

## Candidates' Forums Held at The Canyon Club

Twice in September, the East Gateway Coalition of Associations (EGC) sponsored candidates' forums at The Canyon Club to give our area's voters a chance to hear what each of the candidates would do to address the concerns and solve the problems specific to our area. Crime, panhandling, blighted buildings and community center issues were topics of intense interest.

The first was a Mayoral Forum, held on September 21, 2017. It was an overwhelming success, with standing-room-only turnout. All eight candidates were present. Questions were gathered from our area's neighborhood associations over the summer and were presented by moderator Karen Moses, Editor of the Albuquerque Journal. There was also a "speed round" of support/oppose questions, and each candidate was given the opportunity to ask a question of one of the other candidates.

The second was a District 9 City Council Forum, held on September 27, 2017. A pouring rain kept our turnout lower than we had hoped, but those who came were able to hear all three candidates' positions on issues affecting our district. Audience members also had the opportunity to write their questions on cards, and several of these were chosen to be included in the round of questioning as well. This forum was moderated by Michael Brasher, President of the EGC, and also included a "speed round" and the opportunity for each candidate to ask a question of another.

The East Gateway Coalition of Associations was founded by our own Roger Mickelson in 2007 to represent the neighborhood associations in the East Gateway sector of Albuquerque on matters important to this area (bordered by Wyoming on the west, I-40 on the north, and the City limits on the east and south). It meets quarterly at the Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center and includes briefings from APD, BCSO, our area's representatives and other agencies. For meeting dates and times, visit our website at <https://eastgatewaycoalition.weebly.com/>. All are welcome to attend! Come join us as we work to make this a better area in which to live, work and play.

- Debbie Owen, Secretary  
East Gateway Coalition