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# These are the Candidates in Your Neighborhood

## Your guide to the upcoming City Council election

What's sexier than a good old City Council Election? In our minds, not much. Sure, picking a representative for your part of town may seem inconsequential, but these are the folks who approve or deny budgets that have major impacts on our city. They also have a hand in approving short-term rental ordinances, along with where you can and can't smoke weed and what level of power the mayor has. Lucky for voters, we've put together a handy-dandy questionnaire for candidates so we all can learn a little more about them and what they're all about. We sent all candidates a list of questions and gave them about a week to answer. The answers you see below are what their verbatim answers are.

## The Candidates

Jeff Hoehn, District 6

[jeff4d6.com](http://jeff4d6.com)

## How long have you lived in your district?

21 years

## Occupation?

Nonprofit Executive Director, Cuidando Los Niños

**Imagine you're in the drive-thru line at Golden Pride. How would you pitch yourself as the right candidate in the amount of time between ordering and grabbing your food?**

I'm Jeff Hoehn, Democrat running for City Council. This position is where hard decisions are made that shape our daily lives, from managing a \$1.4 billion budget to navigating zoning laws and keeping our streets safe. With a background in non-profit leadership, I not only have experience but also common sense and hands-on skills sharpened over years. If you want someone who's prepared to tackle the tough issues, who'll invest time to understand the issues, and who'll truly represent your interests, I'm your candidate. Let's bring effective leadership to City Council. We can do better.

**What is ONE issue that needs to be addressed in your district and what are a few SPECIFIC plans you have for that issue?**

Homelessness. Here are three things we can do that will make a real difference:  
Develop a series of smaller population specific shelters that will be attractive to the unhoused and have little or no impact on neighborhoods.  
Invest in eviction prevention programs that pay a month's rent or overdue utility bills.  
Too many Burqueños are just a paycheck away from homelessness so let's make sure to help them out. Let's not be stuck on stupid, this one just makes sense for people and won't bust our city budget.  
Let's align the nonprofit and faith-based providers working to end homelessness.

**The idea of consolidating the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County bubbles up from time to time. What are your thoughts about that and where would you stand if you had to decide today?**

I oppose consolidation since it would lead to a loss of local control and representation for residents in both the city and county. Imagine the challenge of merging two governmental entities and the associated costs and administrative complexities. Let's perfect what we have. If run well, both the City Council and County Commission can be effective and efficient, while working together on projects that make sense like behavioral health. That said, if the voters want to consider such a change, then let's put

it on the ballot. I trust the voters to decide if they want their government structured differently.

### **Where do you stand on term limits for both city councilors and the mayor?**

I support term limits for the mayor and city council. Term limits can help prevent elected officials from becoming entrenched in their positions and encourages new leadership and fresh ideas in local government. Term limits allow voters to hold elected officials accountable. By limiting terms, we create opportunities for a more diverse group of candidates to run for office. Lastly it helps lessen corruption and complacency; while term limits can help mitigate these risks by ensuring a turnover in leadership.

### **Let's say the city was commissioning a mural of five iconic Burqueños. Who are you nominating?**

Aldo Leopold, Albuquerque's first environmental planner and world renowned conservationist.

Clyde Tingley because he was critical to the growth and expansion of Albuquerque and he put his family's name on everything while doing it.

Ernie Pyle who was a WWII correspondent and journalist, and his home is now the coolest library ever on Girard.

Holly Holm. She's not only an amazing athlete but just a really good person and role model for young people.

Lauren Poole a.k.a Lynette La Burqueña because she is the best of us and represents us in all our realness. Enough said.