

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

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2010-58**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4  
5 Councilor Bushee

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10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ORDER THE SECRETARY OF THE**  
12 **DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND REVENUE AND THE SECRETARY OF THE**  
13 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO DIRECT THE MOTOR VEHICLE**  
14 **DIVISION AND THE TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU, RESPECTIVELY, TO**  
15 **IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE BICYCLE SAFETY AND ROAD-SHARING**  
16 **EDUCATIONAL PROVISIONS IN THE NEW MEXICO DRIVERS HANDBOOK, THE**  
17 **NEW MEXICO DRIVERS TEST AND STUDENT DRIVERS EDUCATION**  
18 **CURRICULUM.**

19  
20 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee supports this  
21 resolution consistent with its directive to “Organize media and educational campaigns to provide  
22 information and promote bicycle and pedestrian trail related activities and education” (Resolution  
23 No. 2010-33); and

24 **WHEREAS**, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (“NHTSA”) stated in  
25 its *Traffic Safety Facts – 2008 Data* that in the United States:

1 “716 bicyclists were killed and an additional 52,000 were injured in traffic  
2 crashes. Bicyclist deaths accounted for 2 percent of all traffic fatalities, and  
3 bicyclists made up 2 percent of all the people injured in traffic crashes during the  
4 year.”; and

5 **WHEREAS**, according to such 2008 data from the NHTSA, out of 366 traffic fatalities  
6 in New Mexico, 7 of the fatalities were bicyclists; and

7 **WHEREAS**, thousands of New Mexico bicyclists depend upon public roadways for  
8 essential transportation out of economic necessity; and

9 **WHEREAS**, numerous studies have shown that the behavior of motorists controls the  
10 likelihood of collisions with bicyclists; and

11 **WHEREAS**, bicycling is an important affordable alternative means of transportation that  
12 does not rely upon nonrenewable carbon based resources and does not increase carbon emissions  
13 thereby being environmentally and economically sustainable; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) “encourages states, local  
15 governments, professional associations, community organizations, public transportation agencies,  
16 and other government agencies, to adopt similar policy statements on bicycle and pedestrian  
17 accommodation as an indication of their commitment to accommodating bicyclists and  
18 pedestrians as an integral element of the transportation system” (USDOT Regulation March 11,  
19 2010); and

20 **WHEREAS**, the state of New Mexico currently has minimal requirements for educating  
21 or examining motorists regarding safely sharing the roadways with cyclists; and

22 **WHEREAS**, state governments throughout the country have begun to address the need  
23 to educate and test motorists about the rights and obligations regarding cyclists on public  
24 roadways; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the current driver’s education training program allows time to include the

1 rules and obligations of safe road-sharing with bicyclists; and

2       **WHEREAS**, the city of Santa Fe is working toward achieving “Bicycle Friendly  
3 Community” status through the Bicycle Friendly Community Campaign, a national awards  
4 program operated by the League of American Bicyclists that recognizes municipalities that  
5 actively support bicycling; and

6       **WHEREAS**, New Mexico ranks 50<sup>th</sup> (F) among all states for bicycle friendly “Policies  
7 and Programs” and “Education and Encouragement” in the League of American Bicyclists 2010  
8 state rankings, and 46<sup>th</sup> overall, among bicycle friendly state rankings; and

9       **WHEREAS**, it appears an administrative order by the Governor, to the Secretary of the  
10 Department of Taxation and Revenue and the Secretary of the Department of Transportation to  
11 direct the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) and the Traffic Safety Bureau, respectively, to  
12 implement comprehensive bicycle safety and road-sharing educational provisions in the New  
13 Mexico driver’s handbook, the New Mexico driver’s test and student driver’s education  
14 programs, would accomplish significant reductions in the number of vehicle-bicycle collisions;  
15 and

16       **WHEREAS**, modifications to the MVD driver handbook and computerized drivers test  
17 could be implemented at minimal cost to the state of New Mexico.

18       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
19 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body respectively requests the Governor to order the  
20 Secretary of the Department of Taxation and Revenue and the Secretary of the Department of  
21 Transportation to direct the Motor Vehicle Division and the Traffic Safety Bureau, respectively,  
22 to implement comprehensive bicycle safety and road-sharing educational provisions in the New  
23 Mexico drivers handbook, the New Mexico drivers test and student drivers education curriculum.

24       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of  
25 this resolution to the Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Taxation and Revenue and the

1 Secretary of the Department of Transportation.

2 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.

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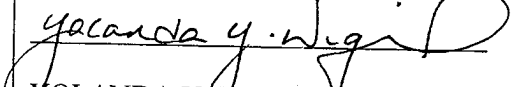
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DAVID COSS, MAYOR

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7 ATTEST:

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10 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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12 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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15 GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 Jp/ca/jpmb/2010 res/bicycle education