



**Agenda**      **Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe  
City and County Advisory  
Council on Food Policy  
February 12, 2026 at 9:00 AM  
The Food Depot  
1222-A Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM  
87507**

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**Procedures for Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy  
Meeting**

Hybrid Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88987396329?pwd=sgcqrXfBRRgszNNUHzBAabJiq5qc6b.1>

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
  - a. February 12, 2026 [ACTION].
  - b. Prioritization and Agenda Order.
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a. December 11, 2025, January 8, 2026 [ACTION].
5. Communications from the Floor
6. Initiatives and Actions
  - a. Federal/State/Local Updates.
  - b. Food Needs Assessment.
7. Presentations
8. Staff Communications
  - a. Website re-build and transfer—Update from Helen Henry.
9. Items from the Council
  - a. Member check-in.
10. Matters from the Committee
11. Items from the Chair

- a. New member update.
- b. Next Meeting: March 12, 2026-In Person (Action:Vote).
- c. Topics for future presentations.

12. Next Meeting:

- a. Thursday, March 12, 2026.

13. Adjourn

Closed captions are provided for this meeting. Persons with disabilities in need of additional accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 505-955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

Santa Fe City and County, Advisory Council on Food Policy  
Thursday, December 11, 2025,  
9:00AM-11AM

A. CALL TO ORDER 9:04am

B. ROLL CALL

Nate Crail - Present  
Eric Renz-Whitmore - Not present  
David Sundberg - Present  
Susan Perry - Present  
Emigdio Ballon - Not present  
Tejinder Ciano - Not present  
Said Assali - Excused  
Jasmine Meyer - Present  
Peter Ives – Present  
Coy Maienza - Present

We have a quorum.

Staff:

Pam Roy  
Helen Henry

Guests:

Christa Hernandez  
Marco Alarid White, NM Center on Law and Poverty  
JoDee Powers  
Catherine Nolte, Advocacy and Policy Specialist at The Food Depot

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –December 11, 2025 [ACTION]

Prioritization and Agenda Order

Move item G to just after item E

David motioned

Coy seconded

Approved as amended

D. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – November 13, 2025[ACTION]

Sue motioned

David Montoined

Approved

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Christa Hernandez introduced herself and described what she does for the City.

## F. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

### 1. Federal/State Updates

Peter mentioned the news about Farm Aid becoming available to help out some farmers who are experiencing shortfalls because of the tariffs. Pam said that many farmers in NM will not see that aid because it is oriented towards commodity farmers and not small-scale farmers. She shared a list of the areas where the state is picking up funding shortfalls.

The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) is meeting this week to prepare for the upcoming legislative session. The state is now predicting a downturn in oil and gas revenues which will affect the state budget this year. It is likely that we will not be able to get recurring funding for programs this year.

Marco: NM Center on Law and Poverty is beginning to get clarity around when SNAP work requirements will go into effect and what the parameters are. They hope to have materials available soon for people who are needing to maintain their status.

Pam was in a meeting that it was announced that there is about a 40% increase in needs related to food, healthcare and other costs of living. Catherine concurred with this.

David reiterated that all of these shortfalls in programs affect farmers in NM. He also mentioned that Congresswoman Ledger-Fernandez is working to update the requirements for including foods like nuts in food standards for programs such as SNAP and Double-Up Food Bucks.

Pam went over the NM Food & Ag Policy Council's 2026 priorities which are related to food and nutrition needs, and agriculture and water needs and include programs that are also on the Governor's priority list.

Sue commented that all of the programs in these priorities are connected and support each other synergistically.

Pam also mentioned the work that we are doing at the federal level that affect us at the state level - these are things that Farm to Table is providing through the AgriPolicy newsletter and roundtables.

Pam also explained about how funding for purchasing farmland and equipment is changing.

The NMFAPC is doing a Civic Engagement Training on Jan 15 (virtual) and Food & Farms Day on Jan 30 at the Roundhouse. There will also be several walk-throughs at the Capitol to focus on advocacy work. There will be virtual Action Team meetings on Mondays at 11:30 throughout the legislative session.

### 2. Update to the Food Plan -summary comments [Action]

Nothing to report

3. Update and submit County and City Resolution for 2026 Legislature

We are behind on this. Pam has circulated the documents that we have used in the past to everyone. Action: She will do drafts of the documents and send those out. Peter mentioned that we need to highlight changes at the federal level that will affect us at the state level. Pam will keep things broad enough to give an overall picture.

G. PRESENTATIONS: **Santa Fe County Connect**

Coy Maienez MA, Health Services Administration Division Manager

Santa F County Community Services Department

Coy started out by acknowledging that several people who are on the call are involved with this program.

Connect is an accountable community model that works to understand what the social determinants of health are with the goal of helping people thrive. It helps people connect to things like transportation, affordable housing, nutritional food, utilities, and interpersonal safety. Coy went over the history of the program which started in 2017 by establishing an affordable health community with 13 navigators across 8 programs. It is now a City/County partnership that has been built out with a call referral center. The state is currently looking at replicating this model with other NM cities adopting this model.

The program now has about 85 community-based organizations that are part of the program. There are many ways that people can connect to the resources of the organizations in the network.

Peter asked about funding as well as how the program is able to provide food assistance. Coy said that funding is tight because of the federal cutbacks.

Peter suggested that Coy and Chistina meet with Justin Hennamin at the NM Foundation. Peter can make the introductions.

Action: Peter suggested that we add a short update for the program to our regular agenda.

Sue asked a question about how they protect people's personal information and privacy. They are Hippa - compliant, so screening info is shared across the platform. There are some areas where the information is protected, depending on the situation. Navigators are trained in procedures. Sharing information is consent-based.

City of Santa Fe Self-Referral Portal: <https://www.santafenm.gov/connect>

Santa Fe County Self-Referral Portal:

[https://www.santafecountynm.gov/community\\_services/hhsd/ahc](https://www.santafecountynm.gov/community_services/hhsd/ahc)

For 211, dial 211 and enter a Santa Fe zip code or call 505-245-1735

## H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Website re-build and transfer - Update from Helen Henry

We are waiting for funding from the City to start this project. Action: Pam will follow up with Eric.

Pam mentioned that Farm to Table is in the last stages of hiring a new Executive Director and that Pam will be moving to only doing the job of Policy Director.

## I. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

Member check-in

Coy stated that the SF Health Policy and Planning Commission (Santa Fe's health council) is seeking to fill a position for District 1 (in the northern part of the county, Tesuque, Nambe, Pojoaque, up into Espanola.)

David mentioned that USDA is launching a new regenerative pilot program (through EQUIP and Conservation Stewardship program).

<https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2025/12/10/usda-launches-new-regenerative-pilot-program-lower-farmer-production-costs-and-advance-maha-agenda>

## J. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

Peter talked about the transition team for the new mayor. He is involved with this process.

Peter mentioned a GMO development that might reduce the use of fertilizers. Discussion around this.

1. Mechanics for regular updates to City and County Governing bodies from SFFPC.

Action: Peter asked that the SFFPC should forward the AgriPolicy notes and Report Card to the county commissioners and city councilors. We would like to establish ongoing regular communication with them. Sue said that we should be sure to flag information that may be of interest.

2. New member update

Sue has some interest and is following up.

Marco mentioned that the NMLPC is hiring for a new position that might be a better fit for this council.

David will be stepping off the Council when we have someone who can replace him. We hope he will still come to these meetings.

3. Next Meeting: January 8, 2026: Hybrid at the Food Depot

4. Topics for future presentations

Zach Ben from Bidii Baby Food - farming at the Navajo Nation (Pam)

We should devote a meeting to working on the Food Plan so we can get this done.

