



CITY OF SANTA FE

Memorandum

Date: August 7, 2025

To: Finance Committee

From: Emily K. Oster, Finance Director; Rod Gould, Senior Advisor and Public Engagement Coordinator ^{EKO}
^{RG}

RE: FY 2026/2027 Budget Process Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This resolution would adopt improvements to the City of Santa Fe's ("City") budget process to be utilized for the development of the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget. Specifically, it establishes a timeline for activities related to improving upon and planning for the development of the City's fiscal year 2026-2027 budget.

This resolution responds to feedback from members of the Governing Body and City staff about deficiencies in the budgeting process used in fiscal years 2023, 2024 and 2025. The process proposed in this resolution incorporates the development of long-range goals and one-year priorities, includes mechanisms for the Governing Body to develop understanding and provide input in budget development, and focuses on service levels and outcomes rather than line expenditure items. Tracking of key performance indicators and regular progress reports on goals add accountability and year-round management to budgeting, making the budget a more meaningful tool for organizational management.

The budget process proposed in this resolution aligns with nationally recognized leading practices recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), and experts in the field of municipal budgeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
FIR
FY26-27 Budget Development PowerPoint