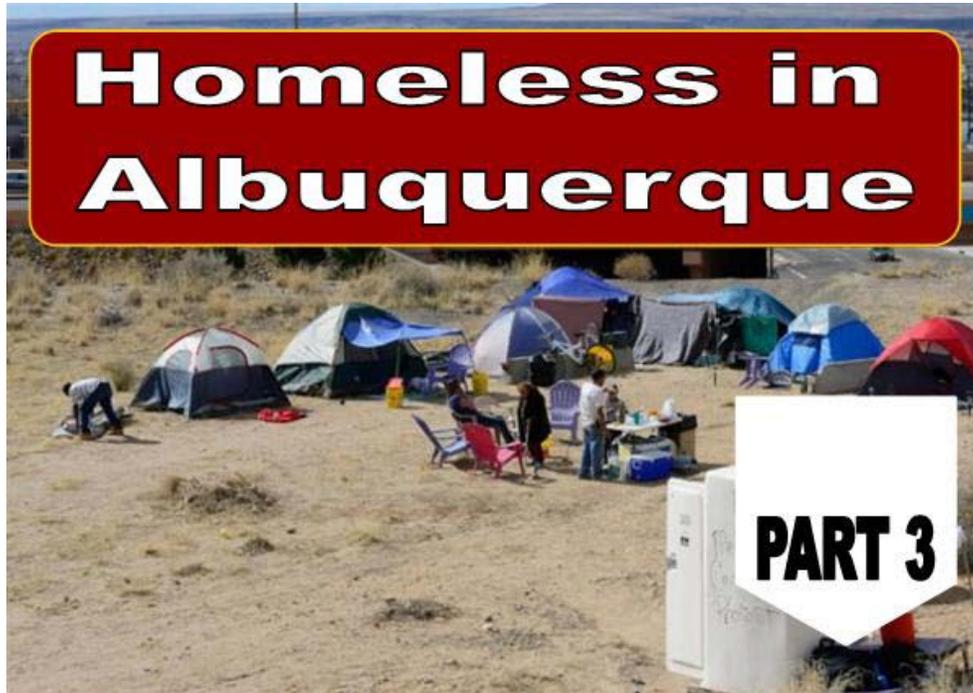


**\*\*BREAKING\*\*\* - PART 3 - HOMELESS**



Always remember to share our emails with any New Mexico Citizen who cares about our state.

**PART 3**  
**"SAFE OUTDOOR SPACES"**  
**From Integrated Development Ordinance**



**We The People New Mexico** continues its **3 Part Series** on the **EPC Striking Down “Saf Outdoor Spaces”**.

*Thank you to all of you that took action to stall a plan that will not solve a very complex problem especially when there is a real plan that does work. **Our Republic** form of government works when the Citizens become involved.*

*We the people are watching. It is just another battle in this war to *bring back our beautiful city* and truly *help the Homeless to become successful moving out of homelessness*.*

### **PART 3**

From Pete Dinelli

**EPC Votes To Recommend Striking “Safe Outdoor Spaces” From Integrated Development Ordinance**

#### **CITY COUNCILOR JONES LOSES CREDIBILITY WITH CONSTITUENTS**

On September 7 when Republican City Councilor Trudy Jones voted not to override Mayor Tim Keller’s veto it was a **“flip flop”** of epic proportions, and she was downright sneaky in the way she did it by not taking calls from constituents the days leading up to the vote. During city council discussion, the normally vocal Jones on all thing related to the Integrated Development Ordinance sat stoically and then she voted. Only after she voted no to override Keller did she speak to the media and then gave a very lame excuse for her changed vote when she said: ***“It’s the right thing to do. ... Sometimes, along the line, you have to stick your neck out and do what’s right, not what is politically expected.”***

The links to quoted news sources are here

<https://www.abqjournal.com/category/news/abq-news>

With her reversal of her position on the **Safe Outdoor Space** moratorium, Republican City Councilor lost a significant amount of her credibility and public trust with her constituents that she had built up over 20 years of service on the council because of her failure to represent her constituent's best interests and demands. Rumors are swirling that she cut a deal with Keller, but no one knows for certain, and she has not said.

What is truly amazing is that Jones is a former and successful realtor and in all likely knows the detrimental effect **Safe Outdoor Spaces** will have on real estate values. This is the same Republican city councilor who sponsored legislation to stop the homeless from pan handling and who also lives in a gated community where tent encampments will not be tolerated. The problem is, Trudy Jones will likely have the opportunity to once again go against her own constituent's demands and refuse to eliminate **Safe Outdoor Spaces** from the IDO when the new legislation is presented.

### **A FEW TOOLS NOT NEEDED**

Repeatedly, Mayor Tim Keller and his administration have said that Safe Outdoor Spaces are a **"tool in the tool box"** that is needed in his **"all above approach"** to deal with the homeless.

That is simply false, and tools such as Safe Outdoor Spaces need to be thrown out of the toolbox when it comes to the homeless crisis. The only **"real tools" here are** our government and elected officials who are promoting an unsustainable policy of **Safe Outdoor Spaces**.

They ostensibly do not know that government sanctioned encampments are being abandoned by major cities and have been found to be a very bad substitute for permanent housing and services which have the most impact on reducing the homeless crisis.

Cities such as Honolulu, Salt Lake City and Seattle, have abandoned their support of government sanctioned encampment such as Safe Outdoor Spaces and have begun implementing ordinances to remove all encampments to move toward a transitional housing or campus model, programs that have been found to bring physical and fiscal safety to communities while reducing crime. Some 65 cities across the United States have implemented ordinances to remove all encampments.

<https://newmexicosun.com/stories/626700965-there-s-a-better-way-to-serve-the-homeless-sanctioned-encampments-aren-t-it>

Mayor Tim Keller created a nuisance with city property when he allowed and condoned the use of Coronado Park as a de facto city sanctioned homeless encampment. Coronado Park had an extensive history of criminal activity including 4 murders, violent crimes and drug trafficking. Keller himself was forced to announce the closure of Coronado Park on June 27 as a result of the extensive criminal activity and the contamination of the grounds of the park that made it a threat to public safety and use. **Safe Outdoor Spaces** will in essence become **"miniature"** Coronado Parks.

The millions being spent each year by the city to deal with the homeless with the **"housing first"** policy and new **Gibson Gateway Homeless Shelter** and the **Westside Homeless Shelter** should be more than enough to deal with housing the homeless, yet Mayor Keller and the 4 City Councilors demand and want more from the public in the form of Safe Outdoor Spaces. Then there is that matter that Safe Outdoor Space encampments violating the city's and Keller's own **"housing first"** policy by not providing a form of permanent housing and with reliance on tents as temporary housing.

**Safe Outdoor Spaces** are not the answer to the homeless crisis. **"Safe Outdoor Spaces"** will be a disaster for the city as a whole. They will destroy neighborhoods, make the city a magnet for the homeless and destroy the city's efforts to manage the homeless through housing. The homeless crisis will not be solved by the city, but it can and must be managed. Safe Outdoor Spaces represent a very temporary place to pitch a tent, relieve oneself, bathe and sleep at

night with rules that will not likely be followed.

The answer to the homeless crisis is to provide the homeless the support services, including food and permanent lodging, and mental health care needed to allow the homeless to turn their lives around and perhaps become productive self-sufficient citizens.

Given the City Council's vote on the Safe Outdoor Space moratorium, it is more likely than not that the city council will vote down and NOT to support the EPC recommendation to eliminate all references to Safe Outdoor Spaces. The legislation eliminating from the IDO Safe Outdoor Spaces will likely pass on a 5 to 4 vote and Mayor Tim Keller is expected to veto the legislation. The council will need 6 votes to override the mayor's veto. Unless City Councilor Trudy Jones comes to her senses or has some sort of divine epiphany and changes her mind once again and votes to override Keller's veto, the override will fail on a 5 to 4 vote and Safe Outdoor Spaces will become law. This is the type of conduct that results in general public distrust of city government.

Voters and residents are urged to contact and voice their opinion and tell all city councilors to vote YES and support the EPC recommendation to eliminate all references to Safe Outdoor Spaces, or SOSs, in the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). Their phone numbers and email address are:

**CITY COUNCIL PHONE:** (505) 768-3100

**CITY COUNCIL EMAILS**

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Remember,  
**Part 3** will be  
*released tomorrow*

If you are not a subscriber to **WTPNM** yet, don't forget we have a website and you can sign up there and get more in depth information about everything the Government is doing and how it is going to impact your daily lives.

[wethepeoplennmexico.com](http://wethepeoplennmexico.com)

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**"Knowledge not shared remains unknown."**

