

Paul C. Bustamante

Santa Fe, NM 87505

December 31st 2025

The Honorable Michael J. Garcia
Mayor of Santa Fe
200 Lincoln Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Mayor Garcia,

I humbly submit my name for consideration as an appointee to complete your term as City Councilor for District 2. Throughout my professional career, I have strived to find jobs that are of service to the public and, it was this desire to serve that led me to run in the 2025 General Election.

I learned a great deal during my time campaigning. First and foremost, I learned the importance of listening to people. I was surprised, for instance, to learn that the number one concern of many voters in our district wasn't crime, homelessness, or housing, but rather the lack of basic city services over the past few years. Whether it was potholes or weeds in the park, many of our fellow citizens felt that the city could do better.

I have more than 24 years of government service at both the city and federal level. My first job out of high school was as a Police Service Aide for the Albuquerque Police Department. I then served in the Air Force for eight years. During this time, I worked directly for the Director of Policy for Air Mobility Command, one of the Air Force's two major commands. It was there that I learned how to write and implement policies for large governmental organizations.

I went on to serve as a contractor, first for the Department of Defense supporting the Air Force, and later for the Department of Energy at Los Alamos National Laboratory. I continued to develop my abilities to work as part of a team and also gained experience in the procurement of services and equipment.

I was a political unknown when I announced my campaign last April, but at the end of it all, I received 46% of the vote, placing second out of four candidates with 3000 votes. I also earned numerous endorsements, including The Santa Fe New Mexican and AFSCME. I believe this demonstrates both my commitment to our city and my ability to listen to and represent the concerns of the people of Santa Fe.

Thank you for your consideration and this opportunity to serve our community.

Sincerely,
Paul C. Bustamante

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SUMMARY

I'm a previous candidate for City Council District 2 who obtained 46 percent of the final vote. I have a long history of public service, both to my community and my country, with over 24 years of work experience at various government agencies. I'm a veteran who received multiple Meritorious Service awards with experience in writing and developing policies for large organizations. I am committed to Santa Fe families and our community.

VISION

We know the problems facing our city: lack of affordable housing, an increasing unhoused population, and high drug use. I want to work with my neighbors on solving these issues. I believe together we can tackle these problems in a way that is compassionate and that fits in with our unique Santa Fe culture. One of the most important jobs our elected officials have is to listen. As I campaigned and spoke with people, it became clear not everyone felt like that is happening. I would like to change that. I believe that working together with our fellow citizens we can be a positive force for change in Santa Fe.

ENDORSEMENTS

The Santa Fe New Mexican
Young Democrats of New Mexico
American Federation of County, State and Municipal Employees Local 3999
Niños and Neighbors
The Santa Fe Democratic Socialists of America
VoteVets

PUBLIC SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Veteran, United States Air Force
Member County Central Committee
Elected member, State Central Committee
Precinct Captain
Served as a Police Service Aide with the Albuquerque Police Department

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City Council District 2 Candidate
24 Years IT Experience
Fire Cadet with the Los Alamos Fire Department
Police Service Aide

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Volunteer, Santa Fe DSA Burrito Brigade

EDUCATION

University of Southern Maine
Master of Fine Arts - Creative Writing

University of New Mexico
Bachelor of Arts - English

Community College of the Air Force
Associate in Applied Science - Computer Science

U. S. Air Force, Scott AFB, IL
Airman Leadership School