

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-\_\_**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Mayor Alan Webber

Councilor Renee Villarreal

Councilor Signe I. Lindell

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler

Councilor Michael Garcia

**A RESOLUTION**

**URGING NEW MEXICO’S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SEEK FEDERAL FUNDING RELIEF FOR THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND OTHER SMALL MUNICIPALITIES TO ADDRESS AND RECOVER FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND TO CONTINUE THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYMENT FOR THE WORKERS.**

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020 New Mexico reported the first three cases of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on that same date, Santa Fe County reported its first case of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, in the following weeks, cases in New Mexico jumped to 1,971 (as of April 21, 2020) and cases in Santa Fe rose to 86 (as of April 20, 2020); and

**WHEREAS**, justified and thoughtful emergency actions taken by the State of New Mexico (State) and City of Santa Fe (City) since the first cases were reported have resulted in the drastic shutdown of the City’s economy, which is heavily dependent on the hospitality, art,

1 culture, and tourism industries; and

2       **WHEREAS**, the specific magnitude and duration of the fiscal implications to the City  
3 are not yet known, but will undoubtedly include an immediate and drastic decrease in Gross  
4 Receipts Tax revenue, resulting in the need for the City to take strong, stringent, and severe  
5 spending measures such as dramatically reducing services, virtually eliminating hiring, cutting  
6 back on all city expenses, furloughing employees, and/or implementing temporary pay cuts for all  
7 employees; and

8       **WHEREAS**, the United States Congress passed and President Trump signed the CARES  
9 Act that allocated \$8.2 billion to cities to support communities and their fiscal capacity to respond  
10 to COVID-19; and

11       **WHEREAS**, to qualify for relief under the CARES act, cities must have a population of  
12 500,000 or greater, leaving all but one municipality in New Mexico without the much-needed  
13 financial assistance; and

14       **WHEREAS**, the State will receive approximately \$1.25 billion and Albuquerque, the  
15 largest city in New Mexico and the only city that qualifies for funding under the CARES Act, will  
16 receive around \$149 million in federal financial assistance; and

17       **WHEREAS**, the CARES Act includes no requirement that states distribute money to  
18 local governments other than those with populations greater than 500,000, potentially leaving  
19 every community in New Mexico other than Albuquerque deep in deficit as they work to fight the  
20 COVID-19 outbreak and deal with the economic aftershock and the resultant deep and ongoing  
21 fiscal crisis; and

22       **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors sent a letter to Congressional leaders on  
23 April 13, 2020 supporting an “Interim Supplemental” allocation of \$53.55 billion in emergency  
24 fiscal assistance for local governments using the existing Community Development Block Grant  
25 (CDBG) structure as well as a “4<sup>th</sup> Supplemental” to ensure all cities addressing the pandemic and

1 experiencing substantial revenue losses will receive desperately needed federal assistance  
2 (attached as Exhibit A); and

3           **WHEREAS**, Congressman Ben Ray Lujan and Senator Martin Heinrich        are  
4 cosponsoring the Coronavirus Community Relief Act which would provide \$250 billion in  
5 stabilization funds for cities across the country that did not receive direct support from the  
6 CARES Act.

7           **NOW, THEREF ORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
8 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City urgently requests and strongly urges the New Mexico  
9 Congressional Delegation support the allocation of additional funding for municipalities that do  
10 face severe fiscal impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic but which are not included in  
11 receiving support from the \$8.2 billion allocation included in the CARES Act.

12           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the funds will be used to provide essential services  
13 to the residents of the City, to reimburse costs associated with providing emergency services to  
14 those affected by COVID -19, and for general economic aid as a result of declining Gross  
15 Receipts Tax revenues.

16           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such funds should allow maximum flexibility for  
17 local governments to address declining revenues and to mitigate reductions in essential services  
18 and necessary employment as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

19  
20  
21  
22 ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

23  
24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

2

3

\_\_\_\_\_

4 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25 *Legislation/2020/Resolutions/Small Municipality COVID-19 Assistance*