
- **Susan Altman, Sandia National Laboratories**
- **Tara Trafton, Energy Systems Group**
- **Tom Quirk, Sandia National Laboratories**

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE STAFF

- **Saif Ismail, Energy and Sustainability Division Manager, Department of General Services**
- **Judy Soto, Energy & Sustainability Accountant II**
- **Nelson Montoya, Construction Project Manager**
- **Michael Aultman, Building Automated System Specialist**
- **Michael Nguyen, System Analyst**
- **Muhamed Abdel-Hack, Energy Specialist**



ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT THE CITY

Hundreds of energy-saving projects have been completed since an original 1 percent, then the increased 3 percent set aside, was put into place in the city. In the past two years, these projects have resulted in over 220,000 kWh savings of electricity; since the program's inception, the city has saved more than 855,000 kWh savings of electricity.

In this report, the AEC highlights a few recently completed projects that are excellent examples of initiatives that are reducing the City's energy use, saving the city money (ultimately saving taxpayer money), and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to protect the environment. Table 1 lists the savings of various gas, water meter, lighting (LED upgrades), automated HVAC, and solar projects for FY 2025. The total savings and rebates are approximately \$840,000.

These projects represent a collaborative effort from the City Government, Utility Providers, Entities, etc. to enhance city infrastructure while reducing utility expenditures. Continued investments in smart systems, clean energy, and conservation measures will yield long-term savings and sustainability.

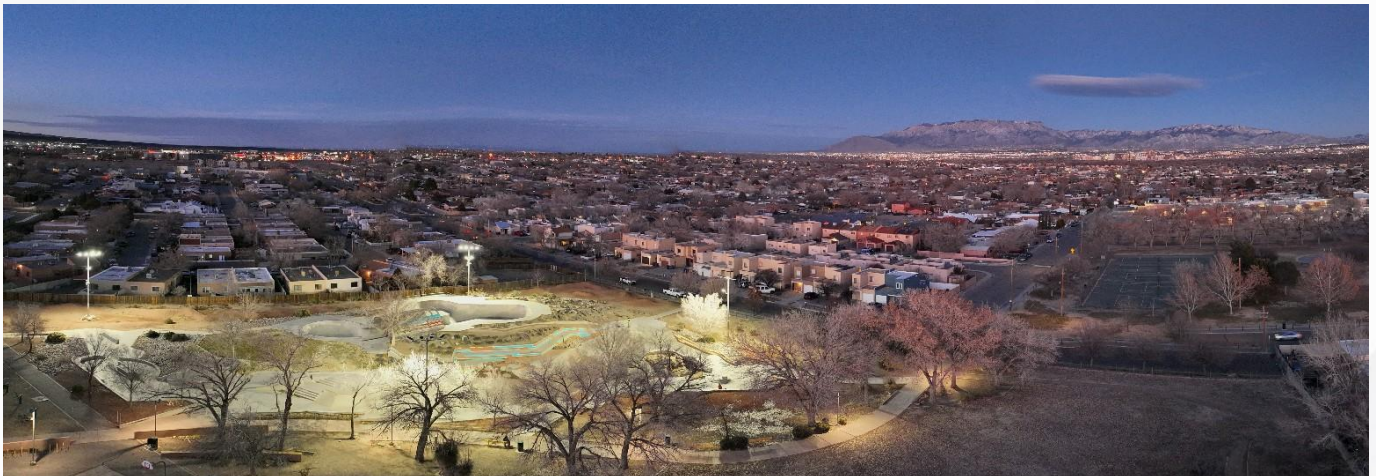




Table 1: Cost savings from various gas saving, water meter, lighting upgrade and controls and building automation projects in FY 2025

Project Names	FY 25 Savings
Gas Savings Projects	
APD & 401 Marquette	\$ 8,636
Balloon Museum	\$ 738
Law Enforcement Center	\$ 10,616
Sustainability & Energy Management (SEM) Initiatives Savings*	\$ 134,153
Total	\$ 154,143
Water Meter Savings Projects	
ABQ Convention Center	\$ 67,723
Alvarado Urban Farm	\$ 3,020
Balloon Fiesta RV Parking Building	\$ 8,976
City Transit Center	\$ 3,020
Department of Municipal Development (DMD) Drainage – Paseo Alameda	\$ 29,649
DMD Lift Station 32	\$ 3,020
DMD Parking Facilities	\$ 40,517
Joan Jones Community Center	\$ 3,020
John Marshal Health and Social Service Center	\$ 6,017
Johnny Tapia Community Center	\$ 8,976
Montano Storm Station 47	\$ 37,710
North Valley Senior Center	\$ 3,020
Rail Runner Station - Montano	\$ 17,580
Railyards Market	\$ 67,723
Zoo Annex Building	\$ 4,851
Total	\$ 304,822



LED Lighting Projects	
6th Floor Senior Affairs lighting upgrade	\$ 1,599
AFR Fleet	\$ 3,260
AFR logistics/2nd St	\$ 4,411
AFR Station 1	\$ 20,215
Alamosa Community Center (Exterior)	\$ 5,036
Alamosa Parking Lot	\$ 3,699
Alamosa Skate Park	\$ 9,570
Barelas Community Center	\$ 8,653
Barelas Softball Parking	\$ 3,083
Civic Plaza Play Ground Lighting	\$ 801
Duke City BMX Park	\$ 6,237
Greenhouse	\$ 1,567
Herman Sanchez Community Center	\$ 11,636
Highland Pool	\$ 1,056
Highland Senior Center	\$ 13,269
Krogh Park	\$ 1,321
Los Altos Skate Park	\$ 4,831
North Domingo Baca Park and Walkway	\$ 5,924
North Domingo Baca Park Playground	\$ 3,260
North Valley Senior Center (Interior)	\$ 16,770
Northeast Area Command	\$ 13,711
Northwest Modular Skate Park	\$ 3,581
Palo Duro Senior Center	\$ 19,797
Pino Yard lighting upgrade to PNM poles	\$ 3,700
Santa Barbara Multigenerational Center Park Exterior Lighting	\$ 2,729
Taylor Ranch Community Center	\$ 17,180
Tingley Park	\$ 3,841
Tower Skate Park	\$ 1,953
Valley APD Command (Exterior Campus)	\$ 20,400



Valley APD Command (Interior)	\$ 12,170
West Mesa Community Center Lighting	\$ 7,235
Total	\$ 232,495
Automated HVAC Project Savings	
APD Metro Forensics Science Center	\$ 20,356
AWD Eastside Animal Shelter	\$ 3,266
DMD Plaza Del Sol	\$ 29,056
Transit Daytona Transit Facility	\$ 20,524
Total	\$ 73,202
Solar Project Savings	
Gateway Center	\$ 75,000

***Participating Facilities increasing energy savings by optimizing systems and reducing waste**



BALANCED RESOURCE ACQUISITION INFORMATION NETWORK (BRAIN)

In 2021, the City of Albuquerque's Energy and Sustainability Management Division (ESMD) and the State of New Mexico's Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) partnered to establish the Balanced Resource Acquisition and Information Network (BRAIN). This initiative is designed to create a centralized data platform that integrates real-time and historical utility data to improve visibility, flexibility, and responsiveness across CABQ facilities.

The BRAIN will support participation in demand-side energy programs, enhance coordination with PNM during peak demand events, and enable future integration of dispatchable energy resources. The long-term vision includes an integrated data lake, machine-learning predictive models, and user-friendly dashboards for both internal operations and public transparency. The platform is built to be scalable and replicable, allowing other public agencies in New Mexico to adopt similar capabilities within their secure environments.

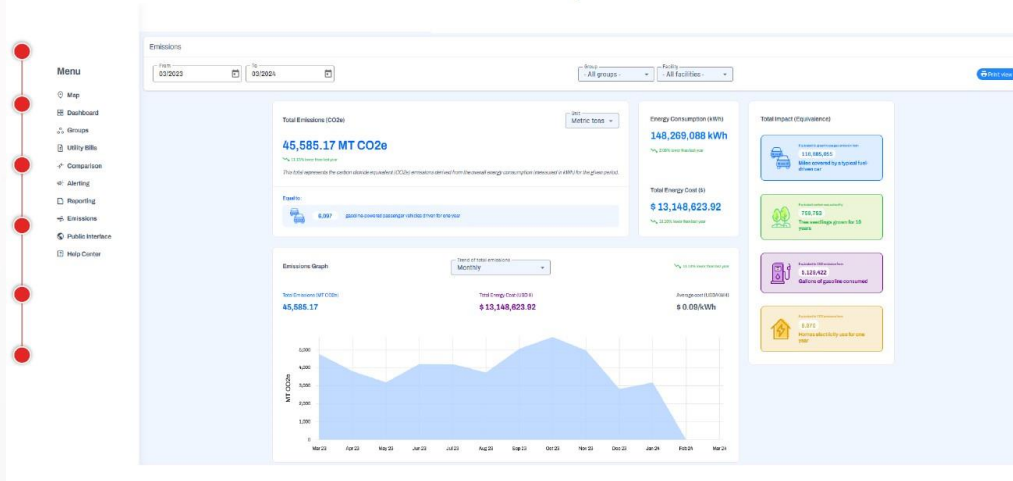
CABQ Gets Smart with Unveiling of the BRAIN

The image shows a screenshot of the BRAIN dashboard. On the left, a red vertical bar contains the text "CABQ BRAIN". The main dashboard area features a cityscape background with the City of Albuquerque seal. Key components include:

- City total facilities:** 1085 buildings.
- Air quality:** 84.5°F, 20% humidity, 56°F.
- Electricity:** 51,765,246.00 kWh, \$1,953,373.85.
- City total utility account:** #4207.
- Synthesis:** A pie chart showing the breakdown of utility costs into Gas, Solar, Electricity, and Water.
- Alerts:** A table listing alerts for Fire station 6, Fire station 8, and Fire station 0, showing consumption changes and budget impacts.
- Energy Consumption:** A bar chart showing 18% energy consumption.
- Green House Gas Emissions:** A bar chart showing 10% green house gas emissions.

A "Dive into the BRAIN" button is located at the bottom center of the dashboard.

Real-Time GHG Emission Capture



Additional BRAIN Functionality

THE FUTURE OF ENERGY SAVINGS AT THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

The City of Albuquerque has a roadmap to achieve a 100% Renewable goal by 2025. City staff is currently working on building efficiency and renewable projects as well as implementing smart building technologies which would impact all City government facilities.

AEC RECOMMENDATION – INCREASE THE CIP SET ASIDE TO 5%

The Albuquerque Energy Council (AEC) strongly recommends increasing the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) set-aside for energy conservation and infrastructure modernization from 3% to 5%. This targeted investment will drive significant, recurring cost savings for the city—enabling Albuquerque to strengthen essential services, harden its infrastructure, and support public safety and first responders, all without raising taxes or fees. Since 2006, energy and infrastructure projects funded through the CIP set-aside have saved Albuquerque millions of dollars and reduced ongoing utility and maintenance costs across City departments. These savings go straight back into the City's General Fund, creating flexibility to fund public safety, street repair, parks, and other core priorities.

WHY INCREASE TO 5%?

With rising energy costs, new facility demands, and increasing risks from natural and man-made disasters, the current 3% allocation is no longer sufficient to deliver the level of resilience and reliability our community expects. Raising the set-aside will allow the city to make timely upgrades—such as advanced building controls, backup power, and facility hardening—ensuring that vital resources like emergency responders and community centers remain operational when Albuquerque needs them most. These investments also position the city to better withstand grid failures, extreme weather, and cyber threats, all while improving budget stability for years to come.

KEY FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL BENEFITS:

- **Major Cost Savings:** Past CIP projects have yielded millions in avoided utility and maintenance costs—funds that are reallocated to other departments and services.
- **No New Taxes or Fees:** Savings from energy and facility upgrades allow the city to invest in core services, protect jobs, and improve amenities, without burdening taxpayers.
- **Infrastructure Resilience:** New funding will strengthen critical buildings—such as public safety and emergency operations—ensuring continuity of service during blackouts or emergencies.

- Support for First Responders: Facilities that serve police, fire, and EMS will receive priority for upgrades like backup power, modern controls, and improved security, maximizing readiness and response capability.
- Operational Reliability: City facilities will become more dependable, reducing service disruptions and costly repairs.
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WITH A 5% SET-ASIDE, THE CITY WILL:

- Install backup power (AC coupled batteries, microgrids) to keep services running during power outages or disasters.
- Enhance facility security and reliability against both physical and cyber threats.
- Free up additional operating budget to be redirected to other critical needs—including public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and community services—year after year.
- Address district-specific priorities surfaced in an upcoming AEC-led listening tour (more below), ensuring investments match real community needs.

WHY VOTE YES?

Raising the CIP set-aside to 5% is a proven, fiscally responsible way to lower operating costs, make City infrastructure disaster-ready, and support first responders—while protecting taxpayers from future utility rate hikes and emergency repairs. Every dollar invested returns value year after year, strengthening Albuquerque’s services and public safety without increasing taxes or fees.

AEC FUTURE ACTION

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & LISTENING TOUR

Beginning with a formal Council presentation in Q1 2026, the AEC and City Councilors will engage each district in a listening tour to identify facility needs and infrastructure priorities. These sessions will focus on where energy and modernization projects can most effectively improve public safety, emergency readiness, and City operations. Community and councilor feedback will directly inform which projects receive funding. To ensure every project delivers measurable value, the AEC will launch a citywide district listening tour in partnership with City Councilors. This transparent process will identify high-impact opportunities in every part of Albuquerque, prioritize critical infrastructure, and guarantee accountability to taxpayers. All

input will be integrated into the final round of project recommendations, with funding allocations presented in Summer 2026 for Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam T. Harper, Chair
Albuquerque Energy Council