

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2014- 84**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4  
5 Councilor Patti Bushee

6 Councilor Signe Lindell

7 Councilor Peter Ives

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10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND OUR CONGRESSIONAL**  
12 **DELEGATION TO SUPPORT LOCAL EFFORTS TO KEEP THE OLD SANTA FE TRAIL**  
13 **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BUILDING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS A CULTURAL**  
14 **RESOURCE AND ULTIMATELY DESIGNATED AS EITHER A NATIONAL HISTORIC**  
15 **SITE OR A NATIONAL MONUMENT.**

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17 **WHEREAS**, the Old Santa Fe Trail Building was constructed in 1937-1939 through the  
18 efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corps (the “CCC”) and the Works Progress Administration (the  
19 “WPA”), two federal government organizations that offered meaningful employment and cultural  
20 uplift to millions during the Great Depression; and

21 **WHEREAS**, New Mexico and its multi-cultural populations received a greater benefit from  
22 those programs than other states, enabling the survival and eventual thriving of today’s ethnic  
23 diversity; and

24 **WHEREAS**, from 1939 until 1995, this building served as the regional headquarters for the  
25 National Park Service, playing an important role in the development of the National Park System that

1 has been called “America’s Best Idea;” and

2           **WHEREAS**, there are currently 70 National Park Service employees who are housed in the  
3 building; and

4           **WHEREAS**, this building is an outstanding example of institutional adobe architecture,  
5 reflecting the natural vernacular architecture of New Mexico and the Southwest; and

6           **WHEREAS**, the exterior of this building has been preserved by the National Park Service  
7 since 1939, and is virtually unchanged since its original design and construction; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the interior of this building has been designed to reflect that same vernacular  
9 architecture and contains furniture and artwork emblematic of New Mexico and the Southwest; and

10           **WHEREAS**, much of that furniture and artwork was also produced by the artisans of the  
11 CCC and the WPA, and the National Park Service has protected and preserved these artifacts as part  
12 of their mission to preserve this building; and

13           **WHEREAS**, until recent limitations on public access exhibits and interpretive programs,  
14 public activities in the building have become an important living part of Santa Fe’s community life  
15 and development, and

16           **WHEREAS**, the area around the building, commonly known as Museum Hill, has evolved  
17 into a unique array of educational institutions that are highly compatible with public use of the Old  
18 Santa Fe Trail Building, presenting extraordinary potential for mutually beneficial federal, state,  
19 local, tribal, and private sector cooperation; and

20           **WHEREAS**, in recognition that the Old Santa Fe Trail Building is historically significant to  
21 the nation as a whole, the building was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1989 by the  
22 Secretary of the Interior; and

23           **WHEREAS**, Congress is now being asked to designate the Old Santa Fe Trail Building as a  
24 National Historic Site to honor the work of all of those throughout the nation who lent their talents  
25 and labor to the CCC and the WPA; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the story of this era of our nation’s history needs to be documented and  
2 celebrated before those who worked in the CCC and the WPA pass from the scene; and

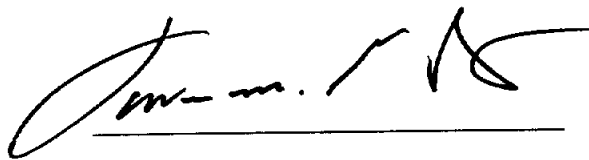
3           **WHEREAS**, there is no more fitting site to educate the nation about the deeds of these  
4 important groups, and to honor their memory, than in the magnificent building which they created.

5           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
6 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body of the city of Santa Fe urges the Congress of the  
7 United States to designate the Old Santa Fe Trail Building as the “CCC and WPA Historic Site” or  
8 alternately the President of the United States to proclaim it the CCC and WPA National Monument to  
9 tell the story of all of those who participated in these government programs in the wonderful building  
10 and among the wonderful artifacts that they helped create.

11           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body hereby supports keeping the 70  
12 employees housed in the building.

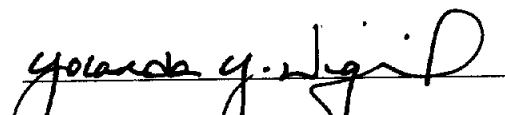
13           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to  
14 the President of the United States, the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the  
15 State of New Mexico, the Santa Fe Legislative Delegation and the Santa Fe County Commission.

16           PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

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20 JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

21 ATTEST:

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24 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:



KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY