

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-__**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Jamie Cassutt

6 Councilwoman Renee Villarreal

7 Councilor Michael J. Garcia

8 Councilor Amanda Chavez

9
10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **SUPPORTING “COMPLETE STREETS” DESIGN STANDARDS, WHICH ARE**
12 **INTENDED TO PROVIDE SAFER AND MORE EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION**
13 **IMPROVEMENTS AND REDUCING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE**
14 **SANTA FE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA**

15
16 **WHEREAS**, “Complete Streets” design standards were created by a national movement
17 called the Smart Growth Coalition, a national planning non-profit, public interest organization; and

18 **WHEREAS**, adopting Complete Streets is intended to result in comprehensive, integrated
19 transportation networks with infrastructure and design that support safe and well-managed travel
20 along and across streets for all users, including pedestrians, users of public transit, bicyclists,
21 persons with disabilities, seniors, children, motorists, visitors, shared mobility services, and movers
22 of commercial goods; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Complete Streets support the health and wellbeing of residents and the
24 environment by creating and improving sustainable transportation options, providing opportunities
25 for physical activity through improved access to active transportation, improving air quality

1 through reduced vehicle emissions, mitigating the urban heat island effect, utilizing stormwater
2 runoff and decreasing stormwater pollutants, and maximizing shade trees and vegetation; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Complete Streets are essential in providing safe routes to schools and parks
4 for children and parents; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the encouragement of diverse and comprehensive public engagement and
6 participation in community decisions concerning street design is critical and, to date, public
7 engagement results in response to the draft Santa Fe Multimodal Transition Plan and the City of
8 Santa Fe (City) Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (“MPO’s”) Master Plan, which each had
9 formal public engagement activities, have revealed a commanding desire for a more walkable,
10 bikeable, and transit-accessible transportation network; and

11 **WHEREAS**, public streets ought to be designed not only to accommodate safe access for
12 all users, but in a manner in which creates vibrant, attractive, and sustainable public places that
13 advance ambitious environmental and social equity goals; and

14 **WHEREAS**, according to Smart Growth America’s “Benefits of Complete Streets” on-
15 line tool kit, streets designed for all users and not just for commuter convenience offer long-term
16 cost savings for local and state governments, provide public health, and financial benefits to
17 property owners and businesses; and

18 **WHEREAS**, there is a continued and urgent recognition that impacts of climate change
19 are occurring more frequently and with added severity, and designing and promoting a multi-modal,
20 regional transportation system supports a comprehensive climate action strategy to reduce
21 greenhouse gas emissions; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the MPO has adopted, and the City has implemented, MPO Master Plans that
23 promote transportation improvements that encourage walking, bicycling, and transit use and see
24 them as equal mobility options to the automobile; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the MPO has voted to support Complete Streets a number of times: (1) the

1 principles of Complete Streets in 2007; (2) the subsequent development and implementation of the
2 2012 Metropolitan Bicycle Master Plan, which was updated in 2019; (3) the 2015 Metropolitan
3 Pedestrian Master Plan; and (4) the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan improving road and
4 street safety through design (“MPO Complete Streets Resolution”);

5 **WHEREAS**, the MPO Complete Streets Resolution includes the understanding that all
6 trips have equal value and acknowledges the benefits and value for the public health and welfare
7 of reducing vehicle miles traveled and increasing transportation alternatives, such as walking,
8 bicycling, and public transportation; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the implementation of Complete Streets will help to shift the City toward
10 carbon neutrality and is a sustainable planning practice, features that are consistent with Santa Fe’s
11 Sustainability Plan and Climate Impact Reduction Goals; and

12 **WHEREAS**, for eight years (2012-2019), the National Highway Traffic Safety
13 Administration has identified New Mexico as one of the four states nationwide with the highest
14 rates of pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 population; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation has found that designing streets for
16 speeds over 25 miles per hour dramatically increases the likelihood that a person struck while
17 walking will be killed; and

18 **WHEREAS**, studies have shown that street designs that encourage lower speeds save lives
19 by reducing both vehicle speed and driver error; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the City, in light of urgent safety needs and climate change impacts, wishes
21 to strengthen its commitment to Complete Streets, promoting safe and convenient travel for all
22 users and recognizing community context, sustainability, and social equity with the use of design
23 guidelines and standards that support best practices; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the attached graphic summary (Exhibit A) of the benefits of Complete Streets
25 within the Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Area articulates a vision of how roads and streets may

1 be repurposed to advance the goals of sustainability, community, affordable housing, safety,
2 economic development, and public health and represents the City's commitment to further advance
3 these goals.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
5 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body commits to Complete Streets as a core value and
6 directs that this resolution shall proactively inform and guide the development or revision of land
7 use codes, regulations, and plans so that the design and construction of streets in the city form a
8 comprehensive, safe, and integrated transportation network for all road users.

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that new road construction or retrofits of existing roads,
10 project funding priorities, and other instances involving a potential change to the design of any
11 street shall be reviewed for compliance with the Complete Streets design standards.

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that City-initiated development shall embrace and
13 incorporate Complete Street designs.

14 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2022.

15
16
17
18 ATTEST:

ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

19
20 _____
21 KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

22 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

23 
24 _____
25 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

Legislation/2022/Resolutions/Complete Streets