

## VIGIL, XAVIER I.

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**From:** GARCIA, MICHAEL J.  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2026 5:06 PM  
**To:** CARDENAS, GERALYN F.  
**Subject:** Fw: Plaza Suggestion

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Can this please be included in public comment for tomorrow's special governing body meeting.

Thanks,  
Mike

Michael J. Garcia  
Mayor

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**From:** Scott Malouf [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2026 5:04:41 PM  
**To:** Mayors Office <mayor@santafenm.gov>  
**Subject:** Plaza Suggestion

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Mayor Garcia

Congratulations on your election as Mayor! I run a small business on the Plaza with 12 employees and have supported numerous local artists for 13 years. I think daily about the amazing gift of the Plaza. Like all adversity, removing the obelisk presents an opportunity to redefine the most popular feature of Santa Fe. And this time, let's make it a World Class experience!

It would be a unique opportunity for Santa Fe to create a space that represents our values. Why limit it to honoring 19th-century warriors? In four years there has been no popular will to restore it in that form. Dealing with a wide variety of artists of all influences and thousands of visitors, the Plaza represents something to me that was pointed out about Navajo symbolism. The Navajo cross, a "patriarchal" cross represents "people coming from all directions to meet in commerce and friendship." Interestingly, commerce is worded first.

I would like the Plaza to represent this shape in its center in some form. No statues or specific historical events need be commemorated because no one will agree. The history of commerce and friendship on this very spot dates back at least 1,000 years. Perhaps it's the oldest site of its kind in North America. In this age of diversity why not make it welcoming to all, past, present, and future? An additional concept would be to create a Plaza Museum to teach about all the various cultures and characters passing

through. Perhaps repurpose the city library on Marcy and Washington to host such a facility, if not the Palace of the Governors. I think private money and volunteerism could accomplish all this!  
I would look forward to a brief meeting if you are interested. I would love to hear your feedback learn your challenges, and perhaps explore some "what ifs"!  
Thank you for your time and service to the City we love so much!

Scott Malouf  
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