

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2022 - 036

A RESOLUTION ADVANCING COMPLETE STREETS AS A PROVEN
COUNTERMEASURE TO ADVANCE SAFER AND MORE EQUITABLE
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVMENTS IN SANTA FE COUNTY WHILE REDUCING
THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County as a member of the Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization has been supporting the principles of Complete Streets since 2007 including the belief that ALL TRIPS HAVE EQUAL VALUE and acknowledge the benefits and value for the public health and welfare of reducing vehicle miles traveled and increasing transportation by walking, bicycling, and public transportation; and

WHEREAS, for eight years (2012-2019), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has ranked New Mexico in the top four states nationwide with the highest rates of pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 population; and

WHEREAS, designing streets for speeds over 25 miles per hour dramatically increases the likelihood that a person struck while walking will be killed where designs that self-enforce lower speeds save lives and reduce both speed and driver error; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that supports safe and well managed travel along and across streets for all users, including equestrian users, pedestrians, users and of public transit, bicyclists, persons

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with disabilities, seniors, children, motorists, visitors, shared mobility services and movers of commercial goods; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County promotes transportation improvements that encourages walking, bicycling and transit use and see them as equal mobility options to the automobile; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets support the health and wellbeing of residents and the environment by creating and improving sustainable transportation options, providing opportunities for physical activity through improved access to active transportation, improving air quality through reduced vehicle emissions, mitigating the urban heat island effect, utilizing stormwater runoff and decreasing stormwater pollutants, and maximizing shade trees and vegetation; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are essential in providing safe routes to schools and parks for children and parents; and

WHEREAS, the encouragement of diverse and comprehensive public engagement and participation in community decisions concerning street design is critical to community context and to date, public engagement results have revealed a commanding desire for a more walkable, bikeable and transit accessible transportation network; and

WHEREAS, streets ought to be designed to not only accommodate safe access for all users, but in a manner in which we create vibrant, attractive and sustainable public places that advance ambitious but reasonable environmental and social equity goals; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of Complete Streets helps to shift toward carbon neutrality and is a sustainable planning practice, both of which are consistent with Santa Fe County's Sustainability Division's "Clean Commute" goals; and

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WHEREAS, streets designed for all users and not for commuter convenience offers long-term cost savings for local and state governments, provide public health benefits and provide financial benefits to property owners and businesses; and

WHEREAS, there is a continued and urgent recognition that impacts of climate change are occurring more frequently and with added severity where the further design and promotion of a multi-modal, regional transportation system contributes to a comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County agrees to prioritize the inclusion of complete streets in the review of new developments, new road construction or retrofits of existing roads, project funding priorities, and in other instances involving a potential change to the design of any street; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County therefore, in light of the foregoing benefits and considerations including more urgent safety needs and climate change impacts, wishes to improve its commitment to Complete Streets and desires for its streets form a comprehensive and integrated transportation network promoting safe and convenient travel for all users while preserving flexibility, recognizing community context, sustainability and social equity and using design guidelines and standards that support best practices; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County enjoys a diverse portfolio of roadway and street types including rural unpaved roadways to more urbanized street systems providing service to a diverse population of users including equestrian users and these roads require context driven design options; and

WHEREAS, that the attached graphic summary of the benefits of Complete Streets and the Federal Highway Administration's "Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks" manual articulates a vision of how roads and streets may be repurposed to advance multiple goals of

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member agencies around sustainability, community, affordable housing, safety, economic development and public health and are representative of our commitment to further advance these goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Board that:

- A. That the County affirms its commitment to Complete Streets as a core value and this resolution shall inform and guide the development or revision of land use plans, regulations and codes where the design and construction of streets form a comprehensive, safe and integrated transportation network for all road users and recognizes that it is not just a responsibility of one department but has critical implications across multiple departmental and division functions.
- B. That the County shall strive to reconstruct existing roadways and offer design guidelines for new developments in a manner that support the design elements described herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 31 DAY OF May, 2022

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

By: Anna T. Hamilton
Anna T. Hamilton, Chairperson

ATTEST:
Katherine E. Clark
Katherine E. Clark
County Manager



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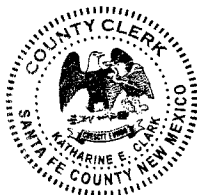
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Rachel A. Brown for
Rachel A. Brown
Interim County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 1ST Day Of June, 2022 at 08:00:30 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1989969**
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
Deputy Destiny Romero County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM