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COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Name:

Alma Castro

Q2

In what city/town/village do you live?

Santa Fe, NM

Q3

For what position are you running?

City Council

Q4

How long have you lived in the District you're running for?

3 years

Q5

Email address

ACastro@almagcastro.com

Q6

Phone number for voters to reach out to you

5054906298

Q7

Other Information

Campaign Website

www.AlmagCastro.com

Social Media

[@Castro4Council](https://twitter.com/Castro4Council)

Q8

If elected, what would be your first priority as a City Councilor?

My top priorities are Public Safety, Expanding City Services, Affordable Housing, and an unwavering commitment to both environmental sustainability and cultural programs.

Q9

What can you as a City Councilor do to determine the usefulness of ordinances and regulations in serving citizens without unnecessarily overburdening anyone?

As a city councilor, I will look at ordinances and regulations in the greater context of our community needs. Why and how are regulations being used; Are they successful at their intended objective and how fairly are they being implemented? These are the questions we should be asking ourselves as we create regulatory systems, short and long term.

Q10

What would you do to streamline permitting and other government red tape in order to attract new business to the Village/City/Town?

I think looking at some of our permitting laws and making them more streamlined, in particular around housing stocks for middle class families is a priority. We need to create enough housing for our workforce with as little red tape as possible. Other public works and city improvement projects could also benefit from a more streamlined and transparent permitting process.

Q11

Our state holds top national rankings for homicide and other serious crimes. How would you use the position of City Councilor to keep citizens safe?

We must address our critically understaffed city departments, first responders and law enforcement agencies. This means encouraging local recruitment and scouting for a broader range of skill sets which can reshape our local agencies. This will improve response rates as well as ensure appropriate response teams that can manage a wide range of crises. I am determined to improve the resources available to our first responders and reduce the overall costs and effect of crime in our community.

Q12

What would you do as a City Councilor to keep current businesses from closing/leaving while attracting more businesses to our Village/City/Town?

Santa Fe, along with the world, finds itself looking to an uncertain future. It is clear that business as usual is not working and we need new alternatives. New and creative business models offer a number of potential benefits for Santa Fe. By attracting and growing cooperatives, multi member LLC's and democratically run industries, the city can create a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous economy for all. Small businesses are owned and operated by their members, who are typically local residents. This means that profits are reinvested in the community, rather than being sent to corporate shareholders elsewhere. Red Tape Reduction practices could greatly benefit non-traditional businesses and the communities they service.

Q13

While you have no jurisdiction over the courts and judges, you do have influence over crime reduction in the Village/City/Town. What would you do as a City Councilor to address the growing number of criminals on our streets?

think addressing "criminals" without ever tackling the root issues that promote criminal activity, is simply putting a bandaid on an open wound. As a city councilor, I would be aggressive at tackling the various causes of poverty that inevitably lead to low level property crime, while staffing and equipping our local law enforcement with the proper tools to address more violent crime.

Q14

Regarding the growing homeless situation, what is your plan as a City Councilor to address the needs of this population?

To address the rapid increase in unhoused members of our community, we must develop housing first models centered in areas where folks have ready access to all their needs in one central location. I will collaborate with city-wide organizations to ramp up their services and implement much needed health and wellness programming. We must help those most in need by addressing the current mental health and addiction crisis suffered by many of our unhoused. Finally, we must fully fund and staff our Alternative Response Unites.

Q15

Relating to 2nd Amendment rights, do you support or oppose ordinances or laws that would outlaw high-capacity magazines or 'assault rifle' possession? Please explain your answer.

I do support regulation on high caliber weapons, magazine restrictions, as well as wait times such as 24 hour cool down periods.

Q16

Relating to 2nd Amendment rights, do you support or oppose the governor's health order on gun carry restrictions? Please explain your answer.

I do support the governor's intent in her ordnance. In lieu of action from the federal level, the governor was forced to take drastic action that had unintended consequences. We live in reactionary times and the powderkege takes very little to explode in violence.

Q17

Relating to 'Home Rule', do you support or oppose a Village/City/Town's rights to adopt constitutionally based policies that may conflict with state mandates?

I support home rule mandates because they give communities flexibility and authority over their local rules and regulations.

Q18

Why are you seeking this office and what makes you the most qualified person to be a City Councilor in this District?

I am from Santa Fe and own a small business - a family owned restaurant. I have spent my life working to uplift working families. I believe I am the most qualified person to take this on because I believe we need leaders from working backgrounds who aren't afraid to try new things to ensure a decent, safe and productive life for all of our citizens.

Q19

Have you ever been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor crime? If yes, please explain.

No

Q20

Have you ever been delinquent in paying taxes or other financial obligations? If yes, please explain.

No
