

# Agenda



Santa Fe City and County, Advisory Council on Food Policy December 17, 2015, 9AM-11AM Angel Depot Conference Room, 1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Prioritization and Agenda Order

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

2 minutes/person

DATE 12/9/15 TIMF, 11:53-

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

RECEIVED &

F. PRESENTATIONS/TRAINING:

Discussion of 2016 SFFPC Strategic Planning Session & Training Led by Sue Perry and Morgan Day

G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. Follow Up from November 19th, 2015 Meeting

10 minutes

55 minutes

45 minutes

H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

1. Policy Committee

a. Food Plan Committee

- i. Meeting updates, including update on 2015 Annual Food Plan Report document.
- b. Food Production and Land Use Committee
  - i. Meeting updates.
  - ii. Action on County SGMP Resolution "A Resolution to Develop an Implementation Plan to Support Agriculture and Ranching in Santa Fe County as Outlined in the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan"
  - iii. Urban agriculture update from John Alejandro.
- c. Procurement
  - i. No meeting updates.
- d. Education and Outreach
  - i. Meeting Updates.
- e. Governance Committee
  - i. Meeting Updates.
- f. State & National Issues
  - i. Action on NM Grown Legislative Priority resolutions brought before City and County in preparation for 2016 NM State Legislature.
- 2. Executive Committee
  - a. Ad Hoc Funding Committee
    - i. Update on Kresge grant (due January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016).
    - ii. Vote on SFFPC's role in Kresge grant.

I.ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

J. .ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

K. ADJOURNMENT

5 minutes

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodation contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting day.

# SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON FOOD POLICY

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	PAGE(S)
A. CALL TO ORDER		
B. ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/Prioritization of Agenda	Approved	3
D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 19, 2015	Approved	3
E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR	Discussed	1-2
F. PRESENTATION AND TRAINING  Discussion: 2016 SFFPC Strategic Planning & Training  Led by Sue Perry and Morgan Day	Discussed	3-4
G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS 1. Follow Up from November 19, 2015 Meeting	Discussed	2
H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS     1. Policy Committee     a. Food Plan Committee     i. Updates, including 2015 Annual Food Plan Report	Discussed	4
<ul> <li>b. Food Production and Land Use Committee</li> <li>i. Meeting Update</li> <li>ii. Action: County SGMP Resolution as Outlined in the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan</li> </ul>	Discussed	4-6
iii. Urban agriculture update c. Procurement	J. Alejandro None	6-7 7
<ul> <li>d. Education and Outreach</li> <li>i. Meeting Update</li> <li>e. Governance Committee</li> </ul>	Discussed	7
<ul> <li>i. Meeting Updates</li> <li>f. State &amp; National Issues</li> <li>i. Action: NM Grown Legislative Priority resolutions in preparation for 2016 NM State Legislature.</li> <li>2. Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Discussed Discussed	7-8 8
a. Ad Hoc Funding Committee i. Update on Kresge grant (due January 15th, 20 ii. Vote on SFFPC's role in Kresge grant.	16) Discussed Discussed	8-9 9
I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR	Discussed	10
J. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL	Discussed	10
K. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 11:07 a m	10

#### SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY

#### ADVISORY COUNCIL ON FOOD POLICY

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

#### A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy was called to order by Sue Perry, Vice chair on this date at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the Angel Depot Conference Room, 1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

#### B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

#### **Members Present**

Susan Perry, vice chair Patricia Boies (arrived later) Tony McCarty Erin Ortigoza (arrived later) Cydney Martin (arrived later)

Pamela Roy David Sundberg

Lynn Walters (arrived later)

#### **Members Excused**

Mark Winne, chair John Alejandro Maria de Anda Susan Odiseos

Members Absent Emigdio Ballon

#### **Staff Present**

Morgan Day, Coordinator

#### **Others Present**

Jackie Munro, La Familia
Mariajosé Ugalde-Alcázar (arrived later)
Others as identified under Communications from the Floor
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

While awaiting quorum Vice chair Perry started with Communications from the Floor.

## E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR- (Revised Agenda Order)

Vice chair Perry said a free dental clinic will be held in April. She offered to send Ms. Munro and members of the council the contact information. Ms. Roy suggested asking Ms. Odiseos to include a flyer about the clinic in the Feeding Santa Fe bags the week before the clinic.

Ms. Jackie Munro said the clinic at La Familia has a program MOGRO that does half price boxes for patients with food stamps. The program has recently doubled from 30 orders a week because there is a new AmeriCorps member who is promoting the program and more bilingual communication.

Ms. Munro explained that MOGRO is funded through grants. Everything is organic and some food is local. The box includes about ten items of fruits and vegetables each week with a market value of 30-35 dollars. Orders can be customized and items substituted. People on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) currently pay about \$10 and others pay about 20 dollars. The boxes are distributed at La Familia south side and Alto Street on Wednesday afternoon.

Ms. Roy said FINI (the United States Department of Agriculture Food Insecurity Nutrition Initiative) is a new program out of the Farm Bill. The Santa Fe Community Foundation is the grant holder. The New Mexico Farmers Market Association received a planning grant for the Double-Up Food Bucks Program and has recently submitted their full proposal. The state funding through the legislature is \$400k each year.

#### G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. Follow Up from November 19, 2015 Meeting

Ms. Day provided an overview of her recent work:

- FPC is gearing up for the upcoming legislative session and working with the Food and Ag' Policy Council to ensure that Food and Farm Day is a good one. She will set a theme for the day and do a press conference and who to invite is being considered.
- She is working with the Food Plan Committee to get a 2015 Annual update document that gives a synopsis of the work of the past year and in the community toward the goals of the Food Plan. A draft will be sent within the week.
- A survey will be sent to members to ask about projects they or their organizations are working on or things they know are happening in the community, specifically those that meet a goal of the Food Plan.
- The work on the USDA Community Food Projects Grant transitioned into the Kresge Grant.
- As staff, she will strategically plan her goals and work with the Executive Committee on an annual review of how to better serve the Food Council, and help them work more efficiently and bring in innovative ideas.

Ms. Day thanked the committees who submitted their meeting dates in 2016. She will contact the committee chairs who have not yet submitted those. She said the dates are invaluable for her to plan and to invite community members to be part of the meetings.

Ms. Roy noted she would be absent the first two Wednesdays for the policy work committee. Ms. Day replied they could discuss a hiatus.

Ms. Day offered to send the address for Facebook and Twitter to everyone. She is thinking about how to automate that and what should go on the sites. She plans in 2016 to have a more professional web presence that is kept up to date, but needs to think about how that can happen in terms of her time.

Mr. McCarty said he received an email request that the Food Plan be more visible.

Ms. Day said because of the annual budget with the county there is money in the budget and she can farm that out to developers.

Ms. Boies entered the meeting at this time and quorum was established.

Vice chair Perry returned to the order of the agenda.

#### C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/Prioritization

Mr. McCarty moved to approve agenda as amended. Ms. Martin seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 19, 2015

Page 3, middle of page, "Councilor Dominguez said there is <u>not of public</u> land in the Airport Road area" should have read: "Councilor Dominguez said there is not **enough** of public land..."

Page 3, last paragraph, second line: Farm to Table has partnered statewide with the <u>Quonoma</u> Health Foundation and will finish a three year initiative... was corrected and should be the *Con Alma Foundation*. Ms. Walters asked for clarification that page 5, 4th paragraph from the bottom, second sentence read: "She said adult education 'that are not located in schools' have been a challenge..."

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2015 as amended. Mr. Sundberg seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Ortigoza entered the meeting at this time.

#### F. PRESENTATIONS AND TRAINING-

Discussion of 2016 SFFPC Strategic Planning Session & Training -Sue Perry and Morgan Day

Vice chair Perry said she clarified with City Clerk Yolanda Vigil that when there is a quorum for any reason the meeting must be posted. She said the Strategic Planning meeting will need to be posted, however, Ms. Vigil did clarify that those not on the council do not have to be allowed to speak during the meeting.

Vice chair Perry said she preferred the meeting be early in January. She asked for recommendations.

Ms. Day said she suggested the planning session to the Executive Committee because it would help her as staff. She said the council can be more effective with internal goals around various topics and topics they want to pursue and take a leadership role in.

She explained that the Executive Committee envisioned a half day session with facilitated conversation so everyone can participate. There will be a refresher/reorientation of the manual and a discussion of the strategic planning around policy and internal governments, etc. That will allow the FPC to be more impactful and potentially make suggestions for statewide legislation.

Ms. Boies said it was helpful in the county's Health Action Plan to focus not just on what the Community Services Department does in food, but the BCC recognized this is where their energy was going and decided to make the Health Action Plan a three-year plan.

Ms. Boies suggested the FPC consider if this should be an annual or a three-year plan as they do strategic planning.

Vice chair Perry said the thought is a three year with the idea that the first year they will do a three year plan to know where they are going each year.

Mr. McCarty said the Food Plan is tied to three major documents (the Health Action Plan, Sustainable Santa Fe Plan and the County Sustainable Growth Management Plan) they should keep in mind.

Ms. Roy suggested they focus on the strengths of the documents and where they cross and that will help the public have an idea of what the FPC is doing.

Mr. Sundberg asked that the orientation packet be sent ahead of time.

Ms. Day said she would like to review the three documents and will send some light homework. Everyone should bring ideas to the table from their perspective as well as from the FPC perspective.

Ms. Ortigoza offered to send chapter 15, the chapter about how concepts would be implemented. She requested holding the session after January 12 because she will present the first Ag' Implementation Plan at the January 12, 2016 BCC meeting.

The council discussed the planning session and documents and the dates for the session.

Ms. Day said she would send a Doodle poll tomorrow and would like everyone to respond.

The council members discussed facilitators and compensation. Facilitators mentioned were Carl Moore, Lucy Moore, Michele Elias, Roberto and Rosemary Romero. Ms. Day will contact them.

#### H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

- a. Food Plan Committee
  - i. Meeting Update, including update on 2015 Annual Food Plan Report document

Ms. Perry noted that they are still looking for a chair for the committee. She said they will meet briefly to review the Summary Report draft Ms. Day has been working on after this meeting. Members will be asked starting in January, to share things relative to the Food plan goals that they or their organizations are working on.

Ms. Day said she sent an Excel spreadsheet when she started. She plans to populate that from the update and send to members.

- b. Food Production and Land Use Committee- (Revised Agenda Order)
  - i. Meeting Update

Ms. Ortigoza said the draft of the resolution will go to the BCC January 12, 2016. (Exhibit 1) The resolution directs staff to develop an implementation plan for chapter 4 of the SGMP (Sustainable Growth Management Plan).

The whereas statements were developed to encapsulate issues with regard to developing information and the need for information and a proactive policy and programming that will help to preserve the integrity of farm land, resources and farming skill sets. The resolution states the need for an implementation plan and the plan should be completed by June 30, 2016.

Ms. Martin asked if the idea is to restrict farmers or define the area that can be farmed.

Ms. Ortigoza explained that a set of strategies were developed and the resolution states the need to prioritize those and take them from implementation into law. That will preserve land that can be farmed and encourage more farming, whether through training programs, hydroponics, etc. The resolution will give dedicated time for staff to look at this and write a plan.

She said the council will be actively involved in the conversations and there will be focus groups and public input incorporated. The vision is to prioritize the strategies as to how they relate and incorporate the input from stakeholders as to why certain initiatives should be done.

Ms. Ortigoza explained there is a lot of economic development involved and David Griscom the county economic development director is sitting in on the meetings. She said the point is to preserve farmland as a functional piece of the farming landscape.

Ms. Roy said the subcommittee has worked for a couple of years on the draft and they have everyone looking at how to incentivize agriculture and keep opportunities for farmers and ranchers so land is not diverted into housing.

Ms. Martin suggested the new county agriculture agent be included on the committee. She said this is already being done through NMSU. She noted her disappointment in the low attendance for the Ag' Business Conference in Albuquerque. She said there were successful people there with B&B's and people making millions that are just open during harvest for a corn maze, etc.

