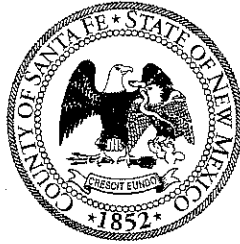


Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3



Anna T. Hamilton
Commissioner, District 4


Ed Moreno
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

DATE: November 29, 2017

TO: Board of County Commissioners

VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager

FROM:  Chris M. Barela, Constituent Service Liaison

RE: A resolution to support the 2018 Farm Bill priorities as a means to securing a regional food system that is just and accessible for all members of the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County Communities.

Board of County Commission meeting December 12, 2017

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY:

The agricultural Act of 2014 commonly known as the 2014 Farm Bill, is the primary agricultural and food policy tool of the federal government and deals with agriculture and all related affairs under the purview of the US Department of Agriculture.

Provisions of the Act affects the local and regional capacity to support a regional food system. Since provisions for the Act will expire in 2018 and Congress typically enacts a new Farm Bill upon expiration, Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe and regional agriculture and food system stakeholders such as the Santa fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy and the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council are interested in recommending provisions of the Bill.

REQUEST ACTION:

Commissioners Robert A. Anaya and Anna Hansen respectfully request that the Board of Santa Fe County Commissioners support this Resolution to support the 2018 Farm Bill.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution
- House Bill Draft
- Santa Fe Food Forum notes and summary of 10/12/2017
- 2016 Santa Fe Food Plan Progress Report

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-_____

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE 2018 FARM BILL PRIORITIES AS A MEANS TO
SECURING A REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM THAT IS JUST AND ACCESSIBLE FOR
ALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE COUNTY
COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Act of 2014 ("Act"), commonly known as the 2014 Farm Bill, is the primary agricultural and food policy tool of the federal government and deals with agriculture and all related affairs under the purview of the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA"); and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Act affect the local and regional capacity to support a regional food system that is just, secured, sustainable and accessible for all members in the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County and the greater region of Northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, provisions of the Act will expire in 2018 and the U.S. Congress typically enacts a new comprehensive farm bill upon expiration of the existing legislation; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress is considering legislative action for the 2018 Farm Bill ("Bill"); and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe and regional agriculture and food systems stakeholders such as the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy and the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council are interested in recommending provisions of the Bill; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provisions of this Bill would secure support for the infrastructure necessary for local and regional food systems, farming and ranching to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provisions of this Bill would increase access of federal nutrition program by participants to purchase from farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture ("CSA's"), and other local, healthy sustainable food enterprises; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provisions of this Bill would support urban and rural programs and linkages through USDA interagency coordination; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provisions would request USDA to further harmonize and streamline Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) redemption technology with other federal nutrition programs; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provision of this Bill would promote incentives for fruit and vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program participants; and

WHEREAS, the recommended provision of this Bill would support farmer and rancher programs that provide direct marketing opportunities and enhance their ability to focus on building their businesses, mitigating risks, and improving land stewardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY that the County and City support federal legislation for certain provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill, including the following:

- (1) **Securing the infrastructure necessary for local and regional food and agriculture systems to thrive.** Infrastructure such as on-farm processing equipment and aggregation, distribution, and processing facilities would strengthen regional food hubs, and support farm to school sales, value-added production and processing, and other rural economic development. Maintain Rural Development programs such as the Rural Enterprise Development Grant Program and the Value-Added Producer Grant Program while expanding the Community Facility Program to include infrastructure that supports cooperative farm, ranch and community enterprise development.
- (2) **Increase access of federal nutrition programs by participants to purchase from farmers markets, CSA’s, and other local, healthy sustainable food enterprises.** Measures include providing EBT devices to farmers markets, mobile markets, and CSA’s, using smart phone technology for SNAP at farmers markets and mobile markets. Maintain the Farmers Market Promotion Program, Local Food Promotion Program, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations with provisions that meet the individual needs of communities including authority to purchase locally. Continue support for Community Food Project grants , set aside funding for technical assistance, SNAP-Ed funding for promoting SNAP participants’ shopping at farmers markets, mobile markets, CSA’s, and retail stores promoting local produce, and encourage the use of community organizing strategies, could further enhance access.
- (3) **Support streamlining of SNAP redemption and technology with federal nutrition programs.** Minimize administrative barriers to redemption of SNAP/EBT, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits would maximize farmer participation in these programs with increased sales benefiting both producers and consumers.

- (4) **Expand urban and rural programs and linkages through USDA interagency coordination.** Such initiatives foster collaboration among agencies, city and county governments and community programs.
- (5) **Promote incentives for fruit and vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program participants.** Secure funds for the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives Program at farmers markets and retail grocers, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program, DOD Fresh Program for schools, and the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program.
- (6) **Support farmer and rancher programs that provide direct marketing opportunities and enhance their ability to focus on building their businesses and mitigating risks.** Secure continued resources for the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program and associated programs while minimizing cumbersome requirements, the Outreach and Assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers, Ranchers and Veterans Program, the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, and other incentive programs.
- (7) **Secure the resources necessary for farmers and ranchers to maximize stewardship of their land, water, and natural resources through conservation programs while enhancing their operations with energy efficient and season extension systems.** Maintain the EQIP Program for season extension, irrigation, fencing, and frost protection; Conservation Reserve Program; Conservation Stewardship Program and related loan programs; Agriculture Conservation Easement Program; and Farm Service Agency Programs including the Whole Farm Insurance Program.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2017.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA FE**

Henry P. Roybal, Chair

ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

C. Bruce Frederick

R. Bruce Frederick, County Attorney



HOUSE BILL

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE NEW MEXICO-GROWN FRESH FRUITS AND FRESH VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOL MEALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.--One million four hundred forty thousand dollars (\$1,440,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the public education department for expenditure in fiscal year 2019 and subsequent fiscal years for the purchase and distribution of New Mexico-grown fresh fruits and fresh vegetables to school districts, charter schools and juvenile detention centers through the department's school meal programs and for a full-time-equivalent position to administer and promote this initiative. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

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Santa Fe Food Forum
Notes and Summary
October 12, 2017

Based on the Santa Fe City and County FOOD PLAN, there are many opportunities to build on our local food and farming economy. What are the best approaches to the following goals?

- ▲ Enhance our local food and farms businesses.
- ▲ Focus on our food economy to promote the health and well-being of our people.

Goals:

Mayor's comments:

End childhood hunger through sourcing local;

Increase agriculture including urban;

Build on Homework Diner, Cooking with Kids, and Farm to School

Dialog:

- There are more than 1,000 forms of government in New Mexico that connect food, agriculture, water, and land;
- In two years more than \$130 billion were spent on food in NM'
- More than \$1 billion was spent on food in Santa Fe City and County
- There's \$38 million of gross receipts tax generated in Santa Fe
- How do we increase local agriculture and food businesses in the City and County?
- Focus on health and wellness connections to healthy affordable culturally significant food.

Recommendations:

- Track food related tax data at the state and local levels
- Santa Fe County priorities are to increase fruit and vegetable consumption, encourage use of support programs like SNAP, free health screenings, free and local senior programs
- Support MoGro, Prescription Trails, Passport to Trails, Supplemental Nutritional Assistance SNAP Double Up Food Bucks, tie nutrition to activities
- Provide incentives for "good food choices in Santa Fe" through policy
- Expands buying/selling markets that support local food and farm industry.
- Prioritize Santa Fe County Agriculture Implementation Plan
- Use Santa Fe County "Agrigate" as a way to create more coordination between market opportunities and local farmers/ranchers products

Recommendations:

Should review state funds:

- Capital outlay
- Taxes
- Unspent state and federal funds for programs
- There are potential dollars to be spent

Recommendations:

- The State” buy local preference law” exists to build on.
- Local and state procurement agreements can benefit “local”
- Create a “local good food procurement” resolution – create action and awareness
- Shorten competitive bid process time – competitive procurement can take six months
- Currently there is a 5 percent procurement preference (build on this)
- Santa Fe Public School has made buying local produce a priority
- Santa Fe City and County can “piggy back” NM grown fruits and vegetables purchases on the SF Public School bid.
- Support state legislative appropriation request of \$364,000 for NM grown fruits and vegetables for school meals.
- Request that the State HSD reintroduce the Food and Nutrition Services transportation for NM grown produce to schools.

