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**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth

Councilor Jamie Cassutt-Sanchez

Councilor Signe I. Lindell

Councilor Chris Rivera

Councilor Renee Villarreal

**A RESOLUTION**

**SUPPORTING THE CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF TREESMART SANTA FE, A  
COMPREHENSIVE TREE CANOPY PROJECT IN THE CITY OF SANTA FE.**

**WHEREAS**, trees can provide significant environmental benefits to a city, including moderating the local climate, improving air quality, conserving water, and harboring wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, trees in Santa Fe increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify the community; and

**WHEREAS**, planting trees and maintaining older trees provides an opportunity for community interaction, volunteerism, economic development, and environmental conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and renewal; and

**WHEREAS**, trees provide environmental benefits for present and future generations to enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, those benefits vary by tree species and placement of trees within the environment; and

1           **WHEREAS**, scientifically oriented tree management can maximize the benefits achieved  
2 from trees and minimize any negative consequences associated with certain species or placements;  
3 and

4           **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe River Commission has a long history of establishing,  
5 maintaining, and protecting tree cover and healthy ecosystems; and

6           **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2007-28 directed staff to develop a comprehensive tree policy  
7 for the City; and

8           **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2009-129 directed the City to celebrate National Arbor Day  
9 annually and directed staff to establish the Municipal Tree Board and work toward becoming a  
10 National Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA, which the City has now been for 10 years; and

11           **WHEREAS**, the health, safety, and general welfare of the public and the conservation and  
12 protection of the natural resources of the City of Santa Fe and its values necessitates the  
13 implementation of a comprehensive, strategic, and cross-sectoral program to maintain a healthy  
14 tree canopy in the City of Santa Fe.

15           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
16 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that staff is directed to lead and implement TreeSmart Santa Fe, a  
17 comprehensive, equitable, and strategic initiative to increase and maintain a healthy urban tree  
18 canopy in Santa Fe by taking the following actions:

- 19           1.       Develop, coordinate, and maintain environmental data with equity-based  
20                    prioritization and City staff direction for a phase-in model of TreeSmart Santa Fe.  
21                    TreeSmart will focus on highest-need areas first and expand as resources allow  
22                    and as directed by City staff.
- 23           2.       Work and collaborate with non-profits and other community organizations to  
24                    engage residents in planning and implementing equitable projects that provide for  
25                    the canopy needs of the city.

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3. Work with City staff, the Municipal Tree Board, and the River Commission to coordinate an assessment of the extent of the existing urban tree canopy cover, and assist City staff to complete an inventory of trees on public lands.
4. Annually recognize Arbor Day with a tree-planting celebration that encourages residents to plant trees and take advantage of the benefits of City parks and our existing tree canopy.
5. Consider public and private lands and varying projects, incentives, and programs to replace lost trees, minimize heat islands, and increase the canopy cover.
6. Develop a City of Santa Fe urban forest and tree canopy plan.
7. Conduct a Canopy Pilot Project to test the methods utilized, complete needed canopy assessments, and kick start a larger, long-term effort to preserve and restore an appropriate urban tree canopy in the City of Santa Fe.
8. Develop and conduct public outreach to promote the Canopy Project and the Santa Fe River watershed.
9. Develop educational materials and provide training and education of volunteers with respect to watershed issues that relate to canopy cover and urban tree management.
10. Create an application or handbook for the City to increase community awareness of the techniques of planting and maintaining plant canopy and community understanding of the value of the benefits of our urban forest in Santa Fe.
11. Identify and work to secure additional funding by means of applying for funding on the City’s behalf via private donations, grants, company sponsorships, capital improvement project funding, other legislative funding, and bonds.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2021.

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ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

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Kristine Mihelcic (Apr 3, 2021 12:22 MDT)  
KRISTINE MIHELIC, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**General Information:**

(Check) Bill: \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution:   X  

Short Title(s): TreeSmart Santa Fe Support

Sponsor(s): Councilor Romero-Wirth

Reviewing Department(s): Public Works Department- Parks Division

Staff Completing FIR: Melissa McDonald Date: 03/04/21 Phone: 955-6840

Reviewed by City Attorney:  Date: Mar 12, 2021

Reviewed by Finance Director:  Date: Mar 14, 2021

**Summary:**

This Resolution directs staff to create and manage TreeSmart Santa Fe, a comprehensive tree canopy initiative in the City of Santa Fe.

**Departments Affected:**

Parks Division, Sustainability Office, Public Engagement Office, Water Conservation Office, Santa Fe Municipal Tree Board, and Santa Fe River Commission

**Consequences of Not Enacting Legislation:**

Failure to prioritize a healthy urban canopy would have negative health, environmental, and quality of life consequences, including, but not limited to, rising temperatures, lower property values, proliferation of heat islands, and an increase of carbon monoxide—a general decline in livability of Santa Fe.

**Conflict, Duplication, Companionship, or Relationship to Other Legislation:**

Related to Resolutions 2007-08 (A Resolution Directing Staff to Develop a Comprehensive Tree Policy For The City of Santa Fe) and 2009-129 (A Resolution Recognizing and Celebrating Arbor Day, Each Year, as the Last Friday in April; and Directing Staff to Take the Necessary Steps To Qualify The City of Santa Fe as a Member of The National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA (TCUSA) Program).

**Performance and Administrative Implications:**

As TreeSmart Santa Fe programming will be created from existing work plans and departmental master plans, the work is within current staff responsibilities and purview. There will be a need for increased collaboration between departments and external partners.

**Fiscal Implications:**

The Parks Division plans to hire a contractor(s) to initially coordinate TreeSmart programming and stakeholder integration which would include GIS data collections. All other staff work is within current purview.

**Fiscal Impact**

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if no fiscal impact

**Expenditures**

<b>Expenditure Type</b>	<b>FYE 21</b>	<b>FYE 22</b>	<b>FYE 23</b>	<b>Require BAR (Y/N)</b>	<b>Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>3-Year Total Cost</b>
Personnel and	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
Benefits*							
Capital Outlay	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
Contractual/	\$ _____	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	N	NR/R	GF/SW fee	
Professional Services							
Operating	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		_____	_____	\$ _____
Total:	\$ _____	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000				\$ 80,000

\* This includes all staff time associated with executing the job functions of the proposed legislation.

**Expenditure Narrative:**

The estimate for the contractor(s) to manage and integrate the TreeSmart Santa Fe initiative (including GIS data collection for citywide use) is \$80,000 over the next three years. Other staff time is within current staff responsibilities and purview.

**Revenue**

<b>Revenue Type</b>	<b>FYE 21</b>	<b>FYE 22</b>	<b>FYE 23</b>	<b>Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)</b>	<b>Fund</b>
General Fund	\$ _____	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	NR	2554150
Special Revenue	\$ _____	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	R	2310411 / 2554150
CIP	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Enterprise	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Internal Service	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Trust and Agency	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Federal	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		

**Revenue Narrative:**

The initiative is designed to start with modest expenditures for contractual services that will streamline existing efforts to achieve better long-term outcomes that meet City goals.