## K. ADJOURNMENT 10:50am

These notes were taken contemporaneously and may contain errors and omissions.

Signed by           *Helen Henry*           Helen Henry.

I verify that these notes have been approved by a quorum of members of the  
Santa Fe Food Policy Council.

Signed by Susan Perry, Co-chair or, Peter Ives, Co-chair

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Santa Fe City and County, Advisory Council on Food Policy

Thursday, January 8, 2026,

9:00AM-11AM

Hybrid Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88440927276?pwd=Xl2c2bsfnf6TlTFt4THgfa9bA0upK9.1>

In Person Location: The Food Depot ,1222A Siler Road in Santa Fe (Behind Kitchen Angels)

A. CALL TO ORDER 9:06am

B. ROLL CALL

Nate Crail - Present

Eric Renz-Whitmore - Excused

David Sundberg - Present

Susan Perry - Present

Emigdio Ballon - Excused

Tejinder Ciano - Not present

Said Assali - Present

Jasmine Meyer - Excused

Peter Ives – Present

Coy Maienza - Excused

We do not have a quorum.

Staff:

Pam Roy

Helen Henry

Guests:

Maya Martinez, NM Farmer Innovation Program Director, Farm to Table

Cathy Day, Executive Director, Farm to Table

Marco Alarid White, NM Center on Law and Poverty

James Martinez, SF County

Catherine Nolte, The Food Depot

Harrison Gibson

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –January 8, 2026 [ACTION]

Prioritization and Agenda Order

Unable to do this because there was no quorum.

D. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – December 11, 2025[ACTION]

Unable to do this because there was no quorum.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Pam introduced Maya Martinez, Program Director for Farm to Table's Farm Innovation Program, who would like to participate with the Council because she's quite involved with farmers in our

region and across the state. She would like to learn about our work on the food plan and work around the urban agriculture ordinance.

Pam also introduced Cathy Day who is the new Executive Director of Farm to Table. Pam is moving into the newly created position of Policy Director at FTT.

## F. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

### 1. Federal/State/local Updates

Pam shared a list of the legislative priorities of the NM Food & Ag Policy Council, to date; many of the priorities pertain to areas that could relate to Santa Fe City and County, particularly the Food Plan. The NM Grown program (providing funding to bring local produce into state-run programs) is one of our main priorities. Support for the senior programs are not currently in the agency budget, so this will be an area of focus. James Martinez shared that seniors in their programs really love the fresh food, and it is a way to get them to eat more vegetables. Pam mentioned that Sen Stefanics and/or Rebecca Dow are champions of this program and may want to run a separate bill for this. Pam will follow up with both representatives about this on behalf of the SFFPC.

This is a budget year so the focus will be on appropriations.

The Approved Supplier Program, which provided food safety training, is key to all of this work. There will not be a separate bill about this; this will be in the appropriations budget bill (HB2). It is also a priority of the Governor.

Regional Farm to Food Bank - we need everyone's help on this. NMFAPC will be carrying this legislation as a Tier 1 with support from the food banks. The Food Depot will manage this statewide program. This is one of the Governor's recommendations. There will likely be a bill.

David gave an update on the Healthy Food Financing Fund which recently received applications for funding that totaled about \$20 million, which shows great interest in this program.

David said that the WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program will need advocacy since not all of the money was included in the agency budgets. All of these programs are hugely impactful. Veronica Greigo said that the money for the senior food boxes is in the Governor's budget.

Peter had a question about applications for the HFFFI. David said that we need more data around who is receiving funding, how it is being used, etc.

Maya filled in some information about the work that the NM Farmer Innovation Program is doing and how the funding is supporting economic development. These small grants make a big difference to farmers.

Pam said that we need to look at the impact of all of these grants to help build out our understanding of how these investments are impacting the overall system.

We will be going to advocate for \$10 million this year for the Agricultural Water Resilience Program, focusing on water efficiencies in agriculture.

A new program is New Mexico Feeding New Mexicans - Nutrition Support for Farmers Markets, led by the New Mexico Farmers Marketing Association. This is to enhance the Double Up Food Bucks program to help to evolve a pilot program to add more proteins to create a more robust program around the SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks for the state. This will be a separate bill.

NM Food Recovery, Organic Waste Recovery and Composting Act is being put forward by the NM Healthy Soil Working Group.

NMFAPC will also be focused on the Land Conservation Incentives Program which is already in place. It is a tax incentive for conservation easements for farmers and ranchers. This is a request to the state to provide more funding into the program. The idea is to build out these resources and get this program current in the state.

Peter would like to give this presentation to the Board of County Commissioners and the governing body at the City. Peter can get this on the meeting agendas. Pam, Sue and Peter will follow up with this in the Executive Committee meeting. Pam will also follow up with Nate on getting materials to the County. We will likely get 10-15 minutes to do a presentation. It would be good to prepare a PowerPoint presentation.

Marco said that they have not gotten any direction from that state regarding SNAP benefits for people who are no longer eligible. They are working on getting these updates and also working on dealing with any possible fraudulent use of cards, etc. Peter asked Marco to keep us apprised of any gaps or shortages that people may be experiencing.

## 2. Update to the Food Plan -summary comments [Action]

Peter suggested that we table this until we can do this in person at a regular meeting of the council (after the legislative session) and invite additional selected participants, to create a working group. There was agreement about this. This could be the focus of the whole two hours of our March meeting, David offered the use of the SF Farmers' Market Institutes' conference room and put a hold on the space. We do need to ask that everyone read through the whole Food Plan before the meeting and also ask for proposed changes to be submitted in advance. We will plan on voting to meet in person in March at the February meeting.

David said that they could use the conference room at the Institute (up to 20 people). Action: Vote on this at the February meeting. Sue will make a push to get everyone there.

**G. PRESENTATIONS: No Presentations**

## H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Website re-build and transfer- Update from Helen Henry

Helen said that Farm to Table had received a PO from the City for their sponsorship. The next thing to do is select a theme. She will confer with the Executive Committee on the choice of the theme, and then it's just a question of building out the site, which to start with, will be very similar to the existing site which focuses on the Food Plan. We will build it on a staging site, so there will be an opportunity to review everything before transferring over to the live site. Council members are invited to give feedback on the existing site that can be carried over to the new site.

## I. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

Member check-in

Peter said that he is part of a group from the City's Transition Team Leadership team that is working on the SWOT analysis of all the departments. He gave updates on other things that are in progress at the City, particularly related to land use. The report for Phase 1 was delayed and then finally approved, and the timing on Phase 2, which is where substantive changes to the Land Development Code will be made, is uncertain. But this situation might give us an opportunity to participate in the discussion. Peter will send out more information.

## J. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

### 1. New member update

Marco has been attending meetings, but doesn't know if anyone else from the NM Center on Law and Poverty will be able to apply for a position. He is willing to apply to be on the Council.

We will ask Eric if there is someone from the City who can fill that seat.

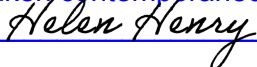
### 2.. Next Meeting: Feb. 12, 2026: Hybrid

### 4. Topics for future presentations

David: Would like to have a discussion around how state grant programs are meeting the needs of farmers (food system needs assessment) and gathering metrics based on grants that are state-funded or federally funded but administered through the state so we can have a better understanding of community need among farmers and ranchers, as well as the food system at large. It would be good to understand demographics but also get a deeper understanding about different infrastructure needs and those types of things.

## K. ADJOURNMENT 10:23am

These notes were taken contemporaneously and may contain errors and omissions.

Signed by  Helen Henry.

I verify that these notes have been approved by a quorum of members of the Santa Fe Food Policy Council.

Signed by Susan Perry, Co-chair or, Peter Ives, Co-chair

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