## CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 1 **RESOLUTION NO. 2016-42** 2 INTRODUCED BY: 3 4 Mayor Javier M. Gonzales 5 6 7 8 9 A RESOLUTION 10 ESTABLISHING THE VERDE FUND TO REDUCE SYSTEMIC POVERTY, ACHIEVE 11 **SANTA** FE'S **WORKFORCE**; **EMPOWER** AND NEUTRALITY, 12 **CARBON** AUTHORIZING THE ONE-TIME APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 OF UNBUDGETED 13 EXCESS LAND USE PERMIT FEES; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO 14 PRESENT A PLAN TO THE GOVERNING BODY ON STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE 15 VERDE FUND; AND ALLOWING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO MAKE DESIRED 16 CHANGES TO THE PLAN AND APPROVE AS MODIFIED. 17 18 WHEREAS, systemic poverty and climate change are two of the greatest threats to Santa 19 Fe's long-term sustainability and prosperity; and 20 WHEREAS, Santa Fe is a semi-arid community, adversely affected by climate change 21 that leads to changing weather patterns, longer drought cycles, stronger flooding incidents, and an 22 increased vulnerability to devastating forest fires; and 23 WHEREAS, New Mexico is also one of the poorest states in the country, and despite its 24

relative prosperity, Santa Fe is no exception: 38% of households in Santa Fe were "cost

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burdened" in 2014, paying more than 30% of their income on housing; the City of Santa Fe has a 17.9% poverty rate; 70.7% of students in Santa Fe public schools are income-eligible for free or reduced price meals; 13.5% of Santa Fe County residents and 23.9% of Santa Fe County children are food-insecure; and Santa Fe County has an overall poverty rate of 14.2%, and a poverty rate of 21% for children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated repeatedly in climate studies that the poor and underemployed will feel the impacts of climate change the most; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has taken steps to make fighting poverty and climate change a top priority; and

WHEREAS, the Children, Youth and Families Community Cabinet, the Climate Change Task Force have generated a range of ideas to address poverty and climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Children and Youth Commission and the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission advise the City on programmatic ideas to address poverty and climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Children, Youth and Families Community Cabinet, the Climate Action Task Force, the Children and Youth Commission, and the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission have brought together and are composed of community members, city staff, financial experts, education professionals, sustainability experts, private foundations, and social services advocates; and

WHEREAS, the Verde Fund's program design, priority setting, and establishment of metrics for evaluation will address poverty and its relationship to housing affordability, gentrification and inequality; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to fund a program that quickly, efficiently, and effectively combats poverty, mitigates the impact of climate change, and promotes economic and environmental resiliency; and

WHEREAS, such a fund would permit further investment of public resources to leverage private and non-profit sector involvement; and

WHEREAS, such a fund can provide for net-zero carbon emission housing, residential and commercial energy-efficiency retrofits, environmental remediation, workforce training, and economic development related to sustainability; and

WHEREAS, a recurring funding source is desirable to leverage ongoing private and public sector investment and maximize the benefit to the community; and

WHEREAS, such a fund shall be structured to ensure proper transparency and oversight of spending by the Finance committee, a targeted approach to programs, and data-driven metrics to measure success; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body will seek and support public input from community members who are most affected by poverty, climate change, and environmental injustices who can offer suggested solutions to the everyday challenges of living in Santa Fe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE that the Verde Fund is hereby created, with the following stated goals:

- 1. Reduce systemic poverty throughout the city;
- 2. Achieve carbon neutrality in the city by 2040; and
- 3. Promote workforce empowerment and create opportunity for the underemployed.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body authorizes the one-time appropriation of \$300,000 to the Verde Fund from unbudgeted excess land use permit fees for Fiscal Year 2016/17.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager shall develop, in consultation with the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission, a plan to implement the Verde Fund and present it to the Governing Body for consideration in a public hearing. Such plan shall, at a minimum:

1	1. Define the mission and initial goals of the Verde Fund;	
2	2. Develop action plans to achieve stated goals;	
3	3. Establish metrics to measure success;	
4	4. Identify potential private, non-profit, and public sector partners; and	
5	5. Produce financial feasibility assessment and pro forma financial sta	tements, and
6	entify possible city sources to provide recurring funding for ensuing years.	
7	PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 25 <sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.	
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10	JAVIER M. GONZALES, N	MAYOR
11	ATTEST:	
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13	youanda y. Digi	
14	Golanda y. Vigil, City Clerk	
15	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
16	M. A. Rec.	
17	Willy A. Sillian	
18	KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY	
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25	M/Legislation/Resolutions 2016/2016-42 Verde Fund	