

1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2015-1

3 INTRODUCED BY:

4
5 Mayor Javier Gonzales Councilor Chris Rivera

6 Councilor Peter Ives Councilor Bill Dimas

7 Councilor Patti Bushee Councilor Signe Lindell

8 Councilor Ron Trujillo

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10 A RESOLUTION

11 DIRECTING THE CITY OF SANTA FE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO EXPLORE THE
12 OPTIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR A LONG-TERM
13 COMMUNITY PROTECTION INITIATIVE (“CPI”) AND REPORT BACK TO THE
14 GOVERNING BODY ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING THE
15 FISCAL IMPACT FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING SUCH A PROGRAM.

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17 WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe Fire Department provides quality emergency medical
18 services to the residents of and visitors to the city of Santa Fe; and

19 WHEREAS, statistics show that the burden on the City of Santa Fe emergency response
20 system has risen consistently and dramatically over the last decade; and

21 WHEREAS, there is documented evidence that the burden on the medical and public health
22 systems has also risen dramatically over the last decade; and

23 WHEREAS, in Santa Fe, 0.3% of the City’s residents are responsible for 18% of total
24 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls; and

25 WHEREAS, EMS-based community health initiatives undertaken in communities

1 throughout the United States have been shown to improve health outcomes for vulnerable patient
2 populations, including low income families, seniors, and the homeless, many of whom rely heavily on
3 the emergency medical system to treat medical problems that could have been avoided with a
4 minimum of basic preventative care; and

5 **WHEREAS**, EMS is the unique domain of practice that represents the intersection of health
6 care, public health, and public safety and represents an expansion of the traditional notion of
7 emergency medical services as simply an emergency response system; and

8 **WHEREAS**, proactive prevention, community health outreach, and other “high impact”
9 services such as those provided by community paramedics have been demonstrated to reduce
10 healthcare costs for emergency system “high utilizers” by as much as 84 percent; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the contributions of promotoras and other community-based health workers to
12 the individual and community health of disenfranchised populations is increasingly being recognized
13 and leveraged by healthcare providers and insurers throughout New Mexico; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the prompt and measurable improvement in health outcomes and reductions in
15 healthcare costs arising from EMS-based community health make such programs ideal candidates for
16 public/private partnerships including Social Impact Bonds and shared savings arrangements with
17 health insurers and emergency departments; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe Fire Department launched a community health pilot
19 program called the Community Protection Initiative (CPI) in May, 2014 and that program has
20 demonstrated significant benefit to the health of the community by serving patients in critical need of
21 medical and community support; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Fire Department personnel, through the pilot program, have undertaken
23 significant efforts to define how to best serve the needs of Santa Fe on a long-term basis; and

24 **WHEREAS** to develop a long-term CPI, staff needs to explore such issues that include, but
25 are not limited to:

- 1 • developing community health protocols;
- 2 • designing community health programs that would meet the needs of the community;
- 3 • meeting with community stakeholders;
- 4 • attracting highly qualified personnel who have expressed interest in joining a long-term
- 5 CPI;
- 6 • examining community health programs in other jurisdictions;
- 7 • preparing a comprehensive plan that articulates the manner and costs involved in fully
- 8 developing a long-term program; and

9 **WHEREAS**, emergency medical service providers may find it increasingly effective to
10 redirect certain patients from a hospital emergency room to more appropriate facilities, or to provide
11 specific and directed services without a transport to a facility; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Affordable Care Act supports the idea of creative solutions to healthcare
13 delivery through many initiatives; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Affordable Care Act authorizes new forms of Medicare and Medicaid
15 payments to create medical care systems that are more accessible to patients and accountable for
16 reducing overall costs of healthcare; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the changes in healthcare resulting from the Affordable Care Act have the
18 potential to transform emergency medical service organizations; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body believes that, given the right support, the Fire
20 Department's Community Protection Initiative would help protect against the loss of life and promote
21 a healthier and happier lifestyle in the city of Santa Fe.

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
23 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that Fire Department staff is directed to:

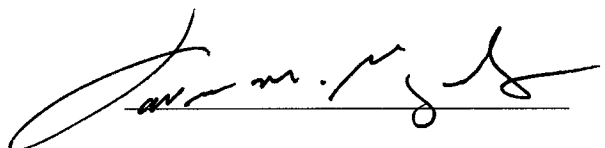
24 1. Continue and refine its examination of a comprehensive community health initiative
25 that would best serve the needs of the City.

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2. Collaborate with other City departments and community partners that would make this program successful and sustainable.

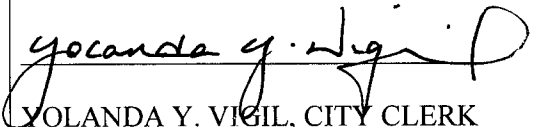
3. Within sixty (60) days of adoption of this resolution, report back to the Governing Body its findings and recommendations, including the fiscal impact for establishing and maintaining such a program.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 14th day of January, 2015.



JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

ATTEST:


YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



KELLEY/A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY