

SANTA FE RIVER COMMISSION

CREATING AUTHORITY: Adopted on March 13, 1996 by Resolution No. 1996-11. Resolution 2001-27 adopted February 28, 2001 repeals Resolution 1996-11 and Adopts a new Resolution regarding the Santa Fe River Corridor Master Plan and the Santa Fe River Commission. Resolution 2007-14 dated January 31, 2007 repeals Resolution 2001-27 establishing the Santa Fe River Commission.

MEMBERSHIP: The Santa Fe River Commission shall consist of seven members and two alternate members, all appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. The alternates may full participate in all River Commission meetings but may only vote in the absence of a member (alternates will vote on a rotating-by-meeting basis in the absence of a memver; both alternates may vote in the absence of two or more members). A quorum shall be a majority of the members although, in the absence of member(s), attending alternates shall be counted toward establishinhg a quorum. Members shall be residents of the City of Santa Fe or Santa Fe County and shall collectively represent a range of skills and our diverse community through their serve on the Santa Fe River Commission.

TERMS: The term of all members and alternates shall be three years, and members and alternates may be reappointed upon the expiration of any given term.

OFFICERS: The Santa Fe River Commission shall have a chairperson and a vice chairperson. The Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, shall appoint the chairperson. The Chairperson shall designate the vice chairperson. The chairperson shall serve as chairperson for a period of one year. Following one year of service, the chairperson shall be elected (or re-elected) by the members of the River Commision.

MEETING TIMES: As needed

STAFF LIAISON: Melissa McDonald, River Watershed Coordinator
(955-6840)

PURPOSE: The Santa Fe River Commission shall review and make recommendations to the Governing Body on matters related to the Santa Fe River and its watershed. To this end, the Santa Fe River Commission shall consult with City Staff, Santa Fe County, including Open Space and Trails staff, Cochiti Pueblo, acequi associations, other city committees, interested community groups, individual, businesses and youth, and other governmental bodies that have responsibility for any aspect of the Santa Fe River or its watershed.

POWERS AND DUTIES:

The Santa Fe River Commission shall advise the Governing Body with aim of restoring the Santa Fe River to a living river and improving the health of the watershed as per the Santa Fe River Corridor Master Plan. In particular, the Santa Fe River Commission shall:

- (1) Consult with City Staff and other interested parties regarding the implementation of Sections 5, 6, and 7 of Ordinance No. 2006-28 regarding the “Voluntary River Conservation Fund” (which may be alternatively referred to as the “Living River Fund”) and advise the Governing Body regarding the fund’s implementation and operation.
- (2) Consult with City Staff and other interested parties regarding the implementation of a scientifically sound process of establishing a recommended minimum environmental flow that will result in a healthy and sustainable riparian ecosystem for the Santa Fe River and advise the Governing Body regarding the establishment of environmental flow.
- (3) Consult with City Staff, the Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee (“BTAC”), and other interested parties regarding the establishment of a river trail within the Santa Fe River corridor where feasible and advise the Governing Body regarding such a trail.
- (4) Consult with City Staff and other interested parties regarding the expenditure of CIP funds, repayment of CIP fund by the Water Division, legislative funds, or other funds that may be directed to river or watershed projects and advise the Governing Body regarding the expenditure of such funds.
- (5) Consult with City Staff and other interested parties regarding education and outreach to the community for river and watershed issues (including the Living River Fund, environmental flow, stormwater management, use of treated effluent, wildland-urban interface management, the pending Army Corps of Engineers watershed study, and other issues that impact the River and its watershed) and advise the Governing Body regarding such issues
- (6) Consider and utilize river and watershed restoration as a means to involve Santa Fe’s youth in shaping the future of the River while providing workforce development and training opportunities for youth.