Audience Discussion, Suggestions and Added Notes:

How do we subsidize local food – how do we increase dollars to local farmers while connecting to low-income? (Tegender)

- Food is not valued.
- It was suggested that the SNAP Double Up Food Dollars are a way to increase purchasing power of consumers. (*Benjamin Bartley, La Montanita Coop*)
- SNAP expenditures at La Montanita Coop are 2.5% of sales. It is recommended to roll out to other food retail. (*Benjamin Bartley, La Montanita Coop*)
- We need more capacity (infrastructure/distributions)
- We need to encourage and support “agriculture in the middle” – mid size New Mexico farmers who can meet a variety of market opportunities (schools, senior services, grocers, an farmers’ markets)
- Encourage more coordination among agencies, organizations, and the private sectors.
- Change has more opportunity when agencies and policymakers hear from 10 or more advocates for a program.
- The SNAP Double Up Food Bucks needs to be expanded to programs like MoGro and Squash Blossom and for “on-line” sales (NM produce aggregation and distribution organizations/businesses) (*Nina Yozell-Epstein, Squash Blossom*)

- **Note/Recommendation by SFFPC staff:** *The federal Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program administered by USDA is an option for such program development, program pilots, and innovation. To allow for “on-line SNAP sales the SNAP regulations would need to be tweaked and/or changed through the federal Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) to allow for this variation. Organizations such as the national Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Wholesome Wave, and Center for Science in the Public Interest all work on these issues at the federal level and are good organizations to partner with.*

How can we support local agriculture to strengthen our local food economy?

- Does the Santa Fe County Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program encourage and/or incentivize food production? *(Tegender)*
- Does Santa Fe County have a young farmers incubation program? There are support programs such as the Northern New Mexico Young farmers Alliance, Quivira Coalition, Ag Collaborative and Land Link *(Mid Region Council of Governments runs these programs though they are not currently funded).*
- Create a food hub? Who? La Montanita has its cooperative development center where they coordinate sales of NM grown, raised and processed products into their full line of products for distribution to their stores and others. Also possible facility in Espanola. As Siete del Norte.
- Fewer steps in the supply chain – the safer the food. We need to connect health and wellness initiatives to local and state policy. *(David Sunberg, chef)*
- Work with school commodity bids means agencies can coordinate efforts and get better prices. *(Suggestion by Debbie Trujillo, State NM Department of Aging and Long Term Services)*

Suggestions/Recommendations by Audience:

- Commit to a “buy local program”
- Need a New Mexico Seniors Association
- Advocate to School Board(s)
- Coordinate with Commodity Foods for Schools Program (CES)
- Suggest/recommend that schools purchase a minimum of one percent (1%) local
- Work with State purchasing – change procurement rules to require a percentage of buy local purchasing (5% was recommended)
- Research how much needs to be grown/raised to create the capacity to meet the potential needs of public agencies procurement. *(Note: review the “Power of Public Procurement” report (Ref: Farm to Table and NM State University and New Mexico State University report on fruit and vegetable production in New Mexico).*
- We need processing and distribution equipment. Where does it exist and can it be coordinated? *(Carolina Flores Cueller, Southwest Care)*
- There is a need for meat packing plants in NM *(David Sunberg, chef)*

- Santa Fe County wants a community commercial kitchen for public use. (*Cydney Martin, SF County Cooperative Extension Service*)
- SF Food Policy Council should host a Mayoral candidates forum to discuss food and agriculture issues.
- Educate community more – get message out into community about local food and support programs.
- Connect more through current programs
- Make food literacy a requirement in schools and clinics (*Carolina Cueller*)
- Practice healthy food initiatives

Summary notes provided by: Pam Roy, Santa Fe Food Policy Council, October 24, 2017

2016 SANTA FE FOOD PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy (SFFPC) released the Santa Fe Food Plan in October of 2014. This report highlights substantive accomplishments and movement toward success in 2016. The annual Food Plan report is intended to serve as a report on the focus of the SFFPC as well as to acknowledge the many in the community and local government who have committed their time and resources, the many in these endeavors. The report that follows lists each main goal, with sub-goals that have seen progress over the past year. To see the full Food Plan document, please visit: www.santafefoodpolicy.org.

MEMBERS OF THE SANTA FE FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Susan Perry, Co-Chair, City of Santa Fe Wellness Coordinator

Mark Winne, Co-Chair, Center for Livable Future, Johns Hopkins

John Alejandro, City of Santa Fe Renewable Energy Planner

Emigdio Ballon, Tesuque Pueblo Agriculture Manager

Patricia Boies, Director of Health Services Division, Santa Fe County Community Services Dept.

Maria De Anda Hay, County at Large Position

Cydney Martin, NMSU Home Extension Agent

Tony McCarty, Kitchen Angels, Executive Director

Susan Odiseos, Feeding Santa Fe, President

Erin Ortigoza, SF County Senior Planner

David Sundberg, Blue Corn Brewery, Executive Chef

SFFPC Contact:

Pam Roy, Coordinator, 505-660-8403

pam@farmtotablenm.org / www.santafefoodpolicy.org

GETTING FOOD

GOAL 1: Improve residents' ability to access fresh, nutritious food.

- As part of the mayor's Climate Change Task Force, worked with the Santa Fe Farmers Market and City of Santa Fe to find a permanent and viable Southside Market location for 2017.
- Met with the City of Santa Fe's Transportation Department to explore possibilities of marketing & developing routes to give residents greater access to food in 2017.
- Building on relationships with La Familia Clinic and the MoGro Program, the City of Santa Fe Wellness Program initiated a weekly fresh food delivery program for City of Santa Fe employees.

GOAL 2: Promote Food Storage

- Santa Fe County initiated its outreach and agriculture resource inventory to identify farmer and ranch infrastructure in support of aggregation, transportation and sales of food produced in Santa Fe County.
- The Santa Fe Cooperative Extension Service provided food preservation classes to assist community members in storing food.

GOAL 3: Prioritize getting local, fresh food into schools.

- Aligning with the SF County Health Action Plan priorities the SFFPC supports farm to School activities in local schools and the establishment of school procurement systems that increase the availability of local food.
- The SFFPC advocated at the NM State Legislature for NM Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals program funding. The Legislature appropriated \$335,000 in funding for the FY 2017 statewide. Santa Fe Public Schools received \$15,000 for 13,373 students, Monte del Sol received \$500 for 359 students, and Moriarty-Edgewood Schools received \$4,000 for 2,518.
- Santa Fe Public Schools purchased \$50,000 in local food, above and beyond the fund allocated by the NM Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for Schools Meals program.
- The SFFPC partnered with organizations in support of the federal Farm to School Act as part of the Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR).

GOAL 4: Promote existing food assistance programs.

- Feeding Santa Fe significantly increased quantities of fresh produce in their weekly grocery distribution through wholesale purchases and donations from the Community Garden and home gardeners' "Grow a Row" initiative. Also increased distribution through relationships with Head Start Home Visiting Program and Santa Fe County for at-risk seniors. Feeding Santa Fe completed an "impact study" to learn more about and address the needs of their recipients.
- The Santa Fe Cooperative Extension Service ICAN Program educators increased outreach to other agencies with bilingual appropriate recipes through Feeding Santa Fe, the MoGro Program, and the Food Depot.
- The Southside Farmers Market and Santa Fe Farmers Market continued to promote the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Double Up Food Bucks more than doubling participation above 2015.
- The SFFPC advocated at the 2015 and 2016 NM State Legislature in support of the "Double Up Food Bucks" program which doubles the amount of money that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients have to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets in NM.
- The Santa Fe City Council and County Commission passed resolutions in support of State legislated funding to increase the Double Up Food Bucks program in 2016 and 17.

GOAL 5: Celebrate local food and support regional food economy.

- Celebrating World Food Day became a month long education and outreach endeavor for the SFFPC members. See LEARNING ABOUT FOOD, GOAL 1.

LEARNING ABOUT FOOD

GOAL 1: Expand opportunities for creative and experiential learning through cooking and nutrition.

- World Food Day became a month long education and outreach endeavor for the SFFPC members. The New Mexican newspaper, carried a My View article by David Sundberg, Executive Chef and SFFPC member about hunger in our community reaching 23,000 readers.
- SFFPC members participated in four radio shows reaching as many as 40,000 listeners, wrote a press released used in two news items, and helped to coordinate the Green Fire Times October issue focused on Regional Food Systems. Council members provided five articles on the Food Plan priorities reaching more than 27,000 readers.
- Kitchen Angels provided an article reaching 7,000 supporters and the SF Cooperative Extension Service ran an article circulating to 700 and posted it on their Billboard. The Institute of American Indian Arts also highlighted initiatives at its World Food Day Celebration with 435 attendees.
- Farm to Table NM and the NM Food and Agriculture Policy Council hosted NM Food and Farm Day at the 2016 Legislature highlighting Farm to School champions. Also hosted two statewide strategic action convenings with close to 100 stakeholders to plan for the creation of a permanent and comprehensive Farm to School education and procurement program in NM by 2018 called the NM Grown Program.

GOAL 4: Align and publicize wellness policies throughout the Santa Fe region.

- City of Santa Fe's Youth and Family Service Director presented the Birth to Career Initiative to the SFFPCC members. As a result, in 2017, the SFFPC will work with the City of Santa Fe's Children, Youth and Families Division and Children's Cabinet to increase coordination of school and youth programs.

GROWING FOOD

GOAL 2: Develop on-site gardens at senior centers to increase availability of fresh and local foods for seniors.

- At the invitation of SF County Commissioner Stefanics, work on 2017 legislation in support of changes in Senior Center meal programs allowing for the use of garden produce to be used in meal programs.

GOAL 3: Increase the number of school gardens aimed at helping youth learn about food, farming, and healthy lifestyles.

- At the invitation of Farm to Table and the Presbyterian Health Foundation, the SFFPC is participating in the initiation of a coordinated effort to assess and bring together Farm to School oriented education, gardens, and procurement efforts in schools in the City and County.

GOAL 4: Conserve water through educational programs, incentives, and policies.

- A comprehensive set of recommendations on water use and conservation were proposed through the Mayor's Climate Action Task Force Water Land Use and Food Security Subcommittee, and encompassed water table restoration, stream management, and budgetary considerations for funding future conservation projects. SFFPC contributed to the Subcommittee by including food security and production recommendations as part of the Subcommittees work.

GOAL 5: Increase the viability and presence of local gardens, farms, and ranches.

- The City of Santa Fe developed a team of community stakeholders including the SFFPC, reviewed nation-wide best practices, and sought community input on a set of urban agriculture ordinances and an accompanying program to explicitly support and protect the ability of Santa Fean's to produce and sell food within Santa Fe City limits. The Urban Agricultural Ordinance passed City Council in November 2016.
- SFFPC participated in the Santa Fe County extensive and comprehensive planning process in 2015 which resulted in the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan (SGMP). In 2016 the Santa Fe County passed the Agriculture and Ranching Implementation Plan Focus areas of the Plan include promoting an agricultural clearinghouse that connects County landowners with farmers and ranchers who need land and developing a systematic approach to supporting agricultural use on County Open Space properties.

GOAL 6: Develop agricultural incentives and innovative programs to support small farmers and maximize food production/distribution in our regional food shed.

- The SFFPC's Food Production & Land Use Committee created a cross-sector team of experts from Santa Fe County government, the City of Santa Fe government, City and County nonprofit organizations, and other state-wide partners to review and develop policy initiatives and incentives for preserving agriculture, encouraging growth in the agricultural sector, conserving and protecting agricultural lands, and many other land use related issues. The Committee worked with Santa Fe County to pass the Agriculture and Ranching Implementation Plan.
- In 2015 Santa Fe County completed a comprehensive zoning process resulting in the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC). The SLDC established a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program which allows property owners to sell their development rights in order to protect agricultural and other valuable lands in the County and directs development to appropriate areas within the County.
- Santa Fe County is supporting agriculture through the elimination of permit fees for agricultural accessory structures on lands where the primary use is agriculture, grazing or ranching.

GOAL 7: Adopt sustainable land/resource management practices at a regional scale.

- SFFPC members participated in the NM Grown Strategic Planning initiative to identify and create a three year plan to create a regional and statewide program that focuses on increasing opportunities for farmers to sell locally, identifying storage and distribution alignment, and links to the creation of a permanent statewide Farm to School education and program in schools statewide by 2018.

GOAL 8: Prioritize sustainability/agriculture in future development in Santa Fe City & County.

- Communities in Santa Fe County were able to determine how agricultural land uses would be regulated within their community planning districts, in accordance with their adopted Community Plan's vision. Santa Fe County and members of the SFFPC worked with communities to update 13 Community Plans and created Community District Overlays which allow these communities to determine the way a variety of land uses are regulated in the Sustainable Land Development Code.

For any question, clarification, comments and feedback::

Pam Roy, Coordinator, 505-660-8403, pam@farmtotablenm.org, www.santafefoodpolicy.org





