



# Santa Fe Budget Improvements

July 28, 2025

# Goals

**Provide the Governing Body with greater understanding and say in budget development**

- ▶ Move to a Performance Based Budget from Current Spending Document
- ▶ Focus on Service Levels and Outcomes v. Line Expenditure Items
- ▶ Budget Becomes More of a Key Policy Document and Instrument for City Services Oversight



# Internal Leadership Team Efforts

The Internal Leadership Team has been developing a new management system for better results.

- ▶ It includes calls for Mayor & Governing Body Goals and Priorities, Departmental Goals, Objectives and KPIs and Performance Feedback for all Employees
- ▶ Making Progress



# Step One:

## July - August 2025:

- ▶ Meetings with the Finance Committee to discuss reforms and make adjustments



# October 2025

- ▶ Study Session with Governing Body to discuss recommended enhancements to propose and schedule



# December 2025

## Two days of hearings

Department Directors present:

- ▶ Current-year Goals, Objectives, and KPIs
- ▶ Progress status updates
- ▶ Participation of newly elected Councilors



# January 2026: Strategic Workshop

## Special half-day workshop for Governing Body

- ▶ Set long-range goals and one-year priorities
- ▶ Discuss governance issues and role clarification
- ▶ Official start of FY 26–27 budget process



# Late January 2026

## Finance provides:

- ▶ Best estimates of FY26-27 revenues and steady state expenditures.
- ▶ Mayor and City Manager give directions for budget submittal preparation by departments



# February 2026

## Second Week:

Departments submit budget proposals to include:

- ▶ Goals, Objectives, KPIs
- ▶ Augmentation requests



# Late March – Early April 2026

## Mayor, City Manager, and Finance:

- ▶ Meet with departments
- ▶ Discuss proposals
- ▶ Shape proposed FY 26–27 budget



# April – May 2026

**Finance updates its estimates of revenues, and expenditures for the proposed budget**

Joint hearings of Finance Committee and Governing Body to:

- ▶ Consider departmental budget requests
- ▶ Review status updates on FY 25–26 goal achievement
- ▶ Finance Committee makes final budget proposal recommendations to Governing Body



# Charter Requirements

- ▶ The Charter mandates a Finance Committee recommendation to the Governing Body on the budget by holding joint meetings
- ▶ Joint hearings satisfy this requirement while promoting transparency and collaboration



# May 2026 - Third Week

**Governing Body adopts FY 26–27  
Annual Budget**



# June 2026 - First Week

Finance submits final FY 26-27 budget to the State of New Mexico for official review

