

October 27, 2025

Mr. Robert Webb, Senior Planner

Mr. Jay Rodenbeck, Planning Manager
Development Review Services

Robert L. Ortiz, Navigator

Renee Zamora, Navigator



RE: Assistance League of Albuquerque Request to Vacate Alleyway

Dear Mr. Webb, Mr. Rodenbeck, Mr. Ortiz and Ms. Zamora:

Assistance League of Albuquerque (ALA) is a not-for-profit organization serving the Albuquerque metropolitan area since 1962. There are no paid employees, but over 230 member volunteers, mostly retired seniors. ALA's programs support children in low-income Title 1 schools with new clothing, shoes, and hygiene products, low-income seniors, the hungry and homeless, assault survivors, newborns in UNMH, and many others.

The primary source of funding for these programs is our thrift shops at 5211, 5203 and 5201 Lomas NE. Recently, ALA purchased adjacent property at 622 Truman NE where much of the administrative and program activities take place. Between these buildings is a parking lot owned by ALA, where our thrift shop customers and member volunteers park and walk across the parking lot and between the buildings throughout the week. There is a 20' public alley along the eastern side of the parking lot at 622 Truman and 5211 Lomas, which is the subject of ALA's application to vacate the alley.

Currently, random vehicles unrelated to ALA or its thrift shops turn into ALA's parking lot from Truman Street and drive through the parking lot and the public alley as a shortcut to reach the Taco Bell located on the corner of San Mateo and Lomas. Vehicles also enter the public alley from Marble Street and continue south alongside ALA's parking lot to reach the Taco Bell, to illegally use the dumpsters or drop off old furniture beside the dumpsters, or to cross into ALA's parking lot. This poses a safety hazard to the many customers and volunteers who frequent ALA's thrift shops or participate in philanthropic activities on ALA's premises. Some of our senior volunteers and customers use walkers and canes and navigate the parking lot very slowly. Vans from senior housing facilities also bring shoppers in wheelchairs and walkers to our thrift shops via the parking lot. Supporters of ALA also drive into the parking lot to drop off donations to the thrift shops and may enter or exit through the alley. The unhoused also sleep in the alley, set fires in the dumpsters and against the buildings, damage electrical boxes on the buildings, and pick through our recycle bin and the dumpsters at Taco Bell leaving a mess of trash on the premises. We even had a man sleeping in a dumpster in the ally deposited into a

city dump truck! Access to the alley and the alley traffic is a safety hazard for the unhoused as well.

ALA would like the 20' public alley adjacent to ALA's property vacated and incorporated into ALA's property so the parking lot can be fenced to provide a safe environment for customers and volunteers. Alternatively, and if more appropriate, the alley from Marble south could be vacated, although ALA would only want to incorporate the section adjoining its property.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. Please let me know if you have any questions or if we can provide further information.

Very truly yours,



For Assistance League of Albuquerque