

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

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2016-2**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Patti J. Bushee

6 Councilor Peter Ives

7 Councilor Signe Lindell

8
9
10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL**
12 **SYSTEM (GUTS) THAT ALLOWS NON-MOTORIZED USERS TO TRAVEL IN A**
13 **LOOP AROUND THE CITY OF SANTA FE, BETWEEN POPULAR NATURAL-**
14 **SURFACE TRAIL NETWORKS, AND BETWEEN THE CITY CENTER AND THE**
15 **PERIPHERY, AND DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO WORK WITH PUBLIC AND**
16 **PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS TO HELP ACHIEVE THE “GUTS” VISION.**

17
18 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe’s Dale Ball, La Tierra, Dorothy Stewart, and Sun
19 Mountain Trails, along with various other city trails found in open spaces, parks, and residential
20 subdivisions, provide a network of over 60 miles of multi-use, natural-surface trails that are
21 enjoyed by hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe County’s open space and trail network, including Arroyo Hondo
23 Open Space Trails, the La Piedra Trail, the Little Tesuque Trail, the Talaya Hill portion of Dale
24 Ball Trails, the County Rail Trail and Spur Trail, and the El Camino Real Retracement Trail,
25 currently under design, represents a vast additional resource that complements and connects out

1 from City trails; and

2 **WHEREAS**, natural-surface trails belonging to the Santa Fe National Forest and various
3 public trail easements on private land in our area, provide further connections, and opportunities
4 to connect, to City and County trails and to the communities served by these trails; and

5 **WHEREAS**, over 20 miles of urban paved trails belonging to the City and County play
6 important recreation and transportation functions in and around developed parts of Santa Fe, and
7 are accessible to residents and visitors of various levels of ability; and

8 **WHEREAS**, voluntary organizations and individuals who use and work on trails have a
9 proven ability to work with public agencies to design, build, and maintain natural-surface trails in
10 the Santa Fe area at little or no cost to those public agencies that own and manage open space and
11 trails; and

12 **WHEREAS**, significant gaps remain to fully connect City trails, County trails, and forest
13 trails to each other, and to other desirable destinations for trail users; and

14 **WHEREAS**, connectivity between trail systems enhances safety, recreation,
15 transportation, and the overall value and allure of the trail system; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Metropolitan Bicycle Master Plan, the City’s La Tierra Trails
17 Master Plan, and the County’s Sustainable Growth Management Plan call for the development of
18 trail connections from the city center to its periphery and beyond; and

19 **WHEREAS**, an interconnected trail system is a desirable way to improve economic
20 development, health, and preservation and education around natural and historic resources in our
21 area; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the bicycling environment in the Santa Fe area has been recognized at the
23 “silver” level by both the League of American Bicyclists and the International Mountain Biking
24 Association, and in both cases efforts are underway to improve the level of recognition to the
25 “gold” level; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the City and County of Santa Fe have embraced the promotion of outdoor
2 “adventure” tourism and outdoors-related businesses as an important area of economic strategy,
3 and wish to build on our area’s recognition at the national level as a top destination for trail
4 runners, hikers, and mountain bikers; and

5 **WHEREAS**, planning toward a Grand Unified Trail System (GUTS) is being undertaken
6 at no cost to the City by private and public partners including the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, the
7 Santa Fe County Horse Coalition, the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe, The Nature Conservancy, The
8 Commonweal Conservancy, the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, Bicycle Technologies International,
9 the New Mexico Department of Health, and the National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails and
10 Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program,

11 **WHEREAS**, these private and public partners are expressing their commitment to the
12 GUTS effort by signing a GUTS Partnership Agreement; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the private and public partners of the GUTS effort request City support of
14 the GUTS concept and volunteer efforts, but are not specifically requesting City funding; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe is in strong support of the opportunity to address
16 inequities in our community through endorsement of a well-planned, Grand Unified Trail System
17 which encompasses all of Santa Fe via a loop of interconnecting existing and proposed trails
18 throughout the City.

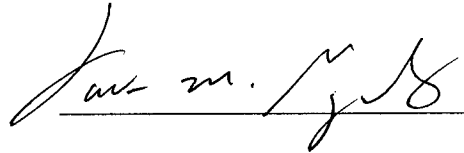
19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
20 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body is in strong support of the effort to provide a
21 Grand Unified Trail System in and around Santa Fe through a loop of interconnecting existing
22 and proposed trails in the center and extending to the periphery of the city.

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City shall support the GUTS Initiative, and that
24 City staff is directed to work with private and public sector partners to help achieve the GUTS
25 vision of an interconnected trail system that allows non-motorized users to travel in a loop around

1 the greater Santa Fe area as well as between the city center and the periphery.

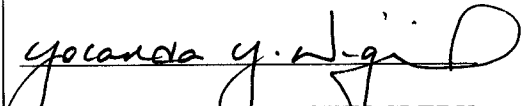
2 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any City resources utilized for this project shall be
3 employed based on a predetermined, prioritized assessment of inequities within our community,
4 so that the trail system may have a meaningful impact on identified inequities.

5 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of January, 2016.


6
7
8 

9 JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

10 ATTEST:

11
12 
13 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

15
16 
17 KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25 *M/Legislation/Resolutions 2015/2016-2 GUTS Support*