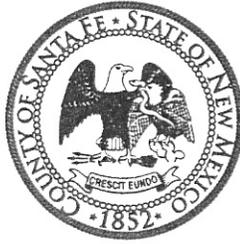


Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen
Commissioner, District 2

Rudy N. Garcia
Commissioner, District 3



Anna T. Hamilton
Commissioner, District 4

Ed Moreno
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

Memorandum

Date: January 29, 2019

To: Board of County Commissioners

Via: Katherine Miller, County Manager

From: Anna C. Hansen, Santa Fe County Commissioner, District 2

Subject: Resolution No. 2019-____, A Resolution Authorizing Santa Fe County to Join the Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico ("CSC") as a Founding Member

Background and Summary:

The Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico (CSC) is a membership-based, non-partisan, non-profit organization that is committed to increasing member awareness on nationwide key policies, regulations, issues and best practices. The CSC will facilitate the adoptions and implementation of sustainability initiatives that will continue to create well-being and economic opportunities for the communities of New Mexico.

The Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe (Board) has expressed its intent to support greenhouse gas emission reduction within the County and the community with numerous resolutions including most recently Resolution Numbers 2018-124 and 2017-68.

By supporting and approving the attached resolution, the Board will be asserting, in no uncertain terms, that it seeks to work with other community leaders to accelerate efforts to stimulate resilient, equitable and prosperous New Mexico communities.

Action Requested:

Commissioner Hansen respectfully requests the Board of County Commissioners support and approve this resolution.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2019 - _____**

**A RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING SANTA FE COUNTY TO JOIN THE
COALITION OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES NEW
MEXICO (“CSC”) AS A FOUNDING MEMBER**

WHEREAS, sustainability works to create resilient, equitable, and prosperous communities for current and future generations while adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, consensus exists among the world's leading climate scientists that climate change caused by emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities is among the most significant problems threatening human well-being and ecological stability today; and

WHEREAS, many state agencies, local governments, and native communities in New Mexico, including Santa Fe County (County), have already begun reducing their greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency, waste reduction, recycling, water conservation, fleet efficiency, and renewable energy production practices; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) has expressed its intent to reduce greenhouse gas emission in numerous resolutions, including most recently Resolution No. 2017-68, which conforms to the targets set in the Paris Agreement in order to limit global mean temperature increase to less than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commissioner (NMPRC) has opened a docket, NMPRC No. 17-00211-UT, to consider a rule that would have electric utilities in New Mexico reduce their carbon footprint by 4 percent per year from 2012 levels, with an 80% reduction required by 2040; and

WHEREAS, the Board passed Resolution No. 2018-124, which supports State of New Mexico Legislature initiatives and administrative actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency, renewable energy production, water conservation and watershed management; and

WHEREAS, communities across the County and New Mexico are experiencing the impacts of climate change and community leaders accept the responsibility to act on

behalf of their residents to ensure the safety, prosperity, and natural resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the County seeks to increase its knowledge of, and participate in, collaborative opportunities that conserve resources, promote renewable energy, stimulate social equity and engagement, and increase sustainable practices in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's counties, cities, other local governments, state legislature, and Pueblos and Native American Nations and Tribes have significant opportunities to provide incentives and resources to increase sustainability and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, by working together in a coalition, communities can increase their leverage to influence the adoption of policies, tools, and programs necessary to support sustainability at the local, state and federal level; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico (CSC) is a membership-based, non-partisan, non-profit organization funded by grants, donations, and membership dues operating under the umbrella of the Santa Fe Community Foundation; and

WHEREAS, during the first year of the CSC, members will not be required to pay membership fees. Subsequently, membership fees will be assigned; and

WHEREAS, the CSC is committed to increasing member awareness on nationwide key policies, regulations, issues, and best practices that can be readily be adapted by local governments; and

WHEREAS, the CSC will facilitate the adoptions and implementation of sustainability initiatives that will continue to create well-being and economic opportunities for the communities of New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

1. The County will seek to join CSC as a founding member until membership fees are assigned. Due to the fact that membership fees have not been determined at this time, the Board will meet again to determine whether funds can be appropriated to continue membership beyond year one.
2. As a founding member of CSC, the County intends to work with CSC to provide the leadership, capacity building, and cooperation to accelerate efforts to stimulate resilient, equitable, and prosperous New Mexico communities.

3. The County Manager and staff is hereby authorized to pursue initial membership in the CSC to the extent membership is not contrary to interests of the County or any law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 29th DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.

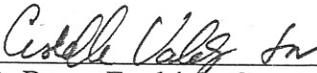
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Anna T. Hamilton, Chair

ATTESTATION:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk


R. Bruce Fredrick, County Attorney

Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico



We envision New Mexico as a leader in climate action and sustainability. Our Coalition will speak in a united voice to ensure resilient, healthy, prosperous communities across New Mexico that provide an excellent quality of life for current and future citizens. Communities in our coalition are committed to sustainability and embrace resource conservation, renewable energy, social equity and engagement, and sustainable practices.

Our members are communities that represent geographically and culturally diverse cities, counties, and Native American pueblos, nations, and tribes. Our members are committed to developing common understanding, aligning our interests, and working together to amplify our voices to create resilient and sustainable communities now and for the future.

The Coalition of Sustainable Communities NM is committed to:

- **Leadership** in increasing renewable energy options and promoting other climate and sustainability actions for local governments and their constituents.
- **Advocating** for legislation, regulations, and administrative actions to allow for energy choice, resource conservation, equity, and greater climate action at the local level.
- **Collaborating** in identifying sustainability issues best resolved through coordinated governmental action and leveraging collective resources and efforts in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change.
- **Capacity building** in creating awareness of nationwide best practices that can be readily adapted by local governments. Best practices and training will be made available to all coalition members.

Beth Beloff, Executive Director

Current member communities:



What is the Coalition of Sustainable Communities NM (the Coalition)?

The Coalition is a membership organization. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition representing and serving New Mexico's cities, counties and Native American pueblos, nations, and tribes. It exists within the Santa Fe Community Foundation (SFCF), which is a 501(c)3 organization and is the Coalition's fiscal sponsor. Under that umbrella the Coalition operates as a program, with the ability to guide its operations and seek memberships, grants and donations to fund those operations. It currently operates with grant funding. The Coalition is expected to broadly represent New Mexico communities with policy proposals that will advance the resiliency of communities in the state.

Full membership is comprised of one elected official from each community plus a senior staff designee. Members will serve on the Steering Committee, with one vote per community, and vote to set policies and elect those in leadership positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Steering Committee. Throughout the year, members will bring forward issues to be considered, to be further developed in Working Groups of the membership and then vetted in the Steering Committee. Decisions to move forward on an initiative are decided by majority vote of the Steering Committee. In further developing collaboration opportunities, Affiliate membership is available to other groups – NGOs, educational institutions, private industry – and whose members can participate in most meetings and in Working Groups as non-voting members.

The Steering Committee consists of voting members and leadership is elected by the membership. Day-to-day activities and the policies established by the Steering Committee are carried out by an Executive Director and staff. In the first year, members will not be required to pay membership fees. Subsequently, fees will be assigned. Within the first year, the founding Steering Committee members will design the fee structure which will consider offsetting of fees by in-kind donations of staff resources. While the Coalition will work on issues involving governmental entities, it remains a distinct legal entity from those governmental bodies.

Principal Services include:

Advocacy

A key activity is aligning policy interests into a coordinated, resourced voice advocating for state policy; yet, independent actions of member communities are encouraged. At times, the Coalition will initiate the writing of model legislation as desired by its members. The Coalition's first major bill it has developed and advanced is the Community Solar Act (HB210), sponsored by Representative Roybal Caballero and Senator Stefanics and supported by a broad array of stakeholders. Policies developed by members can be offered to the membership for consideration as well. Policies developed by the Coalition will be reviewed and developed in Working Groups and approved by majority vote of the Steering Committee. Communities are encouraged and can be assisted in drafting Resolutions as well as in lobbying the Legislature in support of them.

Capacity Building

In its educational role, members will receive detailed information on key issues of proposed policies, legislation and regulations. The Coalition will provide resources and guidance around best practices to help build competencies across management and leadership in the communities. Training resources can be developed to assist in the education of member communities on issues of climate action and sustainability.

Solutions Development

The Coalition will develop and convene working groups designated to tackle solutions requiring multiple stakeholders. It will also secure funding support from state, federal and philanthropic sources to further support its activities.

Networking and Collaboration

The Coalition will network with groups represented by Affiliate members and other similar statewide organizations inside or outside of New Mexico.

