



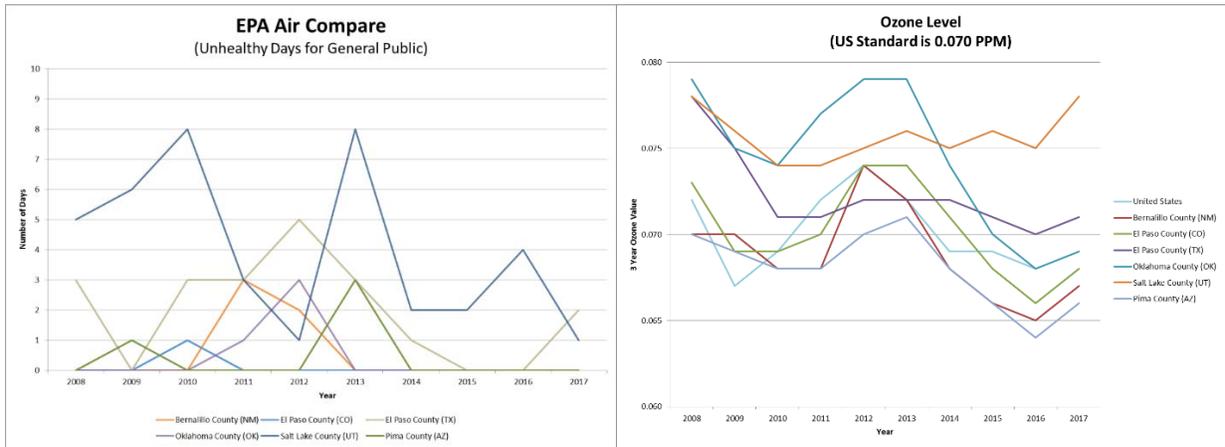
# GOAL 05

## GOALS SUMMIT – Environmental Protection Protect Albuquerque's natural environments - its mountains, river, bosque, volcanos, arroyos, air, and

### Why is this goal important?

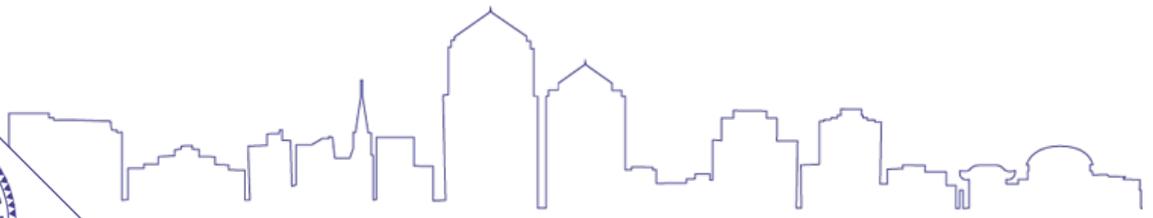
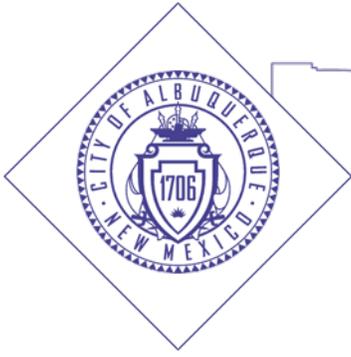
Driving solo to work versus sharing a ride, choosing to throw that empty plastic bottle in the recycling bin or trash cans. These are all choices that can profoundly affect the protection and enhancement of our natural environments. As Albuquerque residents, we should be concerned about the availability and quality of our water, the quality of our air and the preservation of our land for the health of our families and future generations.

## HOW IS ALBUQUERQUE DOING?



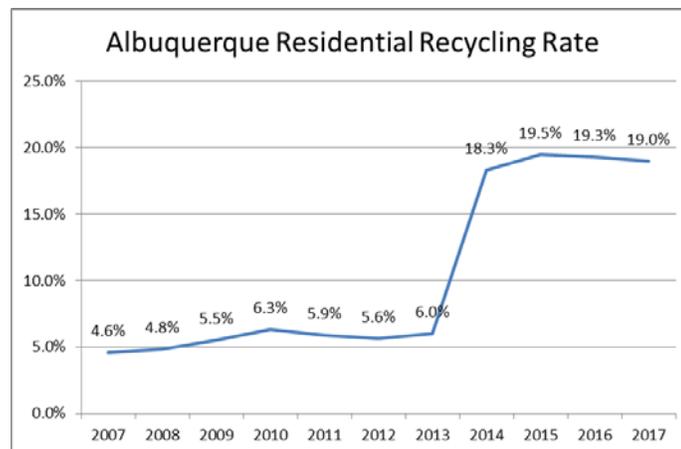
### What can we tell from the data?

- Albuquerque leads its peer communities in clean air and open space, making Albuquerque one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the country.

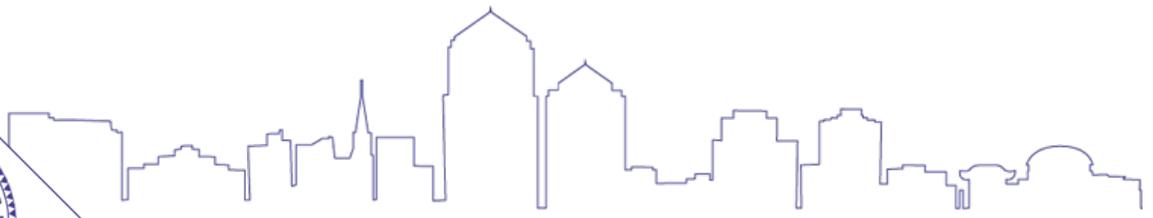
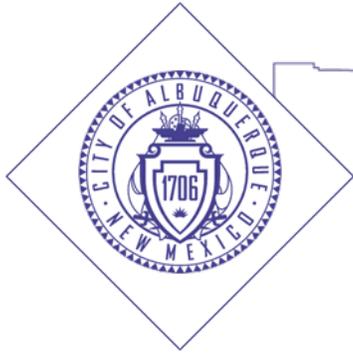


## GOAL 5: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

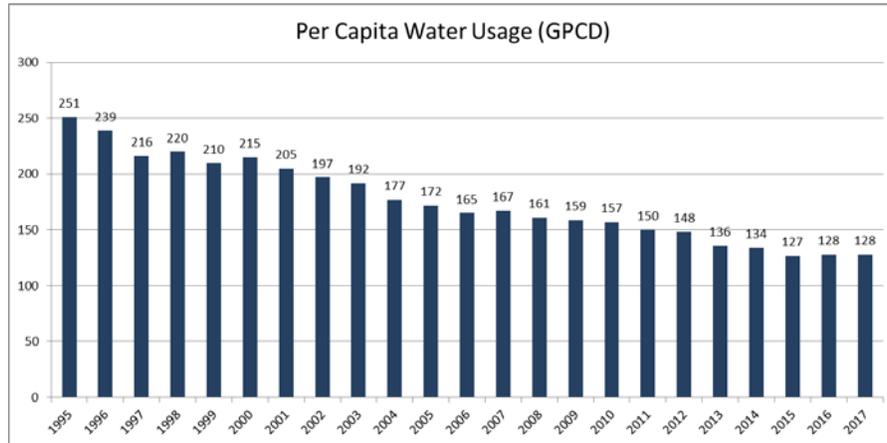
- Air quality in Bernalillo tends to stay consistent throughout the years. Compared to our regional neighbors, our air quality is often better, based on EPA criteria, and has been on track with improvements made nationally. Maintaining a focus on air quality and the protection of public health is important to the city's Environmental Health Department.
- The city's park & open space as a percentage of city land, at 23%, is among the highest in our peer group with 29,125 acres of open space and 2,800 acres of parks.
  - The city has 289 neighborhood parks, with approximately 82% of the city population living within a 10-minute (1/2 mile) walk to a park. The city's "ParkScore" ranking (a national comparison of park programs in the top 100 American cities) is strong, however, fell in 2018 from #23 to #40, mostly due to low park-spending per capita.
- Our city's residential recycling rate and waste landfilled per person per day have a desirable 5-year trend. The residential recycling rate has more than tripled from five years ago to almost 20 percent putting us in the middle of our peer group. The city saw a significant increase after the city's Curbside Recycling program switched from plastic bag pick-up to Recycle Carts in 2014.



- Water conservation has proven to be a powerful tool for managing water resources over the past two decades. Albuquerque has made significant progress in this area, moving from among the highest municipal water users in the Southwest to among the lowest. When the conservation program began in 1995, Albuquerque's water use was 251 gallons per person per day (GPCD). In 2016, water use was 128 GPCD, which is the lowest level since the early 1980s. See graph below.



## GOAL 5: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



### Recent Initiatives

In July of 2017, the City issued approximately \$25 million in New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds for the implementation of solar panels on 34 City's owned buildings. The purpose of this is to reduce the City's energy costs and environmental footprint. Additionally, the city was able to save interest costs by issuing NCREBs and receiving a tax credit subsidy from the Internal Revenue Service. The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority has established a new water conservation goal of 110 GPCD to be achieved by 2037. This will involve new rebates emphasizing both outdoor (consumptive use) savings over indoor (non-consumptive use) savings.

### Desired Community Conditions for Environmental Protection (Goal 5)

The Desired Community Conditions for the Environmental Protection goal are listed below. These are the DCCs that we will be asking you to help us review at the Goals Summit.

1. Air, water, and land are protected from pollution.
2. Water resources are sustainably managed and conserved to provide a long-term supply and drought reserve.
3. Solid wastes are managed to promote waste reduction, recycling, litter abatement, and environmentally-responsible disposal.
4. Open Space, Bosque, the River, and Mountains are preserved and protected.
5. Residents participate and are educated in protecting the environment and sustaining energy and natural resources.

For more detail, see: <http://abqprogressreport.sks.com/files/2016-Albuquerque-Progress-Report.pdf>