Ms. Boies asked clarification in the fourth whereas. She said she thought the SGMP specified an implementation plan and if so, would be good to cite that the Agriculture and Ranching chapter said there 'shall be a implementation plan'.

Ms. Ortigoza said the wording was recently changed because it does not say that, but she would verify that. She explained that originally there was something about 'as outlined in the Sustainable Growth Management Plan', but the plan never outlined an implementation concept.

Ms. Boies confirmed the recommendation is "for the BCC to recognize the importance of agriculture and ranching, which they have, and to direct staff to develop". She asked if there will be funding.

Ms. Ortigoza said not at this meeting. Staff will develop a budget and there are funds available if a midseason budget adjustment is needed. A budget for FY 2016-17 will be drafted and funding will be associated depending on how the programs are mapped and on the input from stakeholders.

Ms. Martin said the extension may have maps through NMSU. Ms. Day explained that the NMSU maps did not have the specificity level needed.

Ms. Ortigoza said they will work with what exist and the maps when they develop the inventory.

Ms. Martin suggested having the professors and students help.

Ms. Roy suggested contacting Edmund Gomez the director of Alcalda Experimental Station. She said he has a list of statewide farmers and ranchers, and Daniel King the Chief Appraisal Officer for Santa Fe County did an indepth study of agriculture valuated lands in the county. She added that the committee includes Leslie Allison from the Western Landowners Alliance, who is following legislation to incentivize and maintain agriculture. The subcommittee is also working with the county and city on innovative options.

Ms. Roy said she mentioned Picton County, Colorado's resolution that utilizes county open space for agriculture. They have growers on the land with 10 year leases and access to federal programs for high tunnels and drip irrigation. She said she will get their lease documents.

Ms. Ortigoza said the planner for the County Open Space Program took the lease agreements for Picton County to the consultants who are working on the management plans for open spaces. She said the community members desire a more structured lease program that is accessible and has best practices, and if ranching, has a clear standard of what is expected of the lessee.

She said another idea is the TDR, to transfer development rights off of sensitive lands where the owner gets the capital, but the land remains open and the county will set the criteria. She has the handbook.

Ms. Day offered to send typed reports from the Food Plan and Land Use Committees. She said the committee has a wealth of knowledge and is looking at the state and national level to preserve and make land go into food production. She said it is a model committee in terms of pulling in people in from other parts of the community.

Ms. Roy moved to approve and support the draft resolution to develop an Agriculture and Ranching Implementation Plan in Santa Fe County, within the spirit of adjustments by the county that might be needed. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

ii. Urban Agriculture Update from John Alejandro

Ms. Day provided an update for Mr. Alejandro:

The process for legislation to be heard at the city is to have the bill announced by the Mayor or person who introduced the bill and then send the bill on to various committees. The Mayor read the bill into record at the last City Council meeting and now it is working its way through the committees.

Mr. Sundberg asked that the first draft be sent also because Mr. Alejandro was making amendments.

Ms. Ortigoza said she met with Commissioner Holian and Benjamin Brandt with Ecoponex. She passed out a pilot project proposal (Exhibit 2) to build a renewable energy efficient farm facility in conjunction with Santa Fe Community Partners. She explained they are partners with a university in the Netherlands at the cutting edge of technology related to algae. This is one of the first types of this facility in the world and they chose Santa Fe.

Ms. Ortigoza said the community college supports the proposal and the county manager has written a letter of support. They are also working with the City of Santa Fe, in conversation with Santa Fe Public Schools and with local food distribution organizations such as Squash Blossom. She said this is an example of an economic development project and a year-round learning and food production facility. The facility would lower input of energy and water to grow food and the by-product is nutra-ceutical algae.

Ms. Ortigoza said this is in the investment phase and a business plan will be ready early in the New Year. She said the gentlemen have been invited to give a presentation to the FPC in early spring.

Ms. Roy suggested a tour of Santa Fe Community College facilities to learn how they are connected.

- c. Procurement- No update
- d. Education and Outreach
  - i. Meeting Updates

Ms. Martin said the subcommittee did not meet this month and could use more people. She said Tom, the new ag' agent is doing a lot more outreach; bilingual gardening programs, the Master Gardener Program and is available to do talks.

Mr. Sundberg asked if Tom could be connected with the community gardens. He said he keeps hearing they should use the UNM Ag' Extension as a resource and this is where more outreach could happen. The extension could be more proactive and insert themselves into the community where they know people can use help, opposed to people having to go to the website.

Ms. Martin said they have a Master Gardener Program and a radio show and classes and yet people say they wish they knew how to can and the extension has held five classes.

Vice chair Perry suggested they should think about and discuss what hands-on outreach means.

Mr. McCarty said once the Urban Ag' ordinance is out they would have something to show and that proves their worth.

Mr. Sundberg suggested Earth Care volunteers be tasked with getting information to people. He said it is a matter of connecting the dots in the community.

Ms. Boies said Commissioner Anaya asked what they could do to make people aware when the BCC approved New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in School Meals. She said that is a positive thing to think about for 2016.

- e. Governance Committee
  - i. Meeting Update

Vice chair Perry said members have the committee report. She reiterated the push for the committee is to pull in people from the community who can only make a short-term commitment and get them involved in a

subcommittee and working on a project. Vice chair Perry said that is where the work is happening and there is accessible contact with the community and stakeholders.

#### f. State and National Issues

i. Action on NM Grown Legislative Priority resolutions brought before City and County in preparation for 2016 NM State Legislature

Ms. Roy thanked the County for passing the New Mexico Grown resolution in support of the state appropriation request of the 2016 legislative session. She said Commissioner Anaya's question helps look at health and fits perfectly with the farm and ranch initiative. She said the original idea was about creating an education outreach campaign around the economic development idea of farming and ranching.

She said she understands that the County Commissioners have asked the New Mexico Association of Counties to consider the resolution as a priority or at least support it. That gives statewide support and an opportunity to have more people on board during the legislative session.

Ms. Boies said the resolution to increase the state funding is on the Santa Fe County legislative priority list and it has the staff to carry it.

Ms. Roy said New Mexico Food and Farms Day is a one day event at the legislature and a partnership with Cooking with Kids. It is also the New Mexico School Nutrition Association Day. She explained that New Mexico Food and Farms Day is how the community works together and supports each other to educate around food, farming and schools. Other partners are the New Mexico Dietetic Association and the New Mexico Health Council Alliance, the city and county, the Santa Fe Food Policy Council, New Mexico Coop Extension, the New Mexico Food and Ag' Policy Council and Farm to Table.

Ms. Roy said this year's focus will be on the bill (New Mexico Grown) as a priority and to highlight special programs and farmers and they might have rewards.

Vice chair Perry said the BCC has approved this and the vote is for FPC to move this forward for City Council to support and forward with their lobbyist.

Ms. Roy said February 3 they will have 11 tables from 9 to 10 a.m. and the resolutions will be read from 10-12 in the Senate and House Chambers and people on the rostrum will be introduced.

Ms. Walters said this year is Cooking with Kids 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The city resolution has a Cooking with Kids Day and there will be separate memorials in the Senate and House about February 3 as Cooking with Kids Day.

Ms. Walters moved to support the resolution and move it forward to City Council for New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### 2. Executive Committee

- a. Ad Hoc Funding Committee
  - i. Update on Kresge grant (due January 15th, 2016)

Ms. Day said last week they had a wonderful meeting drawing on several partners and they added the Santa Fe Farmers Market Institute. They decided things they want as part of the proposal and she will compile who will write the different parts. The committee will meet tomorrow and look at whether there is leadership and the will to move forward with the proposal.

Ms. Day said she asked the Executive Committee what role the FPC will play in this and other grants where a coalition is necessary. She said the FPC is the perfect leader to bring stakeholders and the community together in a planning process to think strategically about the food system.

She said the FPC does not have the capacity to head a program, in staff or within their mission. She views FPC's role as a convener and to help with communication, etc. and step in where a policy shift or initiatives or recommendations to local, state and federal entities are needed. She said they are careful and explicit about how they enter into the grant with one another and what is expected and will come to decisions by tomorrow.

Vice chair Perry said it appears they will not pursue the grant if those interested cannot do what they said they would.

Ms. Day said the grant will focus specifically on the south side Airport Road corridor, but does not mean there is not space for working with government. She said the city has been at the table and she keeps Councilor Dominguez informed, but it is difficult for the city to match funds at this time.

Ms. Roy said Councilor Dominguez is so important in this and his presentation is epicenter. She asked if Ms. Day had talked with Sherry Hooper as the host of the grant. Ms. Day replied she contacted Ms. Hooper and will chat with her after the meeting.

Ms. Day said the grant funds can be used to fund a temporary position or contractor to take on the additional work. She said part of the reason to apply to planning grants is because of the wealth of organizations that are currently doing work around food. They want to harness that effort and build a coalition to bring a positive change in the food system. The hope is that regardless of whether the grant happens, they can continue to find ways and spaces to build a collective impact to use their different areas of expertise.

Mr. McCarty asked if there is a possibility for Ms. Day's work to be compensated.

Ms. Day said if they hire someone to do the project management, the FPC will not have to do the nuts and bolts. She sees her time as participating in meetings and as a direct liaison between the educational process and local government. She did not know if there would be more hours.

Mr. Sundberg asked Ms. Day if she is willing to put in the extra hours. He thought the lead organization in the grant would be on the hook to hire Ms. Day to take on further responsibilities.

Ms. Roy said they are working diligently with the city and county to get Ms. Day full time.

ii. Vote on SFFPC's role in Kresge grant

Vice chair Perry confirmed that members had enough information to move forward.

The consensus of the council was to move forward with the grant pursuit, based on the outcome tomorrow and the concern that Ms. Day not be overwhelmed.

#### I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

Vice chair Perry said the meeting with the Mayor has been pushed forward to this Tuesday. They will explain the budget piece with the county funding of FPC and with the city. She said a couple of important points are for the Mayor to see that the city has not kept up with the county funding and communicate that under Community Services as a grant is not viable. The FPC does not know year to year if they receive the \$10k because they are not a program and would like to have a line item in the budget.

She said third is to propose that the city match the county funding of \$25k and to talk about how they currently work within the city initiatives with the Climate Task Force and other projects.

Ms. Boies said the Human Services Department (HSD) held a public hearing on their proposed work requirements for SNAP recipients. There was a large outpouring when first proposed in the summer and there were fewer people this time she thought, because the county made slight adjustments. She said she testified again and thought they were not going to look at anything said in July and will just move it forward.

#### J. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

Mr. McCarty suggested everyone visit the kitchen store, Kitchenality on their way out.

#### K. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Approved by:

Susan Perry, Vice Chair

Submitted by:

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

Vinne, ViceChair

EXHIBIT 1
Santa Fe Food Policy Council
December 17, 2015

## SANTA FE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

# A RESOLUTION TO DEVELOPAN AGRICULTURE AND RANCHING IMPLEMENTATION PLAN IN SANTA FE COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE 2015 SUSTAINABLE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, farming and ranching have historically been important elements of the economy and culture of Santa Fe County and existing farm and ranch land is threatened to be lost to new, non-agricultural development;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County unanimously approved the 2015 Santa Fe County Sustainable Growth Management Plan (SGMP) via Resolution 2015-155;

WHEREAS, the 2015 SGMP contains the "Agriculture and Ranching Element," which sets as a goal for the County to preserve, support and revitalize agriculture and ranching as a critical component of the local economy, culture, and character and to develop programs that will support and enhance agricultural opportunity in Santa Fe County;

WHEREAS, the SGMP contains goals, policies and strategies that support agriculture and ranching which need to be implemented;

WHEREAS, the Agriculture and Ranching chapter of the SGMP currently does not have an Implementation Plan;

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) has identified a regulatory framework to help sustain agricultural economies, land base and resources in the County which includes Transfer of Development Rights;

WHEREAS, the TDR program established in the SLDC promotes the preservation of agriculture, rural open space and character by specifying that development rights may be sent from traditional agricultural land:

WHEREAS, there is a need to support agriculture for food production to enhance food security and County resident health, to meet local food demand, and to support economic viability for farmers and ranchers;

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Health Action Plan and Santa Fe County's Food Plan, "Planning for Santa Fe's Food Future," both emphasize the need for increased access to and consumption of healthy food for Santa Fe County residents;

WHEREAS, agriculture is identified as a target industry in the SGMP and is 1 of 6 target areas in the 2014 Santa Fe County Economic Development Plan that shows promise for continued expansion, new businesses, jobs, and tax generation, if the appropriate steps are taken;

WHEREAS, the USDA 2012 Agricultural Census for Santa Fe County shows that the number

of small farms in the County has more than doubled since 2007;

WHEREAS, there are increasing opportunities for small and mid-sized farmers and ranchers in Santa Fe County to sell produce and agricultural products to local wholesale markets, such as schools, which diversifies economic opportunities for farmers while providing healthy food which meets federal school meal requirements in schools;

WHEREAS, there is a need for information regarding the types and amounts of fresh fruits and vegetables currently grown in Santa Fe County in order to create a plan which increases supply to match the growing demand for local food through the aforementioned markets; and

WHEREAS, implementing the Agriculture and Ranching Element of the SGMP will provide detailed information as to the current state of food production and agricultural resources in the County and will provide a guide for matching supply and demand of local food to increase food access and security for County residents and to increase the economic viability of County farming and ranching enterprises.

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Board does hereby recognize the importance of agriculture and ranching to the culture and economy of the County, and directs staff to develop an agriculture and ranching implementation plan in Santa Fe County to support the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan.

and little .	" <sup>1</sup> 1116	
APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this	day of	, 2016.
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		
Miguel M. Chavez, Chair		
ATTEST:		
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk		
APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney		





# SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A MICRO-REEF<sup>TM</sup> FACILITY AT SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ECOPONEX SYSTEMS

June 25, 2015

The Technology Center and Trade Center Corporation ("TCC") at the Santa Fe Community College ("SFCC") and Ecoponex<sup>TM</sup> Systems International, LLC and its wholly owned subsidiary Ecoponex Systems of New Mexico, LLC ("Ecoponex<sup>TM</sup>") has signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in financing, development and operation of a small-scale Renewable Energy Efficiency Farm ("Micro-REEFTM"). The facility would be built on .5-acres of campus land owned by the college. The Micro-REEFTM facility would demonstrate an innovative closed-loop controlled environment cultivation system developed by Ecoponex. It will locally produce healthy fresh food including fish, herbs and vegetables along with a high value algae product for the nutraceutical market.

To this end, the "Ecoponex System" could profitably grow nutritious food products at the highest quality by fixing input costs and eliminating wastes while maximizing resource efficiency for optimized performance. The closed-loop system does so by making application of a platform of proven and emerging technologies where the output of "upstream" processes become the input to "down stream" processes without loss, inefficiency or discharge to the environment. As such, it could create one of the most optimally efficient, productive and potentially profitable agricultural processes on the market, while creating new education, training, and job opportunities. Additionally, REEF offers the benefits of reducing health care costs, providing for food safety and energy security and creating true sustainability, resiliency and local self-reliance.

When demonstrated and commercialized at full-scale, the REEF system could potentially revolutionize how healthy fresh food and clean renewable energy is locally produced with the recycling of food and green wastes, CO<sub>2</sub> and water. Thus the REEF project at SFCC, in cooperation with the City and County of Santa Fe, would serve as an "international showcase" and model of sustainable economic development for communities (and farms) around the U.S., Europe and the world.



Full-Scale 1.5-Acre Community REEFTM

## Controlled Environment Agriculture for Vertical Urban Farming

The integrated closed-loop technology platform used in the REEF is designed as a multi-level "vertical farm" with the latest in controlled environment agriculture techniques and an advanced operating control system that more efficiently produces food. With this approach REEF facilities represent a quantum leap in productivity that is potentially 50 to 100 times higher in crop yield per acre than conventional agriculture, while using 90% less water, 50% less energy, and 30% less fertilizer, and conserving farmland. REEFs also significantly reduce air and water pollution and overall the carbon footprint. Where fish are raised, REEFs reduce the seafood print impact on the oceans fisheries.

