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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-5

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Amanda Chavez

A RESOLUTION

COMMITTING TO BEING A MORE AGE-FRIENDLY CITY AND ENROLLING IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (“AARP”) AGE FRIENDLY STATES AND COMMUNITIES NETWORK, WHICH, TO THE EXTENT IT IS POSSIBLE, WILL BE A PROCESS THAT INCORPORATES UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES.

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau’s 2020 Census, 23.8% of City of Santa Fe (“City”) residents are ages 65 or older as compared to 16.04% nationwide; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau’s article “The Next Four Decades: The Older Population in the United States: 2010 to 2050,” the U.S. population aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 40.2 million in 2010 to 88.5 million by 2050, increasing the total share of the 65 and over population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, according to the New Mexico Human Services Department’s “2021 Data Book”, the elderly population of Santa Fe County is projected to increase from 25.3% in 2019 to 58.2% of adults ages of 65 and over by the year 2030; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) has developed the WHO “Global

1 Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities” to encourage and promote public policies to
2 increase the number of communities that support active aging and thereby improve the health, well-
3 being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older adults; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) “Age-Friendly States
5 and Communities” is a national program affiliated with the WHO’s Global Network of Age-
6 Friendly Cities and Communities; and

7 **WHEREAS**, members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities
8 benefit from:

- 9 A. Automatic entry to the WHO global network.
- 10 B. A wide range of free resources on age-friendly and livable communities
- 11 C. The latest news and information about best practices, events, results, challenges,
12 and new initiatives
- 13 D. Opportunities for partnerships with other cities, both domestic and international
- 14 E. Peer-to-peer learning opportunities
- 15 F. Public recognition of the community’s commitment to become more age-friendly;
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body agrees with the AARP’s Network of Age-Friendly
18 States and Communities belief that “people of all ages benefit from the adoption of policies and
19 programs that make neighborhoods walkable, feature transportation options, enable access to key
20 services, provide opportunities to participate in community activities, and support housing that’s
21 affordable and adaptable”; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the WHO and AARP recognize that towns, cities, and communities have
23 different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to
24 facilitate active aging; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the WHO established eight domains of community life that should be

1 formally targeted for livability and quality of life for persons of all ages:

- 2 A. Outdoor spaces and building
- 3 B. Transportation
- 4 C. Housing
- 5 D. Social participation
- 6 E. Respect and Social inclusion
- 7 F. Civic Participation and employment
- 8 G. Communication and information; and
- 9 H. Community support and health services; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body would like the City to join the AARP Network Age-
11 Friendly States and Communities; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body believes, and research supports, the idea that the
13 concepts of “universal design”, and their focus on accessibility, are a clear complement to the goals
14 of being an age friendly city; and

15 **WHEREAS**, specifically, according to the article “Universal Design: A Step Toward
16 Successful Aging,” published in the *Journal of Aging Research in 2012*, the concepts of Universal
17 Design support the Age-Friendly rationale by having “the potential to affect older adult's
18 engagement with life, by providing accessible and accommodating environments in which this
19 population can thrive without stigmatization”; and

20 **WHEREAS**, according to the Center for Disability Rights, Ron Mace, an architect known
21 for his role in coining the term “Universal Design” and championing accessible building codes and
22 standards in the United States, defines universal design as “the design of products and environments
23 to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptations or
24 specialized design”; and

25 **WHEREAS**, according to the article “Universal Design: A Step Toward Successful

1 Aging,” which was published in the *Journal of Aging Research* in 2012, the seven principles of
2 Universal Design are as follows:

3 A. Equitable use

- 4 • Useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities

5 B. Flexibility in Use

- 6 • Accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities

7 C. Simple and Intuitive Use

- 8 • Easy to understand, regardless of user's experience, knowledge,
9 language skills, or current concentration level

10 D. Perceptible Information

- 11 • Communicates necessary information effectively to the user,
12 regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities

13 E. Tolerance for Error

- 14 • Minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or
15 unintended actions

16 F. Low Physical Effort

- 17 • Can be used efficiently and comfortably with a minimum of fatigue

18 G. Size and Space for Approach and Use

- 19 • Appropriate size and space provided for approach, reach,
20 manipulation, and use regardless of the user's body size, posture, or
21 mobility; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the City has a history of seeking to create an inclusive environment for all
23 individuals; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Section 2.02 of the City’s Charter states that “human and civil rights of
25 residents of Santa Fe and inviolate” and that “the governing body shall preserve, protect and

1 promote human rights... through all of its activities” and that those rights “shall not be diminished
2 or otherwise infringed”, regardless of age; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the City recognizes that compliance with Title II of the Americans with
4 Disabilities Act, Section 202, addresses some of the accessibility goals of the Age Friendly States
5 and Communities network; and

6 **WHEREAS**, consulting committees with specialized knowledge on accessibility matters,
7 such as the Mayor’s Committee on Disability, can be beneficial when working toward creating an
8 inclusive community.


9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
10 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that it is committed to making Santa Fe a well-designed, livable community
11 that promotes health and sustained accessibility for community members of all ages.

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager or the City Manager’s designee
13 will enroll the City in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities by submitting
14 the required membership application and committing the City to a 5-year process of improvement
15 according to the following timeline:

- 16 1. First 30 days: Enroll into the network of AARP Network of Age-Friendly States
17 and Communities;
- 18 2. Year 1: Conduct a community needs assessment and present results to the
19 Governing Body, including identifying what work the City already has in place
20 that contributes to qualifying as an Age-Friendly city, as defined by the AARP
21 Network of Age Friendly States and Communities program;
- 22 3. Year 2: Develop and present an action plan to the Governing Body for approval;
- 23 4. Years 3-5: Implement the action plan and track progress; and
- 24 5. Year 5: Evaluate the impact of the work and present a progress report to the
25 Governing Body.

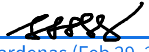
1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, to the extent it is possible and practical, the City
2 will incorporate Universal Design principles in its planning process for the 5-year commitment
3 described above, and in doing so, will collaborate with committees that have relevant, specialized
4 expertise, such as the Mayor’s Committee on Disability.

5
6 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2024.

7
8 
Alan Webber (Feb 29, 2024 14:21 MST)

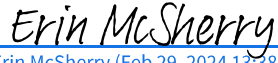
9 ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

10 ATTEST:

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12 
GERALYN F. CARDENAS (Feb 29, 2024 14:29 MST)

13 GERALYN F. CARDENAS, INTERIM CITY CLERK

14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

15
16 
Erin McSherry (Feb 29, 2024 13:38 MST)

17 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
PROPOSED AMENDMENT(S) TO RESOLUTION NO. 2024-5_
(Resolution to be an Age-Friendly City)

Mayor and Members of the City Council:

In relation to Resolution No. 2024-5:

A RESOLUTION

COMMITTING TO BEING A MORE AGE-FRIENDLY CITY AND ENROLLING IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (“AARP”) AGE FRIENDLY STATES AND COMMUNITIES NETWORK, WHICH, TO THE EXTENT IT IS POSSIBLE, WILL BE A PROCESS THAT INCORPORATES UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES.

I intend to propose the following amendment(s)

1. On page 4, line 21, *delete* the period at the end of the sentence and *replace it* with “; and”.
2. On page 4, line 22, *insert* the following new paragraphs:

WHEREAS, the City has a history of seeking to create an inclusive environment for all individuals; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.02 of the City’s Charter states that “human and civil rights of the residents of Santa Fe are inviolate” and that “the governing body shall preserve, protect and promote human rights...through all of its activities” and that those rights “shall not be diminished or otherwise infringed”, regardless of age; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 202, addresses some of the accessibility goals of the Age Friendly States and Communities network; and

This amendment WILL change the caption. _____

This amendment WILL NOT change the caption. X

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Chavez
Amanda Chavez (Mar 2, 2024 19:36 MST)

Amanda Chavez, Councilor

10565.1(A)

Approved as to Form:

Erin McSherry
Erin McSherry (Feb 29, 2024 13:38 MST)

Erin K. McSherry, City Attorney

ADOPTED: Finance Committee

NOT ADOPTED: _____

DATE: 02/26/2024

GC
Geraldyn Cardenas (Feb 29, 2024 14:29 MST)

GERALYN F. CARDENAS, Interim City Clerk

10565.1(A)