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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-76

INTRODUCED BY:

- Councilor Dominguez
- Councilor Bushee
- Councilor Romero
- Councilor Calvert
- Councilor Wurzburger

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE 2012 FARM BILL PRIORITIES AS A MEANS TO SECURING A REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM THAT IS JUST AND ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE.

WHEREAS, the Federal Farm Bill (the “Act”) is the primary agricultural and food policy tool of the federal government and deals with agriculture and all related affairs under the purview of the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”); and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Farm Bill affect the local and regional capacity to support a regional food system that is just, secured, sustainable and accessible for all residents of the city of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County and the greater region of Northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress will be considering legislative action on the 2012 Farm Bill; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe and regional agriculture and food systems stakeholders such as the Santa Fe County, the County Advisory Council on Food Policy and the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council are interested in the recommended provisions of the 2012 Farm Bill;

1 and

2 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would secure support for the
3 infrastructure necessary for local and regional food systems to thrive; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would increase access of federal
5 nutrition program participants to farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture (“CSAs”), and
6 other local, healthy, sustainable food enterprises; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would create an interdepartmental
8 workforce within USDA responsible for urban-rural linkages across existing programs; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would request USDA to harmonize and
10 streamline Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (“SNAP”) redemption and technology with
11 other federal nutrition programs; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would promote incentives for fruit and
13 vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program participants; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of the Act would support farmer and rancher
15 programs that provide direct marketing opportunities and enhance their ability to focus on building
16 their businesses, mitigating risks, and improve land stewardship.

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
18 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City of Santa Fe supports federal legislation for certain priority
19 provisions of the 2012 Farm Bill including:

20 (1) **Secure support for the infrastructure necessary for local and regional food**
21 **systems to thrive.** Infrastructure such as on-farm processing equipment and aggregation,
22 distribution, and processing facilities would strengthen regional food hubs, and support farm sales to
23 schools, value-added production, and other rural economic development programs. The USDA could
24 be directed to promote multiple uses of public facilities through existing programs. Support would
25 also include training and technical assistance for farmers, food service directors, and other key

1 players in local and regional food systems.

2 **(2) Increased access of federal nutrition program participants to farmers markets,**
3 **CSAs, and other local, healthy, sustainable food enterprises.** Measures could include providing
4 EBT devices to farmers markets and CSAs, piloting the use of smart phone technology for SNAP at
5 farmers markets, and allocating a portion of Farmers Markets Promotion Program funding to
6 technical assistance. Setting aside a portion of SNAP-Ed funding for promoting SNAP participants’
7 shopping at farmers markets and CSAs, and encouraging the use of community organizing strategies,
8 could further enhance access.

9 **(3) Create an interdepartmental workforce within USDA responsible for urban-rural**
10 **linkages across existing programs.** Such an initiative could foster collaboration among Farm
11 Service Agency and Extension staff to better address urban and rural food access, as well as
12 institutionalize the collaboration developed through the *Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food*
13 initiative. It would also provide a structure for enhanced collaboration with other agencies such as
14 EPA and HUD—for example through formal USDA membership in the President’s Sustainable
15 Communities interagency workforce.

16 **(4) Request USDA to harmonize and streamline SNAP redemption and technology**
17 **with other federal nutrition programs.** Minimizing administrative barriers to redemption of
18 SNAP/EBT, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits would maximize farmer
19 participation in these programs with increased sales benefitting both producers and consumers.

20 **(5) Promote incentives for fruit and vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program**
21 **participants.** Targets could include increasing SNAP benefits and allocating a portion of the funds
22 for a Healthy Food Incentive Pilot Program at farmers markets, and doubling the Senior Farmers
23 Market Nutrition Program funding.

24 **(6) Support farmer and rancher programs that provide direct marketing opportunities**
25 **and enhance their ability to focus on building their businesses, mitigating risks, and**

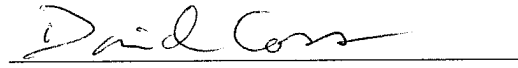
1 **improve land stewardship.** Targets could include increasing the Farmers Market Promotion
2 Program, The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program, the Assistance and Outreach to Socially
3 Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers, Conservation Stewardship Program, the Specialty Crop Block
4 Grant Program, and incentive programs.

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk's Office is directed to forward a copy of
6 this resolution to New Mexico's Congressional Delegation.

7 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day December, 2011.

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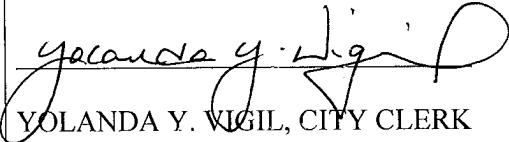
DAVID COSS, MAYOR

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ATTEST:

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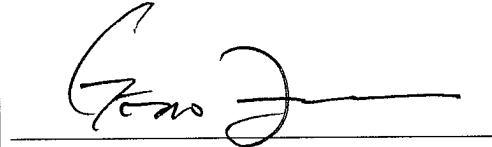
YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY

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CAO/M/Melissa/Resolutions 2011/Farm Bill