SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 163

A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING SANTA FE COUNTY'S 2027 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES RELATED TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County recognizes the need for additional affordable and workforce housing to serve residents and support the long-term economic and community well-being of the County; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico has established programs and funding sources to support affordable housing development, homeownership, infrastructure, and rehabilitation; however, additional investment, program flexibility, and local government resources are needed to address continuing housing challenges; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure costs, limited development financing, regulatory barriers, and insufficient administrative capacity can make it difficult to develop and preserve affordable housing, particularly for smaller-scale projects and infill development; and

WHEREAS, the 2027 Regular Session of the New Mexico State Legislature provides an opportunity to address these challenges through legislation, state appropriations, and improvements to existing housing programs; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners wishes to establish legislative priorities to guide County staff and contract lobbyists in advocating for affordable housing policies and funding during the 2027 Regular Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners hereby identifies the following legislative priorities related to affordable housing and urges that legislation incorporating these priorities be enacted by the State Legislature during its 2027 Regular Session:

1. Establish a state central coordinating body for housing policy and homelessness response to provide technical assistance to local governments, track regional housing needs, execute a statewide housing investment strategy, and oversee preservation of existing affordable housing stock.
2. Create a state fund to support infrastructure costs, including utilities and site improvements, for small-scale housing developments (starter homes, duplexes, and townhomes), with a preference and support for local and small-scale developers, on publicly owned or tribal land.
3. Create a local land activation fund that expands state funding for utility extensions, site preparation, and other infrastructure needed for affordable and workforce housing.
4. Establish state incentives and capacity-building grants to help local governments update zoning regulations, streamline permitting processes, and adopt other housing-supportive policies.

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5. Provide recurring state funding for homebuyer assistance, including down payment assistance, that local governments with existing housing programs can help administer.
6. Improve coordination among state agencies administering housing programs to align funding cycles, reduce duplicative application requirements, align funding opportunities where practical, and simplify reporting requirements in order to reduce costs and administrative delays for housing developers and local governments.
7. Amend the Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) to clarify that housing constitutes infrastructure and provide state capital investment in New Mexico's manufactured and modular housing industry.
8. Provide an increase of funding each year to the Linkages Program, which provides housing vouchers for the homeless people with behavioral health disabilities as it has proved very successful as a pilot program. The funding should be increased until all homeless people with behavioral health disabilities are taken care of with both project-based vouchers and scattered-site vouchers made available.
9. Provide steady significant funding to the State Housing Trust Fund.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 10th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026.

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Justin S. Greene, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

COUNTY CLERK
KATHARINE E. CLARK
SANTA FE COUNTY NEW MEXICO

Date: 11/12/2026

Approved as to form:

_____
Walker Boyd
Santa Fe County Attorney

OUNTY OF SANTA FE)
TATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
ecord On The 12TH Day Of November, 2026 at 01:53:53 PM
nd Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2095694
f The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
eputy _____ County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

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