

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-16

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Renee Villarreal

Councilor Jamie Cassutt

Mayor Alan Webber

A RESOLUTION

**SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SAFE SLEEPING SPACES AS A SHELTER
OPTION FOR THOSE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA FE
AND FOR WHOM STANDARD SHELTER OPTIONS ARE NOT FEASIBLE;
IDENTIFYING AN APPROPRIATE “BEST PRACTICES” AND DATA-DRIVEN
APPROACH TO SHELTERING THIS POPULATION; AND DIRECTING THE CITY
MANAGER TO ENTER INTO OR BRING TO THE GOVERNING BODY CONTRACTS
FOR STRUCTURES, SITES FOR THE STRUCTURES, LANDOWNERS WILLING TO
PROVIDE AN AREA FOR THE STRUCTURES, AND AN OPERATOR OR OPERATORS
CAPABLE OF PROVIDING ROUND-THE CLOCK SUPPORT SERVICES AND 24/7
SUPERVISION.**

WHEREAS, Santa Fe is a community that cares about its most vulnerable residents and
envvisions a future where the immediate housing needs of all its residents are effectively met, where
homelessness, when experienced, is brief and non-recurring; and

WHEREAS, City staff realizes that effectively ending homelessness using “best practices”

1 models includes outreach and identification of unsheltered people, providing shelter options and
2 social services that are appropriate for each individual, offering pathways to permanent housing,
3 and ensuring collaboration and communication among agencies and providers; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body adopted Resolution 2022-52, a joint resolution between
5 the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County, on September 28, 2022, which formally aligns efforts to
6 address homelessness in our community and prioritized further investment of public resources to
7 offset the human costs and public costs of homelessness; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe's annual Point in Time (PIT) count, an annual survey of sheltered
9 and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January, which is widely
10 considered an undercount, was 260 people, of which at least 119 are considered “chronically”
11 homeless; and

12 **WHEREAS**, City staff estimate the cost of addressing the impacts of homelessness as
13 fourteen million dollars (\$14 million) annually, including public safety and emergency medical
14 treatment, cleaning up parks and other public places, and maintaining the cleanliness of drainages
15 and repairing infrastructure; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the current shelter options in Santa Fe do not meet the individualized needs
17 of unhoused people because of concerns about COVID, behavioral health issues, substance
18 use, distrust of shelter services, pet ownership, and or desire to share space with a partner;
19 and,

20 **WHEREAS**, a “Safe Outdoor Space” (SOS) provides private, non-congregate sleeping
21 quarters, access to bathrooms and showers, laundry facilities, meals, and connections to services,
22 including access to case managers and services providers; and

23 **WHEREAS**, staying at an SOS is a direct pathway to stability in as much as it provides a
24 regular place to return, a comfortable, climate-controlled place to sleep, a secure space for storing
25 belongings, agency and ownership, community support, and enables outreach workers and case

1 managers to know where to find the people they are assisting; and

2 **WHEREAS**, research published in 2022 by the University of Denver’s Center for Housing
3 and Homelessness evaluating crime associated with Denver’s Beloved Community Village found
4 that there was no increase in crime in the neighborhood surrounding the village and more than 85%
5 of neighbors had either positive or neutral feelings about the village’s impact on community.

6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
7 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City Manager shall direct staff to accomplish the following tasks:

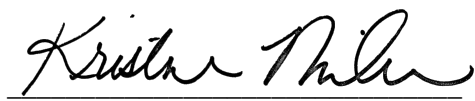
- 8 1. Identify available and appropriate physical locations for SOS, with landowners willing
9 and able to provide 24/7 security, hygiene facilities, and electrical services, in direct
10 partnership with social services providers.
- 11 2. Contract with a provider who can deliver comprehensive outreach and social services
12 that directly support the stability of people staying in SOS, including meals, case
13 management, and healthcare, and pathways to permanent housing.
- 14 3. Work with the service provider to develop a “Good Neighbor” agreement between the
15 service provider and neighbors of the SOS. The agreement shall include, but not be
16 limited to, terms about cooperation, communication protocols, standards for tenancy,
17 and dispute resolution.

18 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2023.

19
20 

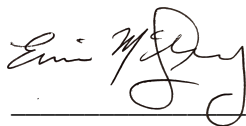
21 ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR

22 ATTEST:

23
24 

25 KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

2 
3 _____

4 ERIN MCSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY