

# ALBUQUERQUE DEMOCRACY DOLLARS

*What if ABQ could take elections out of the hands of big special interests and put them in the hands of the people?*

*Everyday Albuquerqueans would be heard and have a real say in the government decisions affecting our lives.*

*And people like us might even have a chance to run for office, and win!*

## How would it work?



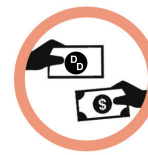
**Candidates who want to participate agree to certain limitations.**



**Voters get Democracy Dollars in the mail.**



**They give them to the candidate(s) of their choice.**



**Candidates can redeem them for public funds.**

- ▶ Building on our current public elections program, every ABQ resident would receive \$25.00 worth of “Democracy Dollars” in the mail and could donate that money to local candidates of their choice who qualify for a publicly financed campaign and who agree not to accept private contributions.
- ▶ The system would require no additional city funding and would enable working- and middle-class candidates to compete against wealthy or well-connected candidates.
- ▶ A wide range of Albuquerqueans without big pocketbooks would be given a new way of participating in campaigns and having our voices heard.
- ▶ Candidates could focus on the issues important to the communities they serve instead of dialing for dollars from big donors and special interests.



