

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

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-85**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

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5 Councilor Peter Ives

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10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **DECLARING THE GOVERNING BODY’S INTENT FOR THE CITY OF SANTA FE TO**  
12 **BECOME CARBON NEUTRAL BY THE YEAR 2040.**

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe is committed to protecting the long-term health and  
15 viability of our community through strategies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and  
16 mitigate the effects of climate change; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe is proud of its cultural and historical significance among  
18 North American Communities; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-55,  
20 supported efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-127, called  
22 for a City government-wide effort to reduce energy and telecommunication needs; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-57, the  
24 Governing Body declared its intention of reduce the carbon footprint of City government on the  
25 environment by a total of twenty percent (20%) within five years; and

1           **WHEREAS**, reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, especially from the  
2 transportation sector, can have a positive impact on local air quality and result in a healthier  
3 community; and

4           **WHEREAS**, according to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
5 (IPCC), which is comprised of the world's leading scientific experts in the field of climate change, to  
6 avoid the worst impacts of climate change stemming from greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), there is  
7 a need for GHG emissions to be cut by at least 80% from 1990 levels by 2050; and

8           **WHEREAS**, peer cities, including Austin, Seattle and Portland, have recently completed  
9 updates to their original Climate Action Plans, and the updates incorporate new data and information  
10 that led to establishing new long-term goals in line with the IPCC calculations; and

11           **WHEREAS**, carbon neutrality refers to achieving net zero carbon emissions by balancing a  
12 measured amount of carbon released into the atmosphere with that of an equivalent amount of carbon  
13 emissions that are sequestered or offset by renewable energy production, or through the purchase of  
14 enough carbon credits to make up the difference; and

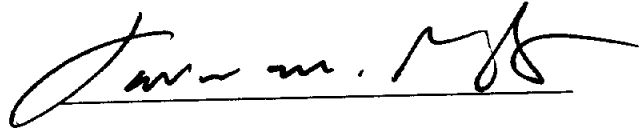
15           **WHEREAS**, the best practice for seeking carbon neutral status entails reducing and/or  
16 avoiding carbon emissions first so that only unavoidable emissions are offset; and

17           **WHEREAS**, being carbon neutral is increasingly seen as good corporate or state social  
18 responsibility and a growing list of corporations, cities and states are announcing dates for when they  
19 intend to become fully carbon neutral.

20           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
21 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body hereby declares that it intends to have 50% percent  
22 of its energy come from renewable sources by 2025 and become carbon neutral by the year 2040 and  
23 directs City staff to provide options, remedies, alternatives, solutions, and to recommendations for  
24 how City government can achieve the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2040.

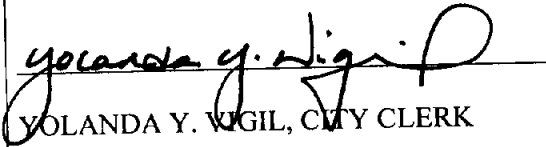
25           **PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 8th day of October, 2014.

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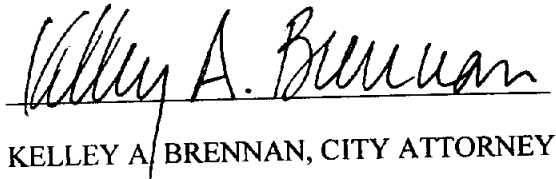


JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY