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**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-79**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Councilor Christopher M. Rivera

Councilor Peter N. Ives

Councilor Renee D. Villarreal

Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo

**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO WORK WITH SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE  
SANTA FE SOCCER COMMUNITY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF  
ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL SOCCER AUTHORITY.**

**WHEREAS**, there are approximately 8000 league soccer players and countless enthusiasts,  
in Santa Fe County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Soccer Leagues and Santa Fe area soccer facilities also serve the  
residents of Ria Arriba, Taos and Los Alamos Counties as well as several Santa Fe Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, soccer provides a platform for serving the health and welfare needs of the youth and  
young adults; and

**WHEREAS**, soccer is the fastest growing sport in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, over 14 million Americans play soccer, making it the third most popular team  
sport in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Major League Soccer (MLS) has grown from 10 teams in 1996 to 20 today,  
with plans for several more expansion teams, demonstrating the increased draw of professional

1 soccer; and

2 **WHEREAS**, interests in soccer in the United States have seen a historical increase; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the only dedicated Soccer facilities in the Santa Fe area are at the MRC Soccer  
4 Valley; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the MRC Soccer Valley facilities are in desperate need of renovation and  
6 expansion; and

7 **WHEREAS**, there is significant potential for economic development with regard to  
8 tournament promotion; and

9 **WHEREAS**, a single youth tournament can have a potential direct and indirect economic  
10 benefit of up to \$1,000,000 for the host city and region; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Soccer Complex, a 501 (c)(3), is comprised of the 4 major leagues  
12 – Santa Fe Adult Soccer League, Rio Rapids Northern Soccer Club, La Liga, and the Santa Fe  
13 Chapter of the American Youth Soccer Organization – all of whom consistently draw players and  
14 spectators of all ages to their events; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe Soccer Complex can illustrate the ability to manage the facilities,  
16 grounds and programs at the MRC Soccer Valley; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe Soccer Complex has established relationships with National Leagues  
18 as well as tournament sponsors and coordinators; and

19 **WHEREAS**, these relationships and management experience can provide an effective team  
20 to better manage and maintain MRC Soccer Valley as well as promote and market the facility in the  
21 national soccer tournament circuit; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe and the County of Santa Fe do not have the resources to  
23 manage the MRC Soccer Valley in a manner that would allow for the most sustainable facility and  
24 program management; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the city of Santa Fe and the County of Santa Fe do not have the resources to

1 promote and brand the MRC soccer facilities as a tournament destination; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the soccer leagues in the North Central New Mexico region do not have the  
3 capital funding required to renovate Santa Fe Soccer Valley; and

4 **WHEREAS**, currently, there are many cities and counties in the United States that have  
5 established private/public relationships with the soccer leagues to help provide for the needs of their  
6 communities; and

7 **WHEREAS**, said private/public relationship often result in the creation of a regional soccer  
8 authority where in the local and state governments, and the private sector could provide for the capital  
9 funding to build and or renovate soccer facilities, and the private soccer leagues then assume the  
10 management and maintenance of grounds and facilities as well as promote and manage tournaments  
11 and programs; and

12 **WHEREAS**, said authorities allow for savings to local government in operating budgets by  
13 way of eliminating program management and maintenance costs of soccer facilities; and

14 **WHEREAS**, said authorities also realize a significant increase in GRT and direct/indirect  
15 economic development to the regions where tournaments are successful.

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
17 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body requests the City Manager direct staff from the  
18 Economic Development, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation departments to collaborate with  
19 designated staff from County of Santa Fe, the Santa Fe Soccer Complex and any other appropriate  
20 regional local governments to explore the possibilities of establishing a Regional Soccer Authority  
21 and report back to the governing body within 60 days following passage of this resolution.

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff shall collaborate with departments to clarify the  
23 following points:

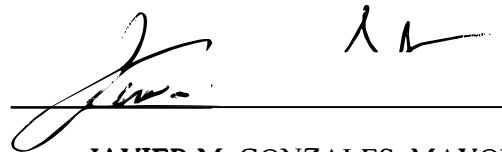
- 24 1. Who will assume responsibility for land patent with BLM.
- 25 2. Determining if a facility, grounds and programs management agreement is needed.

- 1 3. Identifying roles of each member of the authority including funding.
- 2 4. Identifying responsibilities with regard to operating costs and capital costs.
- 3 5. Clarifying resource management (specifically water usage and costs).
- 4 6. Exploring how local and state governments, the private sector, and non-profits can
- 5 work together to maximize funding opportunities; including, but not limited to private/public
- 6 partnerships.
- 7 7. Thoroughly understand the impact of the project as it relates to both taxable and tax-
- 8 exempt financing.

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** if and to the extent that establishing and operating  
10 soccer valley and the Regional Soccer Authority results in the need for or use of additional funds  
11 from the General Fund of the City of Santa Fe, an offset to the budget of the Parks and Recreation  
12 Department in an equal amount shall be brought forward.

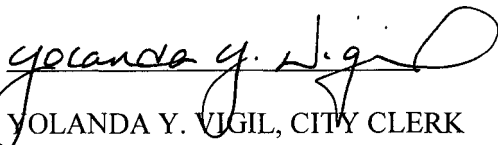
13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** an evaluation of the business plan and pro forma  
14 financials for the Regional Soccer Authority shall be performed by an independent third party.

15 PASSED APPROVED and ADOPTED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.


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JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

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20 ATTEST:

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23 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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4 KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *M/Legislation/Resolutions 2016/2016-79 Regional Soccer Authority*