

Albuquerque City Council 1 Civic Plz #10 Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Esteemed Albuquerque City Councilors,

We, the undersigned organizations along with community leaders and elected officials who support this reform, call on you to adopt Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for Albuquerque municipal elections.

Under RCV, voters must simply rank candidates in order of preference on their ballot. If no candidate earns a majority (50% + 1) of first-choice votes, the last-place candidate is eliminated and voters' next choices are counted. These "instant runoffs" continue until one candidate has majority support, delivering a fair and conclusive result.

Why RCV works for Albuquerque:

- Ensures majority winners every time by requiring candidates to secure more than 50 percent of voter support in a single election.
- Saves taxpayer dollars by eliminating costly, low-turnout runoff elections.
- **Encourages civility among candidates** by promoting more positive campaigning for broader support beyond only first-choice votes.
- **Strengthens voter choice** by empowering voters to rank candidates according to their values without fear of wasting their vote.
- **Enhances representation** by enabling broader, more diverse sets of candidates that more precisely reflect their constituencies to run for public office.

RCV has already been <u>successfully implemented in Santa Fe and Las Cruces</u>. Voters find it simple, fair, and effective, <u>reporting high satisfaction rates</u> with its easily navigable system that more accurately represents voter preferences. Improved representation not only empowers voters to turn out, it strengthens confidence in Albuquerque's elections while reducing polarization in candidate pools and policy initiatives. RCV can also help Albuquerque save tax dollars by eliminating costly runoff elections and, as confirmed by Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver and county clerks, by utilizing existing voting machines that can implement RCV.

It's past due time for Albuquerque to embrace RCV and its benefits. Burqueños deserve more efficient, representative, and cost-effective elections they can trust and believe in. We strongly encourage you to uphold our shared commitment to saving money, strengthening democracy, and ensuring that every vote counts by **supporting Ranked Choice Voting for Albuquerque municipal elections.**

Sincerely,

Common Cause New Mexico Conservation Voters New Mexico Equality New Mexico Indivisible ABQ NM Asian Family Center NM Black Leadership Council NM CAFe NM Voters First OLÉ Planned Parenthood Votes New Mexico ProgressNow New Mexico UNM We the People