

North Campus Neighborhood Association



***NCNA recommendations
for the UNM Master Planning process***

NCNA Goals

- To provide the University of New Mexico the NCNA and affiliated university neighborhood organizations community guidelines for responsible land use.
- These guidelines have been requested by the President of the university as necessary community engagement.
- Community engagement means active participation in the decision making process.

Requirements

- Preserve the North Golf Course & Barren Fairways footprint with no further loss to development.
- Maintain the North Course and upgrade Barren Fairways for usage enhancement.
- Reclamation of Barrens for educational and environmentally sustainable uses.
- No through traffic off arterial streets.
- Maintain views to West from North course and Barren Fairways.

Greater Development Impact

NCNA recommendations are aligned with those of Santa Barbara & Martineztown neighborhoods and the Federation of University Neighborhoods in regard to development, traffic, and land use.

Areas of Concern

- Healthy Communities
- Quality Open Space
- Public Transportation & Traffic Reduction
- Urban Heat Island Mitigation
- Community Engagement
- Educational Opportunities

Preservation of North Golf Course and Barren Fairways

Establish a 99 year conservation easement to protect open green space to benefit both UNM and the greater community:

- Iconic feature of the North Campus provides a positive university profile and interactive gateway to the University for the greater community
- Will help offset current and future heat island effects of campus development.
- Contribute to healthy community goals by preserving centrally located natural open space.
- Reduce storm water runoff and replenish ground water.

Preservation of North Golf Course and Barren Fairways

- Opportunity for tax credit income to UNM from Conservation Easement set aside program and carbon offset credits.
- Provide safety zone for UNMH medical flights as well as Balloon Fiesta.
- Recognition of the contributions of Tom Popejoy and William Tucker to the campus and greater community.

Preservation of North Golf Course and Barren Fairways

Reclamation of barren fairways areas including all parking west of The Domenici Mind Institute and other existing buildings:

- Support of centralized parking plans and reduction of vehicular traffic on campus.
- Enlarges area greenbelt
- Respects UNM and community need for living open space.
- Provides an opportunity for campus and community health, education, and fitness, an outdoor laboratory, a community garden, and many potential future sustainable uses.

Transportation Improvements

NCNA supports an integrated bike path on the east side of AMAFCA channel access road:

- Provides connectivity between community and UNM.
- Contributes to the greater transportation networks.
- Creates safe bike/pedestrian access between North and Main campus.
- Eliminates potential conflict between building access and bike traffic.

Transportation Improvements

NCNA supports the Tucker Road closure at Stanford and access to Law School from Stanford:

- Reinforces UNM centralized public transportation plans.
- Creates additional land appropriate for development.
- Strengthens connection of North to Main Campus through centralized entry points.

Transportation Improvements

NCNA supports the Tucker Road closure at Stanford and access to Law School from Stanford:

- Supports pedestrian and bicycle SKYWAY plan at Yale and Lomas.
- Promotes pedestrian and bicycle access from Stanford and supports City of Albuquerque neighborhood traffic plans.
- Increases safety by reducing neighborhood and campus vehicular through traffic.

Transportation Improvements

Provide early vehicle entry points to UNM parking and transit nodes from arterial streets:

- Maintains commuter traffic on arterial streets.
- Supports mixed use parking schemes for lands west of University.
- Foster the creation of intermodal transit nodes to reduce UNM and city-wide vehicular dependence.
- Support of the UNM & City of Albuquerque traffic reduction plan.
- Integrates City of Albuquerque and UNM public transportation plans.

Observations



Benefits of the Golf Course & Barren Fairways Open Space

- Provides UNM a historic and aesthetic landmark as a functional gateway to campus.
- Accessible to UNM and greater community.
- Health and education benefits of open space activities.
- Air quality offset to urbanization and Big I traffic.

Benefits of the Golf Course & Barren Fairways Open Space

- Storm water management for the greater area.
- Refuge for local and migratory wildlife.
- Buffer zone for UNMH medical flights, and balloon fiesta.
- Historical significance to William Tucker, Tom Popejoy and the Great Depression.
- An opportunity to re-invest in a historical WPA project.

Observations



Accessibility

- Easy access from main and north campus.
- 75,000+ people within walking distance.
- Connected to bike and foot paths.
- Provides year round usages for golf, running, walking, NCAA cross country meets, etc.

Direct Health Benefits

- Golfing
- Walking
- Running
- Carbon offset benefit
- Cool Cities / heat island reduction
- Air quality improvement
- Natural wildlife refuge

This is a unique piece of land that provides respite to thousands people on a daily basis where people are active!

Observations



Preservation Benefits

- The North Course and Barren Fairways are a historically significant, valued, and irreplaceable asset to the University, the City, and the State.
- As the North Campus and surrounding areas become increasingly developed, the North Course and Barren Fairways become increasingly valuable and necessary as living open space.

Green Space

An important but often overlooked aspect of development is open space

- UNM is mandated to follow LEED practices, which includes environmentally responsible planning:
 - LEED.
 - Heat Island.
 - Recreation value.
 - Land scarcity.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

- **LEED** is the global standard of design.
- **LEED** mitigates the impact of development on all aspects of our environment.
- **LEED** informs the University's responsibility to provide integral open space in an urbanized setting.

Heat Island

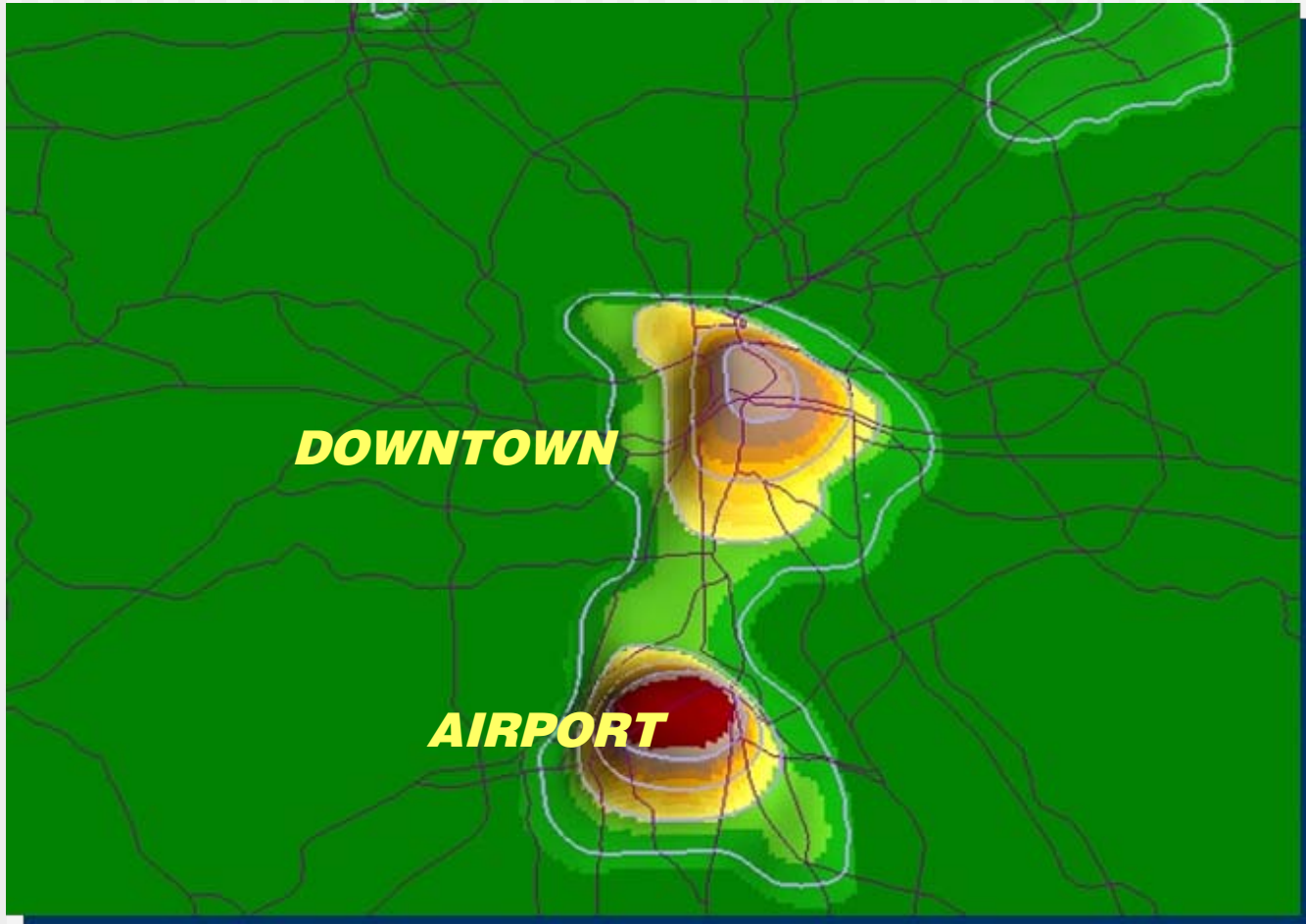
- As development progresses radiant energy is trapped in the mass of buildings, parking lots, etc. The effect is to raise urban temperatures and create hostile “**micro**” climates.
- **Green spaces** offset the effects of **Heat Islands**.
- Atlanta was selected by the DOE to study the effects of development which showed a **12 degree** rise in temperature over a 20 year period.

