

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF SANTA FE
RESOLUTION NO. 2016- 81**

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County (County) owns and maintains a network of over 46 miles of trails that are enjoyed by pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians, including the Arroyo Hondo Open Space Trails, the La Piedra Trail, the Little Tesuque Trail, portions of the Dale Ball Trails, segments of the Rail Trail and Santa Fe River Trail, the Spur Trail, and the developing El Camino Real Retracement Trail; and

WHEREAS, County trails are part of a broader trail network that includes City of Santa Fe trails, Santa Fe National Forest trails, and various public trail easements on private land; and

WHEREAS, the County and other entities continue to invest in and improve the network of trails to provide important recreational and transportation functions along with economic development, health, education, and natural and historic preservation benefits, for area residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, gaps in the trail system can be eliminated by developing segments, as appropriate, to create more fully integrated trail systems; and

WHEREAS, connectivity between trail systems enhances safety, recreation, transportation, and the overall functionality of the trail systems; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County's Sustainable Growth Management Plan, Open Land and Trails Plan, and Economic Development Plan recognize the need for enhanced collaboration between the County and other stakeholders for the development of trail connections; and

WHEREAS, planning toward a unified trail system, referred to as the Grand Unified Trail System (GUTS), is currently being undertaken by private and public partners, including the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, the Santa Fe County Horse Coalition, the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe, the Nature Conservancy, the Commonweal Conservancy, the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, Bicycle Technologies Inc., the New Mexico Department of Health, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program, the City of Santa Fe, Rancho Viejo, Santa Fe Community College, National Park Service's National Historic Trails, Santa Fe County, and other public entities; and

WHEREAS, the bicycling environment in the Santa Fe area has been recognized as the "silver" level by both the League of American Bicyclists and the International Mountain Biking Association, and efforts are underway to raise the level of recognition to the "gold" level; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa has recognized the unique and integral role of the horse and equine community as part of the County's history and culture; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Santa Fe have embraced the promotion of outdoor adventure tourism and outdoor-related businesses as an important facet of economic development.

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Open Land, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) has reviewed and supports the GUTS initiative and acknowledges that it can provide additional positive opportunities for the development of the trail network throughout the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Santa Fe to support efforts to develop the GUTS, and to direct staff to continue to work with private and public sector partners in developing trails, as appropriate, to more fully integrate regional trail systems.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 26th day of July, 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Miguel M. Chavez
Miguel M. Chavez, Chairman

Attest
Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk



Approved As To Form:

Gregory S. Shaffer
Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 27TH Day Of July, 2016 at 01:05:06 PM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1799863 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar

Deputy *Laura Howard* County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM