

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: January 29, 2025

TO: Governing Body

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1. Santa Fe Forward: General Plan Update Briefing

Purpose:

This item is an update on “Santa Fe Forward,” the City’s General Plan Update (GPU). The presentation will outline the initial stages of the project, including the project team, the purpose and benefits of the General Plan Update, an overview of the Assessment Report, and the Public Engagement and Communications Plan. This presentation marks the kickoff of public engagement efforts. No action is required, as this is an information item on the agenda.

Background:

Santa Fe’s General Plan, first adopted in 1972 and last updated in 1999, serves as the City’s long-range framework for land use, development, and community priorities. While many foundational themes remain relevant, the plan requires revision, as was directed by the Governing Body in 2023. This will include an actionable framework to address today’s contemporary challenges, including climate change, housing affordability, technology, social equity, and more. The update will align with recent planning efforts and integrate public input to ensure a cohesive approach to Santa Fe’s future.

Santa Fe Forward - General Plan Update Objectives:

- Update data, demographics, and current conditions for relevance to Santa Fe’s evolving needs.
- Incorporate short- and long-term community priorities, informed by a robust public engagement plan.
- Address contemporary challenges while honoring cultural, environmental, and historic heritage.
- Coordinate with ongoing projects, including the Land Development Code (LDC) Update. The LDC Update will provide restructured zoning and development regulations that align with the updated General Plan.

Next Steps:

- Public Engagement Kickoff: Launch of outreach activities, including digital platforms and initial events to gather community input.
- Developing the Assessment Report: Compiling a comprehensive report that informs the General Plan update by analyzing current conditions, trends, opportunities and challenges.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Governing Body Presentation

Attachment 2: Public Engagement and Communications Plan

Appendix A: Community Partner Program Policy

Appendix B: Technical Working Group Charter