The following LandSat images of Atlanta show impact of development:

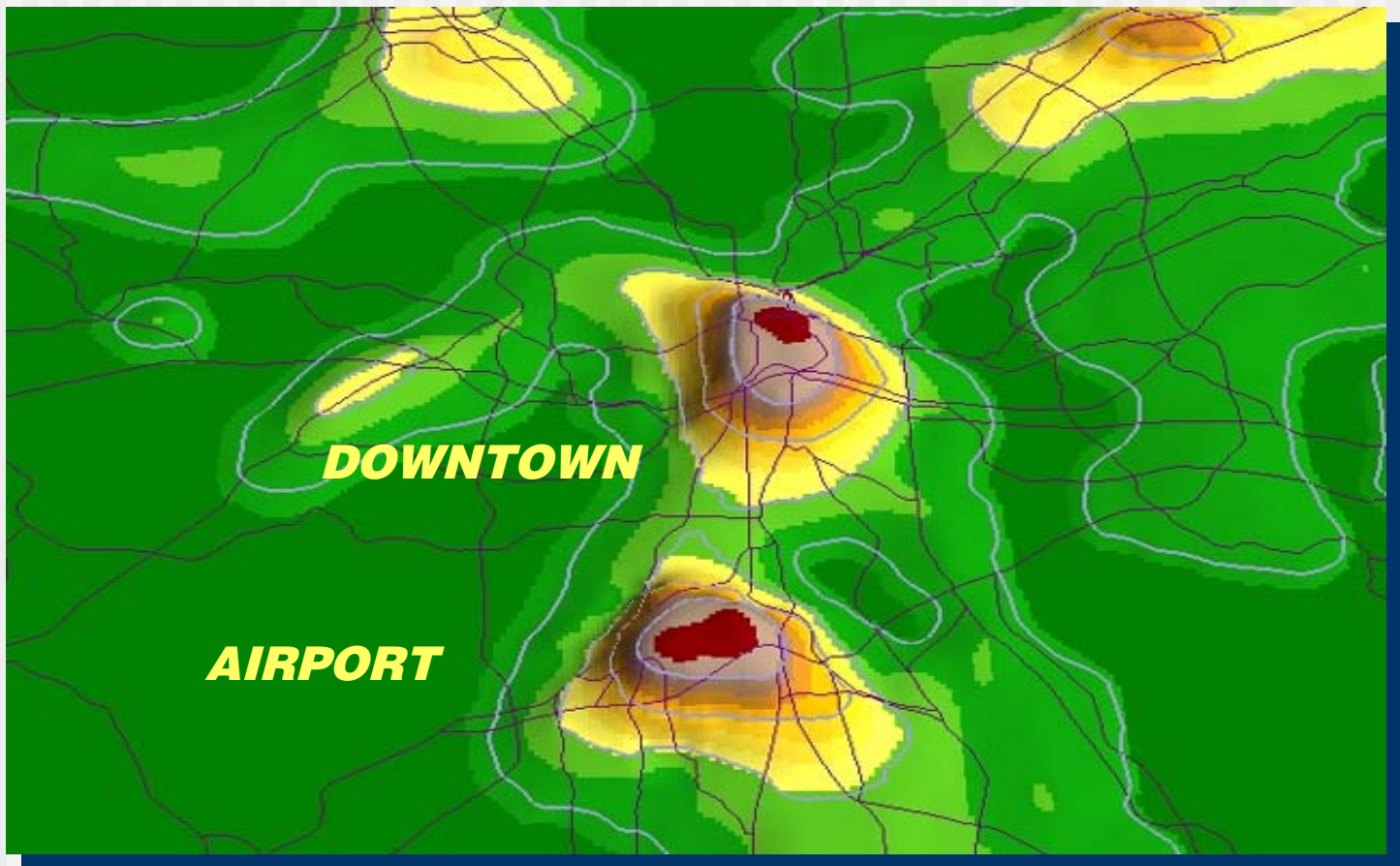
1972 Heat Island



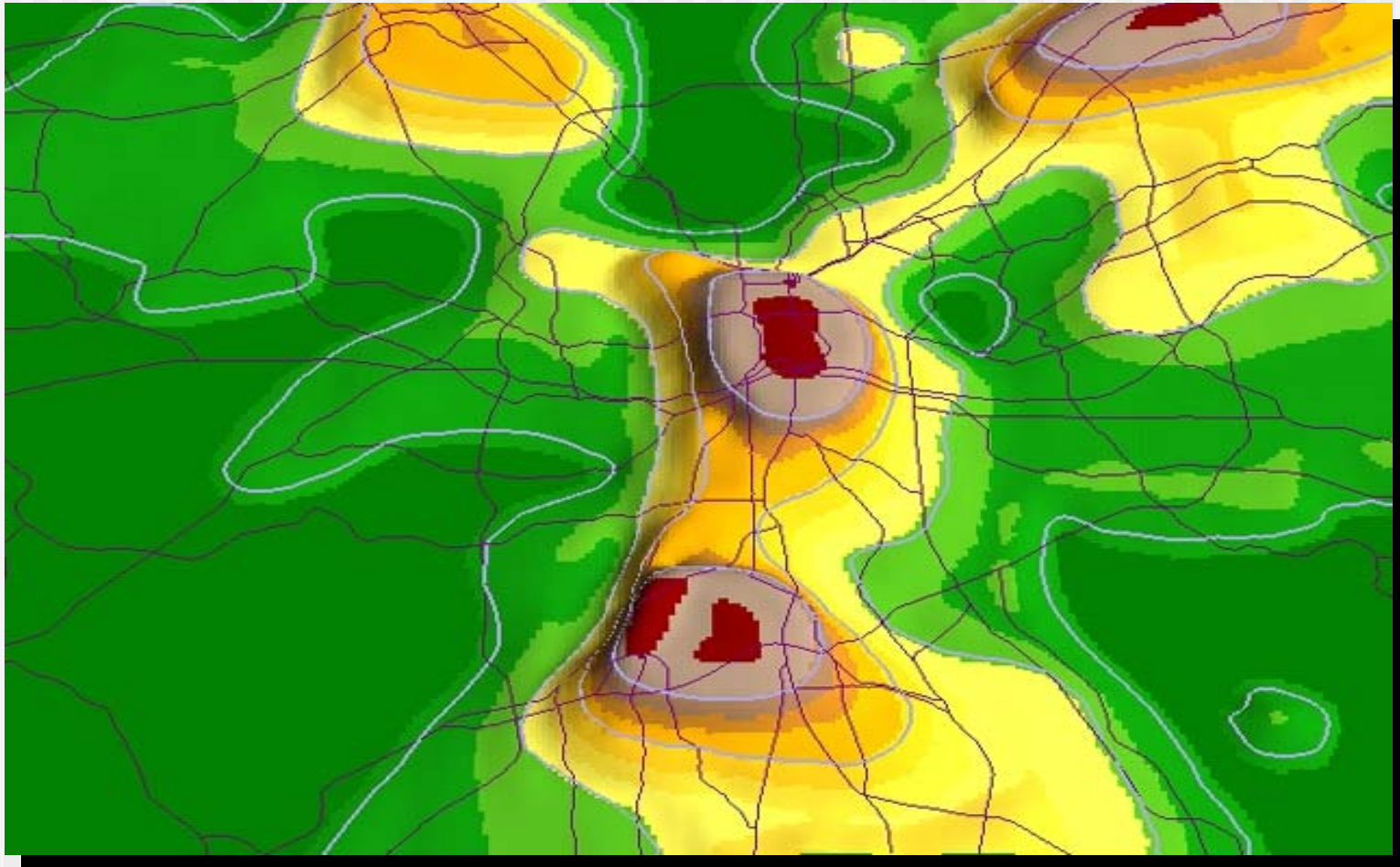
1978 Heat Island



1986 Heat Island



1993 Heat Island

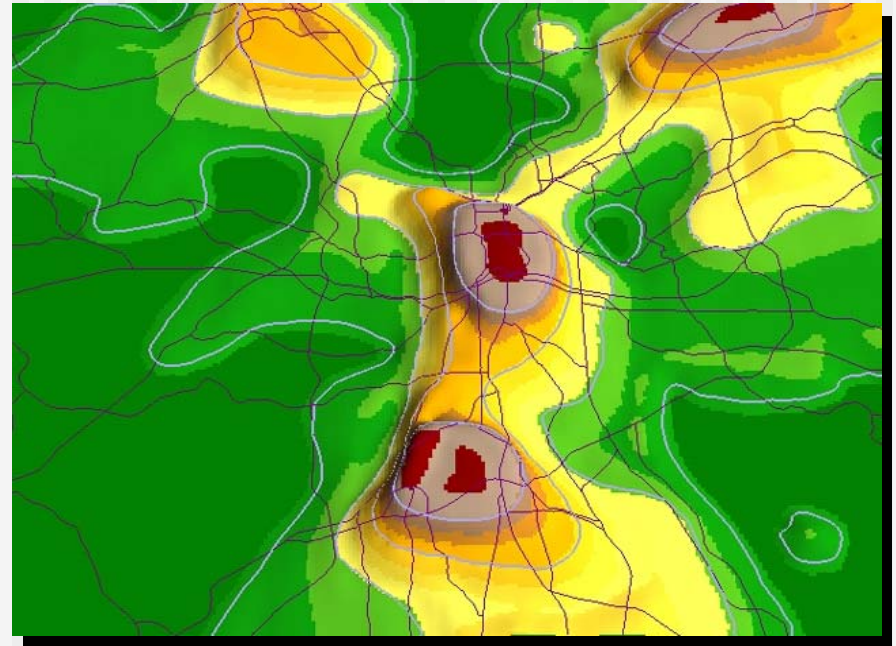


Atlanta in Perspective

1972



1993



Imagine what UNM and Albuquerque have experienced?

What are the responsibilities for UNM and the community?

Stormwater Management

- As UNM paves and develops lands, the rain water cannot be absorbed into the ground.
- This creates localized flooding, drainage, and erosion problems beyond the campus.
- Water run-off from pavement and buildings is contaminated with various pollutants.
- Resulting in loss of rain water absorption and aquifer recharge.
- The North Course and Barrens acts as a filter and helps recharge the aquifer.

Transitional Zones

- The open space provides respite for wildlife.
- The North Course and Barren Fairways buffer UNM activities from the surrounding neighborhoods.
- UNM has a responsibility to ensure that UNM activities have a positive impact on the community.
- The open space provides educational opportunities for the community.

Water Usage

- Currently the North Course and Barren Fairways have 67 irrigated acres. They use approximately 900K gallons per acre per year to maintain.
- Average golf course requires 1 -1.2M per acre per year.
- With small investment in new irrigation heads, and some fine tuning of the green areas, the course can reduce water consumption an additional 20-25%.

Water Usage

- Main Campus chiller is dumping millions of gallons of usable water into the ABQ sewer system annually.
- These waters can be re-directed to offset water usage on the golf course and the “Barren Fairways.”
- Reclaim the Barren Fairways as part of the campus open space.

North Course & Barren Fairways

Renovation of existing course would encompass the following:

- Irrigation improvement.
- Tree stock replacement and management.
- Perimeter easement road maintenance.

Resulting in:

- Increase water efficiencies.
- Enhance connection of the community to the campus.
- Improve income of golf course.
- Enhance recreational usage.

North Course & Barren Fairways

Reclamation of the areas known as the Barren Fairways would provide:

Quality open space for UNM and the community.

Stewardship opportunity for future generations.

Educational opportunities for UNM and the community.

Wildlife refuge for many species such as coyote, owls, humming birds, and lizards, and more.

North Course & Barren Fairways

- Provides opportunities for community lobbying on behalf of University for funding Open Space preservation and educational goals.
- Creates community and alumni engagement that will provide benefit to the University by promoting goodwill and stewardship of healthy communities.
- Immediate restoration opportunities.

The Best Solution

- Preserve and enhance the Open Space for today and tomorrow.
- Create a lasting legacy of responsible land stewardship.
- Plan and develop responsibly.

Summary

- Preserve North Golf Course & Barren Fairways footprint with no further loss to development.
- Maintain North Course and upgrade Barren Fairways
- Reclamation of Barren Fairways for educational and environmentally sustainable uses.
- No through traffic off arterial streets.
- Maintain views to West from North course and Barren Fairways.
- The NCNA will continue its efforts in supporting the university neighborhoods, and the greater Albuquerque community in preserving quality open space at UNM.

Thank you.

