

**From:** [City of Santa Fe](#)  
**To:** [Governing Body Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** New submission from your Governing Body Public Comment form  
**Date:** Sunday, February 22, 2026 2:24:01 AM

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Submitted on: Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 2:23am

- First Name: Berl
- Last Name: Brechner
- Your Email Address: [REDACTED]
- Your District: District 2
- Meeting Date: 2/25/26
- Section of Agenda you would like to comment on: Public Comment
- Your Comment:

I have sought to upload with this a detailed (and lengthy due to the facts involved) communication I sent to members of the city's Governing Body. The bottom line: many documents and events show the owner of the Soldiers' Monument to be the State, not the City. Judge Wilson's decision against former Mayor Webber and the City instructed the City to restore the monument as it was and where it is, but any other action had to be done with State authority.

The agenda for this meeting shows a representative of the State Historic Preservation Office will be a presenter.

Until all agree that the State is the lead on this Monument that the Territorial government built it principally to memorialize soldiers who died in New Mexico in the fight against the

slavery, there's no sense in spending time, money and effort of government and citizens on wishes or hopes that may be impractical, or not in keeping historic designation and preservation requirements, or simply not in keeping with State goals and objectives. Acceptance of the State role in this a threshold issue that should be resolved before any next steps are evaluated. The City has no authority to do whatever it wants with this nearly 160 year old fixture at the heart of the historic Plaza.