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**SANTA FE COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO.**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Commissioner Lisa Cacari Stone

**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-14**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Mayor Michael Garcia

Councilor Pilar Faulkner

**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF PERIODIC JOINT MEETINGS BETWEEN SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CONDUCTING THOSE MEETINGS.**

**WHEREAS**, Santa Fe County (“County”) and the City of Santa Fe (“City”) have overlapping jurisdiction in certain areas and face a variety of issues of mutual concern and interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the challenges and opportunities facing local governments generally, and the City and County specifically, are of such complexity and scope that regional solutions and collaboration are sometimes necessary and often lead to better outcomes than can be achieved independently; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and City have a long history of regional cooperation through joint boards and regional entities to address critical areas, such as water through the Buckman Direct Diversion Board, solid waste through the Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency, public safety through the Santa Fe Regional Emergency Communications Center, and transportation through the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

1           **WHEREAS**, effective policymaking benefits from regular collaboration and  
2 communication from policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and community members to identify  
3 issues, generate solutions, and inform policy decisions; and

4           **WHEREAS**, intergovernmental leadership and collaboration would allow the County  
5 and City to work together to test approaches and incorporate successful practices into policies and  
6 programs; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the City and the Board of County Commissioners  
8 (collectively, the “Bodies”) believe that action-oriented, collaborative approaches and outcome-  
9 driven agendas in joint meetings will further the mutual goals of collaboration and ensuring that  
10 regional solutions are frequently explored and pursued when agreed upon; and

11           **WHEREAS**, the Bodies desire to establish a framework for joint meetings during calendar  
12 years 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029.

13           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF**  
14 **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE GOVERNING BODY** that:

- 15           1. The Bodies shall meet at least twice per year, in June or July and November or  
16           December, at the call of the Mayor and Chair of the Board of County Commissioners,  
17           or upon the request of a minimum of three (3) County Commissioners and five (5) City  
18           Councilors.
- 19           2. The agenda for each joint meeting shall be independently approved by the Governing  
20           Body of the City and Board of County Commissioners. As appropriate and within  
21           budgeted resources, the County Manager and City Manager shall direct staff to prepare  
22           packet materials for joint meeting agenda items, ensure packet materials are available  
23           at least five (5) business days before a joint meeting, procure subject-matter experts  
24           and other resources, and otherwise coordinate the preparation for and running of the  
25           joint meetings.

- 1           3. The governance of the joint meetings shall reflect a collaborative, co-leadership  
2           model focused on solution-oriented action and measurable outcomes, including the  
3           establishment and convening of “Action Working Groups” to address community  
4           priorities and issues of mutual concern between the City and the County.
- 5                 a. Action Working Groups shall be co-chaired by one member from each of the  
6                 Bodies, each appointed based on their subject-matter expertise related to the  
7                 issue of mutual concern.
- 8                 b. Participation in each Action Working Group shall include, at a minimum,  
9                 two City Councilors and two County Commissioners to maintain balanced  
10                representation between the City and County.
- 11                c. Each Action Working Group shall prioritize inclusive community  
12                participation, evidence-informed analysis, and practical implementation  
13                strategies designed to advance policy development, program design, and  
14                action-oriented outcomes that address shared City-County priorities.
- 15           4. Joint meetings of the Governing Body of the City and the Board of County  
16           Commissioners shall be held in the Chambers located at 102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe,  
17           NM, or other appropriate locations that support public participation, technological  
18           access, and effective intergovernmental collaboration and that comply with NMSA  
19           1978, Section 4-38-8. Meetings of Action Working Groups that include less than  
20           three (3) County Commissioners may be held at any location that meets the needs of  
21           the particular meeting.
- 22           5. The Bodies anticipate collaborating on areas of mutual interest for collaborative  
23           discussion, planning or action. Such areas may include, but are not limited to, the  
24           following:
- 25                 a. services for unhoused and justice-involved constituents;

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- b. permanent supportive housing development;
  - c. regional housing strategies;
  - d. creation of a utility authority pursuant to the regional Water System Resiliency Act; and
  - e. wildfire mitigation.
6. Notice of and agendas for joint meetings of the Bodies shall be posted by the City and the County in accordance with their respective Open Meetings Act resolutions and practice.
7. This joint resolution shall expire on December 31, 2029, unless earlier rescinded by one of the Governing Bodies.
8. Nothing in this resolution requires that collaboration between the City and County occur through, be approved by, or be coordinated through the Action Working Groups or joint meetings of the Governing Bodies. The Action Working Groups are intended only to support cooperation on shared priorities and do not limit other forms of collaboration.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

  
MICHAEL J. GARCIA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
GERALYN F. CARDENAS, CITY CLERK

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Marcos Martinez

[Marcos Martinez \(Apr 8, 2026 14:49:18 MDT\)](#)

MARCOS D. MARTÍNEZ, CITY ATTORNEY

*Legislation/2026/Resolutions/Joint County-City resolution for joint meetings and working groups*