



# City of Santa Fe NEWS RELEASE

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Midtown Monday Update

February 3, 2020

This is Midtown Monday – a communication tool to keep the public informed regarding the status of redevelopment of the Midtown Santa Fe site.

Our weekly outreach is part of an open and transparent process that began and continues with public input.

1. The public has already weighed in on the vision for what this project needs to be. Public input is the framework for the criteria being used in considering proposals. Do the proposals fit the vision Santa Feans have for this project? This language bears repeating: Public Engagement has been the compass of this project. Since the City first assumed full site management in the summer of 2018, the City undertook an open and concerted effort to engage the public. The Midtown Planning Guidelines were the result of a planning and design effort that included a broad spectrum of the City's communities, which were subsequently approved by the Governing Body. These guidelines continue to serve as the foundation for the developer selection and development process.
2. The proposals came from firms all over the world and represent a significant investment of time, creativity and effort. These ideas have been submitted to the Evaluation Committee but remain the confidential and intellectual property of the responding firms. Firms that do not make the finalist group could still be considered for collaborations at a later stage of the project. These firms are not willing to lose a competitive advantage by having their intellectual property made public and risk having their visions knocked off by less-original firms. That's why the proposals are not made public until the contracts have been awarded.
3. Public input and engagement are continuing. There is no secrecy when every step of the project and the process are in the public domain. The City is strictly complying with the New Mexico Procurement Code to guide and manage the evaluation and selection process. This is the mayor's commitment to good government and following the rules that protect the public interest. While the procurement regulations require confidentiality of the contents of the respondents' submission packages, the vision, goals, and criteria used for evaluation and ultimately selection of the master developer are clearly articulated in two very public documents. (see link to City's website to access the documents): [https://www.santafenm.gov/midtown\\_site](https://www.santafenm.gov/midtown_site)

Our mission remains the same as articulated in the Midtown Planning Guidelines. We want the Site to become the most creative location in the U.S. where a wide diversity of people interact and collaborate to find their passions; build their skills for a great career; live in a thriving, vibrant neighborhood and city; and create a great future for our community, region and beyond.

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