

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

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-\_\_**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4  
5 Councilor Peter N. Ives

6 Mayor Alan M. Webber

7 Councilor Mike Harris

8 Councilor Signe I. Lindell

9  
10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **ADOPTING THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AS CITY**  
12 **POLICY TO GUIDE STORMWATER PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND**  
13 **WATERSHED DRAINAGE PLANNING FOR THE CITY OF SANTA FE.**

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15 **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 1996-11 adopted the Santa Fe River Corridor Master Plan  
16 and laid the foundation for the community’s long-term vision of a living river and a healthy  
17 watershed; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2001-27 and Resolution No. 2007-14 established and then  
19 clarified the mission of the Santa Fe River Commission which is an advisory committee to the  
20 City of Santa Fe’s Governing Body on watershed issues; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 2010-17 increased the stormwater service charge to  
22 establish a revenue base necessary for the operation of a City stormwater program and the fee has  
23 not been increased in close to ten years; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 2012-10, known as the Santa Fe River Target Flow  
25 Ordinance, creates target flows for the Santa Fe River, formalizes the objective of restoring the

1 Santa Fe River as a living river, and recognizes the river’s ecological benefits, historical  
2 importance, and cultural significance; and

3 **WHEREAS**, with the adoption of Resolution No. 2016-25, the City directed the City  
4 Manager to develop a stormwater management program that updates Santa Fe’s stormwater  
5 management policies in furtherance of the City’s environmental protection and sustainability  
6 policies and goals; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the City’s *Stormwater Management Strategic Plan (2018)* analyzes current  
8 City operations, and models watershed drainage in the Santa Fe River and the Arroyo de los  
9 Chamisos in light of these policy objectives and compliance with current and future  
10 environmental permitting requirements; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the plan also includes a *Stormwater Strategic Plan Project List (2018)*  
12 derived from direct arroyo assessments, the current drainage models, the July 2018 historic storm  
13 event, and that can be used as a guiding document to develop a continuously updated priority  
14 project list for the City’s watershed; and

15 **WHEREAS**, changing weather patterns have produced an increased frequency of 100-  
16 year and greater storm events which has resulted in a need for implementation of stormwater  
17 infrastructure improvements necessary to protect public infrastructure and welfare within the  
18 City; and

19 **WHEREAS**, flood control, sediment reduction, and erosion control are fundamental for  
20 the protection of public health, safety, and infrastructure; and

21 **WHEREAS**, minimizing pollutants in stormwater is essential for maintaining  
22 compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Clean Water Act, the EPA’s  
23 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), and the Municipal Separate Storm  
24 Sewer System (MS4) permit program; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the urban reaches of the Santa Fe River have been listed as an impaired

1 waterway for specific contaminants under Section 303 (d) of the federal Water Quality Act (a.k.a,  
2 Clean Water Act) that are caused primarily by stormwater flows; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the City adopted the Sustainable Santa Fe 25-year Plan (2018) setting  
4 measureable climate adaptation goals by 2040, to consider projected climate change impacts on  
5 stormwater management, planning, policies, and practices to achieve climate change resiliency;  
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, by adopting the recommendations identified within the Stormwater  
8 Management Strategic Plan the City will seek to achieve climate change resiliency by  
9 implementing recommended strategies, policies, and practices within the City’s watershed.

10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
11 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City Manager is hereby directed to adopt the Stormwater  
12 Management Strategic Plan as City policy to develop cooperative implementation measures  
13 across departments, committees, and commissions; neighborhood associations; Santa Fe County;  
14 other local governments; the State of New Mexico; the federal government; and the public that  
15 will maximize stormwater efforts and create synergy for best outcomes for the City.

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is directed to perform a technical  
17 analysis of the stormwater service charge including the potential utilization of impervious surface  
18 data and stormwater infiltration incentives to determine recommendations for an equitable  
19 service charge structure, while ensuring that costs are equitably distributed among rate  
20 classifications that would support bonding and borrowing strategies.

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is directed to restructure the  
22 “River Watershed and Trails” section of the Engineering Division of the Public Works  
23 Department into the “River and Watershed” section of the Engineering Division of the Public  
24 Works Department whose focus will be dedicated to river and watershed management. This

1 restructuring will add an additional project administrator to the section, and fund the current  
2 section supervisor’s salary entirely with the stormwater service charge.

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager will implement and maintain the  
4 City’s Stormwater Management Plan (including support and guidance for other City departments  
5 required to meet our NPDES and MS4 permits) and manage the remainder of the section,  
6 including two project administrators (who manage new capital projects, drainage-maintenance  
7 projects, and constituent reports) and two enforcement staff (who assist with the aforementioned  
8 tasks and enforce the permits).

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager will lead education and outreach  
10 efforts within the Santa Fe community that focus on stormwater infiltration, best management  
11 practices, low-impact development options, and green infrastructure projects and will inform  
12 private landowners of permit requirements, responsibilities, and resources.

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager will collaborate with the Streets  
14 and Drainage Maintenance Division and the Parks and Recreation Department for specific  
15 projects and activities that respond to storm events, improve culvert infrastructure, perform  
16 maintenance in the arroyos and the river, assist with planting and infiltration measures, and  
17 present stormwater budgets to the Governing Body during the annual budget cycle.

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is directed to bring forth a  
19 bonding proposal for fiscal year 2019-2020 that would leverage funds from the service charge,  
20 cover immediate capital-improvement-projects costs, and complete the processes of data  
21 collection and technical analysis that are needed for staff to propose a stormwater service charge  
22 structure that strives for equity.

23 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.  
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ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY