

Action and Advocacy, June 2025

1. Report on response to our water letter:

- County Commissioner Camilla Bustamente responded to our letter and recommended that we take a look at what Bernalillo County is doing – appointing an Independent Commission to oversee cross-jurisdictional services like Water, Wastewater, and Well Use. Also mentioned Justin Greene as someone who is very interested in the topic.
- Discussed the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, which is a cross-jurisdictional decision-making body made up of 3 City Councilors (ALB), 3 County Commissioners (Bern), the Albuquerque Mayor and two non-voting representatives from Los Ranchos. We discussed meeting with one or more of the people from that Board to hear first-hand how it's working.

2. Brainstorming questions for meeting with the City Manager

- Current status of plans for the Wastewater Treatment Plant - yes
- Midtown Plans – we may already be current on this
- Homeless services – we may already be current on this
- Land Use/Code Revision – yes (Santa Fe Forward Open House, Sat. June 14th, 10-2 in SFCC Higher Ed Center.)
- Las Estrellas – we may already be current on this (pending legal clarification)
- Activities Regarding Plaza – we may already be current on this

3. SFPS - Mary Ellen

- Selection of New Superintendent: We don't know why the selection process was so short, but it may have to do with Veronica Garcia's contract ending.
- We would like an update on the status of the Yazzie Ruling

4. SFCC - Marcy

- SFCC Board had a well-designed day-long Retreat, at which they addressed Strategic Planning, Board and President evaluations, and guidelines for collective bargaining with faculty.

5. Las Estrellas- Jody

- Jody reported that progress has halted on Las Estrellas because they discovered mistakes were made during the rezoning.

6. Santa Fe County- Carol

- A big issue currently is how the prisoners being released from the County Jail can get in to Santa Fe without walking on the dangerous road.
- Two “affordable housing” apartment buildings are about to be built, both on the far Southside where there is no public transportation. So renters will have to have cars.
- County Bond Issues: they are for Capital Improvement projects, with very little flexibility to anything else, like staffing, maintenance, etc.
- Carol will look into what happens to the unspent funds from prior Bond Issues.