



# CITY OF SANTA FE

## Memorandum

**Date:** March 21, 2025

**To:** Governing Body, Economic Development Advisory Committee, Quality of Life Committee, Finance Committee

**From:** Daniel Hernandez, Director of Metropolitan Development Agency <sup>DH</sup>  
Carly Venditti, Asset Development Manager, Metropolitan Development Agency <sup>CV</sup>

**Via:** Mark Scott, City Manager <sup>MS</sup>  
Johanna Nelson, Office of Economic Development Director and Interim Director of Affordable Housing <sup>JN</sup>

**RE:** Making a Finding of Necessity in the Midtown LINC Overlay District and Approving the Designation of a Metropolitan Redevelopment Area

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The proposed resolution makes a finding of necessity and designates the Midtown Local Innovation Corridor Overlay District (the Midtown “LINC”), other than a small residential portion, as a "Metropolitan Redevelopment Area," as consistent with SFCC 1987, Section 7-2.8 and NMSA 1978, Section 3-60A-8.

### BACKGROUND:

For a “finding of necessity”, as described in SFCC 1987, Section 7-2.8, the Governing Body must adopt a resolution concluding that one or more particular areas of the City meet the criteria described in code: 1) the area is either a slum or blighted and 2) rehabilitation, conservation, slum clearance, redevelopment or development, or a combination thereof in the area is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of the city. In this particular case, the Midtown LINC, as described in Section 14-5.5(5)(D)(2) and further defined in Attachment B of the Resolution, is the area of interest. The area of interest also includes the deteriorated sixty-four (64) acre, City-owned parcel known as the “Midtown Site”, which has been slated for redevelopment pursuant to the Midtown Master Plan approved in December 2022 through Resolution No. 2022-68.

As is described in the *Midtown Metropolitan Development Plan: Designation Report* (“Report”) (attached as Attachment A of the Resolution), the Midtown LINC consists of diverse tracts of land characterized by multiple designation criteria, demonstrating that the Midtown LINC area is inconsistent with the land use goals described in SFCC 1987, Section 14-1.3, “General Purposes”.



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The goals described under Section 14-1.3 establish that the use of land in Santa Fe as an MRA should “create conditions favorable to the health, safety, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the residents of Santa Fe by coordinating streets within proposed subdivisions with existing or planned streets or other features of the general plan; providing parks and trails, providing sewer, water and other infrastructure; providing adequate open space for traffic, recreation, drainage, light and air; and providing for appropriate distribution of population and traffic.” Specifically of note, the Report identifies conditions such as faulty platting, defective and inadequate street layout, as well as deteriorating structures and infrastructure, that negatively impact economic development, redevelopment, and diverse uses, including housing, in the proposed designated area.

The Midtown LINC also lies within two designated census tracts, 11.03 and 10.02, which are “qualified opportunity” zones, as defined by 26 USCA, Section 1400Z-1. This section of United States Code creates an economic development tool that allows people to invest in distressed areas, the purpose of which is to spur economic development and job creation in distressed communities by providing tax benefits to investors.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution  
FIR