

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2017-6**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Peter N. Ives Mayor Javier M. Gonzales
6 Councilor Carmichael A. Dominguez Councilor Signe I. Lindell
7 Councilor Renee D. Villarreal Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo
8 Councilor Mike Harris Councilor Joseph M. Maestas
9 Councilor Christopher M. Rivera

10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS TO THE CITY OF SANTA**
12 **FE.**

13
14 **WHEREAS**, a majority of Americans value Federal public lands as part of our national
15 heritage, and desire to have them protected for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Federal public lands in New Mexico encompass vast tracts of grasslands,
17 mountain landscapes, riparian habitats, and desert ecosystems that contain a diverse array of fauna and
18 flora, as well as natural resources essential to the prosperity of our State and Nation; and

19 **WHEREAS**, many of the watersheds and irrigation systems essential to healthy wildlife,
20 sustained economic activity, and resilient communities originate on these lands; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Federal public lands are generally managed under a multiple-use mandate that
22 requires collaborative local stakeholder input, encourages volunteer activity, and foster intra-
23 governmental collaboration; and

24 **WHEREAS**, access to and stewardship of Federal lands in New Mexico is important for Native
25 American religious and cultural practices, basic economic activities--such as ranching, mining, and

1 forestry, many forms of outdoor recreation, and traditional subsistence activities; and

2 **WHEREAS**, outdoor recreation on Federal public lands in New Mexico alone generates an
3 estimated six billion one hundred million dollars (\$6,100,000,000) in consumer spending each year,
4 while employing more than sixty-eight thousand people; and

5 **WHEREAS**, proposals are being circulated among New Mexico counties favoring the transfer
6 of Federal public lands to State government; and

7 **WHEREAS**, should Federal public lands be transferred to State ownership, New Mexico
8 taxpayers would be liable for rehabilitating 3,989 abandoned mines at an estimated cost of up to \$842
9 million as well as the cost of fighting wildfires in these areas—an amount in excess of \$240 million in
10 FY2011-12; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe residents share in all of the benefits of Federal public lands located
12 within and in the vicinity of Santa Fe County and the State of New Mexico; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in close proximity to Santa Fe are Valles Caldera National Preserve, Bandelier
14 National Monument, Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument and other federal public lands;

15 **WHEREAS**, the citizens of Santa Fe have and should be able to continue to benefit financially
16 from the Federal lands in proximity to the City of Santa Fe through tourism and recreation.

17 **WHEREAS**, the citizens of Santa Fe have and should be able to continue to enjoy the health
18 benefits from access to Federal public lands, monuments, parks and forests in proximity to the City of
19 Santa Fe, within the State of New Mexico and throughout the United States.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY**
21 **OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body supports continued Federal ownership and management of
22 existing Federal public lands in Santa Fe County, as well as in New Mexico and the United States
23 generally, because of their irreplaceable value to our economy, quality of life, and national heritage;
24 and

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body does not favor transfer of Federal

1 lands to the State because of the financial burden such a transfer would impose on New Mexico
2 residents as well as the increased risk of environmental degradation, profiteering, and loss of public
3 access to traditionally open areas; and

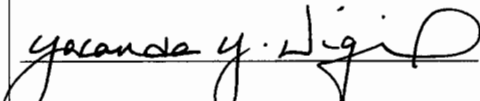
4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this
5 resolution to the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, the Governor, City of Santa Fe Legislative
6 delegation, New Mexico Municipal League, and the New Mexico Association of Counties.

7 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of January, 2017.

8
9  for

10 JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

11 ATTEST:

12
13 
14 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

15 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

16
17 
18 KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY