

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION No. 2016 - 5

**A RESOLUTION TO DEVELOP AN AGRICULTURE AND RANCHING IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN IN SANTA FE COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE 2015 SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, farming and ranching have historically been important elements of the economy and culture of Santa Fe County and existing farm and ranch land is threatened to be lost to new, non-agricultural development;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County unanimously approved the 2015 Santa Fe County Sustainable Growth Management Plan (SGMP) via Resolution 2015-155;

WHEREAS, the 2015 SGMP contains the "Agriculture and Ranching Element," which sets as a goal for the County to preserve, support and revitalize agriculture and ranching as a critical component of the local economy, culture, and character and to develop programs that will support and enhance agricultural opportunity in Santa Fe County;

WHEREAS, the SGMP contains goals, policies and strategies that support agriculture and ranching which need to be implemented;

WHEREAS, the Agriculture and Ranching chapter of the SGMP currently does not have an Implementation Plan;

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) has identified a regulatory framework to help sustain agricultural economies, land base and resources in the County which includes Transfer of Development Rights (TDR);

WHEREAS, the TDR program established in the SLDC promotes the preservation of agriculture, rural open space and character by specifying that development rights may be sent from traditional agricultural land;

WHEREAS, there is a need to support agriculture for food production to enhance food security and County resident health, to meet local food demand, and to support economic viability for farmers and ranchers;

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Health Action Plan FY 2015-2017 and Santa Fe County's Food Plan, "Planning for Santa Fe's Food Future," both emphasize the need for increased access to and consumption of healthy food for Santa Fe County residents;

WHEREAS, agriculture is identified as a target industry in the SGMP and is 1 of 6 target areas in the 2014 Santa Fe County Economic Development Plan that shows promise for continued expansion, new businesses, jobs, and tax generation, if the appropriate steps are taken;

WHEREAS, the USDA 2012 Agricultural Census for Santa Fe County shows that the number of small farms in the County has more than doubled since 2007;

WHEREAS, there are increasing opportunities for small and mid-sized farmers and ranchers in Santa Fe County to sell produce and agricultural products to local wholesale markets, such as schools, which diversifies economic opportunities for farmers while providing healthy food which meets federal school meal requirements in schools;

WHEREAS, there is a need for information regarding the types and amounts of fresh fruits and vegetables currently grown in Santa Fe County in order to create a plan which increases supply to match the growing demand for local food through the aforementioned markets; and

WHEREAS, implementing the Agriculture and Ranching Element of the SGMP will provide detailed information as to the current state of food production and agricultural resources in the County and will provide a guide for matching supply and demand of local food to increase food access and security for County residents and to increase the economic viability of County farming and ranching enterprises.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Board does hereby recognize the importance of agriculture and ranching to the culture and economy of the County, and directs staff to develop an agriculture and ranching implementation plan in Santa Fe County to support the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this 12th day of January, 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Miguel M. Chavez
Chair, Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Gregory S. Shaffer
Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
PAGES: 2

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 13TH Day Of January, 2016 at 09:53:41 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1783876
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy Laura Hernandez County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/13/2016