

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-15

INTRODUCED BY:

Mayor Alan Webber

Councilor Jamie Cassutt

Councilor Renee Villarreal

A RESOLUTION

ADOPTING NEXT STEPS TO REVISE THE CITY OF SANTA FE’S GENERAL PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe’s (City’s) Planning and Land Use Department, in consultation with members of the City’s Governing Body, City department directors and members of the Planning Commission seek to update the City’s General Plan, as informed by the outcomes of the current General Plan, and the changing needs and priorities of the Santa Fe community (“General Plan Update”); and,

WHEREAS, a General Plan Update should capture the City’s vision of its future and guide the advancement of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body aspires to achieve the following goals in the General Plan Update:

- (1) Protecting resources in a balanced, well-managed, and dynamic manner; and
- (2) Fostering the Santa Fe traditions that enrich everyday life by promoting high-quality urban spaces that support and are consistent with the desired community character, and that reinforce ecological conservation measures for urban design; and

1 (3) Promoting a compact urban form that supports developing affordable housing;
2 provides a mix of housing types and land uses in all areas of the city; diversifies the
3 economy; and enhances the city’s unique personality, sense of place, and character, and
4 encourages a regional growth management perspective through cooperative engagement
5 with regional partners; and

6 (4) Becoming a city where essential goods, services, employment, and amenities are
7 available to residents within their neighborhoods, thereby reducing automobile
8 dependence, improving transportation network connectivity, providing equitable access
9 to affordable transportation, and connecting underserved communities to services and
10 employment; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the General Plan Update should create a dynamic growth policy to guide
12 the physical development of the city of Santa Fe and future growth areas and will provide for the
13 creation and enhancement of opportunities for beneficial use of the community’s resources; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the General Plan Update should provide for meaningful access to the
15 community’s resources and ensure a vibrant sense of place and belonging, opportunities for
16 advancement, and preservation of the City’s inclusionary vision and precious resources, including
17 land, water, people, culture, unique places, and economic potential; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the General Plan Update should aggregate goals and objectives from the
19 current General Plan with new needs and priorities under concrete, attainable implementing
20 policies that are accessible, user-friendly, and regularly reviewed to gauge progress and continued
21 relevance; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the planning objectives identified for implementation in the General Plan
23 Update should support assessment and integration of opportunities and support structures needed
24 to increase the general prosperity, quality of life, and functionality of the City and should allow
25 for better understanding of the status, development, and management of the needs of each council

1 district and neighborhoods, the downtown area, placemaking opportunities, initiatives and
2 revitalization efforts, and the nexuses and interdependencies that make Santa Fe more livable and
3 vibrant for its residents and visitors; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the implementation of these objectives should help to refine the approach to
5 accessible, resilient neighborhoods and townscape of lasting value and integrity, forward
6 equitable and inclusionary practices, enhance quality of life, and identify and integrate
7 opportunities and needed support structures to increase general health, wellness, and prosperity of
8 the community; and

9 **WHEREAS**, through public education and engagement of community members from all
10 walks of life, the General Plan Update should help the city find common threads and shared goals
11 and desires that may be built upon to unify the community of Santa Fe in a common purpose and
12 define best practices and actions that support, preserve, and advance the integrity of Santa Fe; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the General Plan Update should address existing process and
14 implementation challenges with strategies that will positively affect crucial issues such as lack of
15 housing opportunities, affordability, and related services shortages; and missed development
16 opportunities and associated consequences; and

17 **WHEREAS**, periodic revisions to the General Plan Update should be made to help
18 ensure conformance and consistency with current standards, trends, community goals, and
19 community preferences; and create a comprehensive policy instrument that provides the basis for
20 future decisions on regulations, capital expenditures, grant and other funding priorities, open
21 space, and the built environment; and

22 **WHEREAS**, utilizing data and analysis, the General Plan Update should help establish
23 long-range goals and objectives for implementation in a coordinated manner; facilitate and
24 support the City's core planning and development efforts to ensure responsible growth and best
25 use of Santa Fe's precious natural resources and the long-term wellbeing of the community; and

1 support and inform the City’s Land Development Code update implementation; and

2 **WHEREAS**, a “general plan” is synonymous with the State-mandated “Comprehensive
3 Plan” or “Master Plan”; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the City’s General Plan should be kept current through regular and systematic
5 internal review, updates, and reporting so that it reflects the City’s policies and changing concerns,
6 conditions, priorities, programs, and demands; and

7 **WHEREAS**, a user platform that provides access to staff, the Planning Commission, the
8 Governing Body, and the public, will help those parties to understand the goals and policies set
9 forth by the General Plan Update.

10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
11 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Planning Commission shall oversee the proposed revisions to the
12 City’s General Plan consistent with the interests described in this resolution and the statutory duties
13 of the Commission.

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager shall coordinate the necessary
15 actions for the Planning Commission to proceed with recommendations for a timely update of the
16 General Plan.

17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City shall release a Request for Proposals
18 (RFP) for a qualified consultant and sub-consultants to draft the proposed General Plan Update.
19 The drafting process should include, but not be limited to, the following tasks: assessing the
20 status of City policy initiatives and implementation of the current General Plan and determining
21 needed actions to complete the implementation of current policies, as well as the strengths and
22 deficiencies of the current General Plan; conducting surveys, studies, and other assessments;
23 coordinating and executing community outreach and engagement; conducting scenario planning;
24 ensuring the General Plan Update is consistent with related City policy objectives, capital
25 improvement plans, growth management goals, tools, and implementation strategies; developing

1 a digital user platform for the use of staff, the Governing Body, and the public to understand the
2 policy direction set forth for the General Plan Update; and all other activities necessary for
3 adoption of the General Plan Update.

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager shall task the relevant staff
5 and/or the qualified consultant with providing the Governing Body with a quarterly progress
6 report regarding the current status of the planning and development of the General Plan Update
7 and implementing policies.

8 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 27th day of April, 2023.

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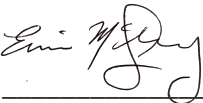
12 ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

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14 ATTEST:

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17 KRISTINE MIHELIC, CITY CLERK

18 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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21 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/2023/Resolutions/2023-15 (R) General Plan Update*