Energy to run the facility comes from the sun in the form of concentrated solar thermal energy to help cool and heat the system, and methane-rich biogas produced from the anaerobic digestion of local

food and green wastes. These wastes would be collected from the college, local schools and restaurants. In turn, fresh fish, herbs and vegetables could be supplied back to these customers, thus closing the food waste and energy loop. The biogas produced by the digester would be used generate electricity with the recovery of waste heat to supplement the energy needed to run the facility. Both CO<sub>2</sub> and nutrients (N-P-K) would be captured from the biogas system and recycled for use in enhancing the growth of vegetable and algae crops.

#### **Overview of Project**

The proposed Micro-REEF facility would consist of four main components called Unit Operations:

- 1. Micro algae cultivation using LED-driven photo-bioreactors with smart-photon technology;
- 2. Vegetable and herb cultivation using a controlled environment greenhouse with LEDs;
- 3. Recirculating aquaculture system for fish cultivation (e.g. tilapia, shrimp); and,
- 4. Renewable energy generation using biogas and solar thermal to run the system.

The micro-algae system would be designed and operated as a stand-alone operation, but share heating, cooling, power and  $CO_2$  utilities with the other unit operations. Herb and vegetable production would be designed as a closed-loop aquaponics system where nutrients in the wastewater and  $CO_2$  from the fish aquaculture and anaerobic digester are recovered and used to support and enhance the cultivation of food crops. Harvested fish and food crops would be supplied and sold fresh to the local community including the participating schools and restaurants.

#### **Project Timeline and Budget**

The potential timeline to develop the project could be 12 to 15 months to design, permit, procure equipment and build the facility. Approximately 6 months of startup operations would be required to achieve the full run rate of the process.

The potential capital cost of the micro-REEF facility could be \$5.0-million with annual operating expenses of approximately \$916,000 and revenues of \$1.7 million, based upon preliminary technoeconomic analysis. As designed, the operation could create as many as 12 jobs and generate sufficient cash flow from the local sale of food and algae based health products to pay for its self in 6-years or less with a 16% ROI. Note that a full-scale community REEF could range in capital cost from \$25 to \$50 million with a 4-year or less payback, depending on size and capacity, while creating 130 to 260 permanent (direct/indirect) jobs in the community.

#### Collaboration with Santa Fe Community College

SFCC is unique among institutions of higher learning in this country (and Europe) with its focus on training and education in new areas of economic opportunity related to sustainable technology and design. This includes renewable energy (biogas, biofuels, solar), micro-algae, aquaponcis and greenhouses, HVAC systems, water/wastewater treatment, culinary arts and other fields. For Ecoponex, these are core to its integrated technology platform and REEF concept. To this end, SFCC and Ecopoonex are perfectly aligned in their collective vision and mission. Moreover, SFCC offers special job training programs in which a custom designed curriculum can be created to train future employees of Ecoponex. This program would provide the range of specific skills needed to operate the various systems and unit operations in the REEF facilities. Future employees could include military veterans, native Americans, and the economically disadvantaged. Moreover, by having a pilot REEF system on campus at the college, SFCC would have access to a "Living Learning Laboratory" that would be created as part of this project for direct benefit to its students and faculty.

## International Trade, Technology Transfer and Educational Exchange Program

An important part of the Micro-REEF project at SFCC involves partnerships with a Dutch technology provider, Algae Food and Food (AF&F), and Wageningen University Research's (WUR) Applied Center for Renewable Resources (ACRRES) in the Netherlands. Wherein AF&F has agreed to license and transfer certain technology and knowhow to Ecoponex through a new joint venture company. This new company would commercialize AF&F's advanced photo-bioreactor technology to grow a specific algae species (Haematococcus p.) to produce a high value nutraceutical product, Astaxanthin. The algae project therefore becomes the center-piece of an International Trade, Technology Transfer and Educational Exchange Program between a number of American and Dutch technology and engineering companies (i.e. biogas, solar, heat engine, thermosorber, REEF), while creating a forum for a formal education and training exchange program between SFCC and WUR.



