



## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2016

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### LETTER FROM UHA PRESIDENT, JOE GALLEGOS

Greetings UHA Neighbors,

It's Springtime and there's plenty of things blooming in our community. Take a look at the articles featured in your UHA Newsletter, learn about upcoming projects that will affect you and your families. We welcome you join us in keeping University Heights thriving and beautiful, and encourage you to voice your thoughts and contribute your energy to our neighborhood.

#### **SPRING CLEANUP**

Good News! Keep Albuquerque Beautiful and Solid Waste will team up with us for our annual Spring Cleanup, Saturday, June 11, 9-noon. Cleanup Headquarters is at the corner of Lead and Cornell. We will provide gloves, safety vests, pick-up tools, trash bags, water and snacks. It's a positive way to work together, meet your neighbors, and keep UHA Beautiful! Lets top last year's total of 4,200 pounds of trash!

**WHO:** Everyone Living & Loving Our Neighborhood

**WHAT:** Spring Cleanup

**WHERE:** SE Corner of Lead and Cornell

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 11, 9 a.m. - noon

**WHY:** A Beautiful Neighborhood and Community Unity!

### PNM SUBSTATION PUBLIC ARTS MURAL

*By Joseph Aguirre*

UHA, the City of Albuquerque and PNM have agreed to move forward with plans for a mural along the Silver Avenue side of the Cornell Avenue PNM substation. PNM has authorized the use of the site and agreed to supervise the safety aspects of the project. The City Public Arts Office plans to budget \$20,000 for the mural, oversee its execution, and select an artist via an open, nation-wide competition. UHA applied for and received a \$15,000 PNM Resources Foundation Power Up grant to pay for the preparation of the site and has agreed to secure \$2,000 in donations to cover the cost of stipends for design finalists. Installation of the mural is planned for spring 2017. The competition for the muralist selection will be announced by the Public Arts office later this year. UHA residents can expect updates in future newsletters and at uhanm.org. UHA for some time has envisioned a mural at this location and is excited to have found the community partners to move this project forward.

## LEAD AND COAL AVENUE SAFETY CONCERNS CONTINUE

By Joseph Aguirre

UHA remains concerned about and continues to respond to safety problems along Lead and Coal Avenues. District 6 Councilor Pat Davis, council staff, and UHA are reviewing newly available crash data and hoping it will help identify options for mitigation. The Department of Municipal Development (DMD) has ruled out one proposal: lane narrowing in order to slow speed. This measure was employed on Lead and Coal between Broadway and I-25 but DMD says lanes in our area are too narrow already to permit further reduction. As has always been the case, safety concerns exist all along the corridor. District 2 Councilor Isaac Benton has recently introduced a bill to install traffic signals at Walter on Lead and Coal, with the intention of slowing speed in the Huning Highlands neighborhood. We encourage people to take pictures and document accidents and property damage along Lead and Coal and send them to UHA. Press coverage of the Lead/Coal argument against Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) can be found at:

- [www.freeabq.com/2016/05/04/lead-coal-residents-art-safety/](http://www.freeabq.com/2016/05/04/lead-coal-residents-art-safety/)
- [www.abqjournal.com/760655/leadcoal-not-answer-to-art.html](http://www.abqjournal.com/760655/leadcoal-not-answer-to-art.html)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH ART?

By Don Hancock

ART is the Albuquerque Rapid Transit, which would replace the current Rapid Ride buses on Central Avenue with new buses running on dedicated lanes and stations in the median. The UHA board and many neighborhood people and businesses have been paying attention to the project development for more than three years. UHA's concerns have been expressed through various letters and at a numerous meetings. See [www.uhanm.org](http://www.uhanm.org).

In April, two lawsuits were filed by businesspeople and individuals to stop about \$70 million in federal funds being given to the City until there are environmental reviews and public meetings. If the lawsuits do not succeed, construction in the UHA area is scheduled to begin in August.

- The City's website is: [www.brtaabq.com](http://www.brtaabq.com)
- One group involved in one lawsuit is: [www.makeartsmart.org](http://www.makeartsmart.org)
- Another group involved is: [savert66.org](http://savert66.org)

The City Of Albuquerque has informed us that property owners are responsible for maintaining weeds in your yards. You will be notified/fined if they are above three inches. Property owners are responsible for keeping the alleyways behind your property clear of trash and debris from your fence-line to the middle of the alley. Please utilize the 311 Hotline to report weeds and illegal dumping.

Send Completed Form and Dues to: Don Hancock, UHA Treasurer, 105 Stanford SE, Albuquerque NM 87106



Please retain for your records

UHA Dues  
Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### University Heights Association Membership:

Individual (\$5)  Household (\$10)  Business / Sponsor (\$25)

Pay more or less depending on your ability to pay. All meetings and events are open to everyone, regardless of membership status.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

You do not need to be a property owner to join UHA. Anyone who resides or has an interest in the neighborhood is welcome!

Stay up-to-date with the University Heights Association online at [www.uhanm.org](http://www.uhanm.org)