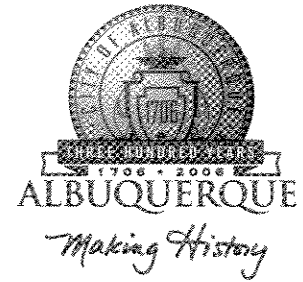


CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



June 2004

Dear Albuquerque Citizen:

Albuquerque is my home town. I love it, am very proud of it, and want to make Albuquerque an even better place to live and raise a family.

That means that Albuquerque must be a safe place to live; citizens must feel safe in their homes, neighborhoods, and places of work. That means that our public infrastructure must work for the community – the water and wastewater systems must be reliable and efficient, and protect the environment; our road network must provide safe and efficient travel; and public transit must become more convenient and reliable. That means that inevitable growth -- it will continue to happen as Albuquerque's secrets become even more well-known -- must be effectively managed. That means the unique environmental assets with which we have been blessed must be protected and enhanced. That means there must not only be good jobs available but also long term career opportunities so that our children have the option to stay in this great community. And speaking of community, that means our cultural diversity must be celebrated, but we need a strong community infrastructure to keep us together.

These statements embody the long term goals of the city of Albuquerque. The *Albuquerque Progress Report 2004* helps us understand if we are making progress toward what we want Albuquerque to be like. It's up to Albuquerque's elected officials and all elements of our community to respond to this information and work to make Albuquerque all it can be. As Yogi Berra is reputed to have said – "if you do what you done, you get what you got." In many cases that'll do just fine, because we have a lot to celebrate. In others we clearly need to put on our thinking caps and address these conditions in creative and effective ways.

Accept the challenge!

Martin J. Chávez
Mayor

MJC/TES

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