**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

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

Sponsored by:  
Commissioner Henry Roybal and Commissioner Rudy Garcia

**A RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT THE SANTA FE FOOD POLICY COUNCIL REPORT ON STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN SANTA FE.**

**WHEREAS,** Resolution 2008-5 was a joint resolution that established a food policy council for the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County and created the Santa Fe City and County Food Policy Council; and

**WHEREAS,** the purpose of the Council is to integrate all departments of the City and County as well as non-profit organizations and food and farming businesses in a common effort to promote food security, improve access to retail outlets that offer healthy and affordable food, encourage healthy eating by all residents to reduce obesity and diet-related diseases, and protect the natural resources necessary to produce food; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council recommends food policies for the County government to adopt and implement relating to: direct service of food, lobbying and advocacy before state and federal legislatures and agencies, referral to social services, economic development, education on nutrition and health; and

**WHEREAS,** Santa Fe County adopted the 2014 Santa Fe Food Plan, “Planning for Santa Fe’s Food Future: Querencia, a Story of Food, Farming and Friends,” which provides recommendations in three categories, “Getting Food,” “Growing Food,” and “Learning About Food;” and

**WHEREAS,** Santa Fe County launched the AgriGate of Santa Fe County program and digital platform www.agrigatesfc.org in 2019 to connect local food producers with buyers and resources; and

**WHEREAS,** New Mexico has a vibrant food and farming culture that is significant to our rural economies and provides employment opportunities on farms and in the direct, wholesale and retail markets, as well as in food processing, distribution, and value-added businesses, all while adding to the health and well-being of New Mexicans; and

**WHEREAS,** the dollar value of New Mexico’s agriculture production is $2.18 billion with $96.3 million in fruits and vegetables providing approximately 10,000 jobs and $900 million in annual wages; and

**WHEREAS,** studies have shown that for every dollar that goes to local agricultural producers, $1.80 is circulated in the local economy; and

**WHEREAS,** 12.4 percent of Santa Fe County residents, approximately 18,000 people, experience food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS,** in New Mexico approximately 98,000 seniors fall below 185 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines, and approximately 56,000 seniors fall below 130 percent the federal poverty income guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 16,000 students in Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe participate in the school meal program; and

**WHEREAS,** many children consume at least one-half of their daily calories at school, and for many, food served at school is the only meal eaten daily; and

**WHEREAS,** increasing consumption of healthy food is a priority in the Santa Fe County

Health Action Plan, including increasing the percentage of adolescents and the percentage of adults within the County consuming five or more fresh fruits and vegetables a day; and

**WHEREAS,** promoting healthy food habits and increasing consumption of healthy food is a goal in the Santa Fe County Senior Services Strategic Plan, including integrating fresh produce into meals provided at County senior centers;

**WHEREAS,** the County’s Strategic Plan identifies the action to collaborate with local farmers to provide fresh, locally grown produce and products;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County that the County will implement the Santa Fe Food Policy Council’s September 28th, 2020 report, “Strengthening and Expanding Food and Nutrition Programs in Santa Fe” including:

1. Allows staff to explore the possibility of developing and adopting procurement policies that prioritize locally produced food;
2. Designing a local food promotion, education, and outreach initiative;
3. Prioritizing investment and collaborations to develop new farming, distribution and food aggregation and processing infrastructure.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020.**

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**Henry P. Roybal, Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**Geraldine Salazar**

**Santa Fe County Clerk**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**Gregory S. Shaffer**

**Santa Fe County Attorney**