



CITY OF SANTA FE

Memorandum

Date: January 21, 2025

To: Governing Body, Public Works and Utilities Committee, Finance Committee

From: Melissa McDonald, Parks and Open Space Division Director MMc
MMc

Via: Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director RW
RW

RE: Approve \$2,750,000 Donation from Northern Soccer Club Toward the Design and Construction of Fields and Amenities at the Soccer Valley Fields, Located at the Municipal Recreations Sports Complex

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The resolution accepts a donation of two million seven hundred fifty dollars (\$2,750,000) from the Northern Soccer Club (“Northern”) as a contribution toward the design and construction of a championship soccer field at the West side of Soccer Valley at the Municipal Recreation Complex (“MRC”) with associated amenities, facilities, and infrastructure directly supporting the field. These amenities will include but not be limited to lights, bleachers, a scoreboard, parking, fencing, restrooms, and storage. The doner has stipulated that the City must match this donation with the same amount (\$2,750,000) for the expansion of Soccer Valley. The City of Santa Fe (“City”) has secured funds sufficient to match this amount via 2024 New Mexico legislative appropriation.

Additionally, the resolution provides for the following actions: 1) upon receipt of Northern’s donation, the City Manager will assemble the appropriate staff to identify capital improvement funds for the project and to commence the design and construction of the field and related amenities, 2) the design alternatives and related fiscal impacts for the championship field will be presented to the Governing Body for approval, and 3) the Governing Body’s welcomes proposed name for the new championship field for its consideration, in accordance with Resolution No. 2010-19, in recognition of Northern’s commitment to the facility.

Staff anticipate that, should this resolution be adopted, and once the championship field is constructed, additional budget allocations and staff will be required to operate and maintain the expanded facility.

BACKGROUND:

Soccer is rapidly growing in the United States, appealing to diverse players of all ages and backgrounds. The recent closure of the soccer fields at the Downs at Santa Fe left over one thousand eight hundred (1,800) children without playing fields, prompting the City to accommodate these teams at the Southwest Node Area Regional (“SWAN”) Park and the MRC. Recent policy changes at the MRC provided increased field access for leagues like Northern Soccer Club, La Liga Santa Fe Soccer, the Santa Fe United Football Club, and Santa Fe Youth Lacrosse.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
FIR