City of Santa Fe

200 Lincoln Ave, Santa Fe, NM 87501 | santafenm.gov

Memorandum

To: Mayor Michael J. Garcia
Governing Body

From: Heather L. Lamboy, AICP, Land Use Director
Janice Biletnikoff, AICP, Long Range Strategic Planner

Date: **November 2, 2026**

Re: **A Study Session regarding the General Plan Update process, the Character Themes and Map, and the Land Development Code Update as it pertains to the General Plan**

Santa Fe Forward is the City of Santa Fe's initiative to update its 1999 General Plan. The General Plan is the long-term policy framework guiding the City's decisions, form, function and investment priorities on land use, housing, transportation, public services and more across the short-, medium- and long-term timeframes. The General Plan establishes the mission and vision, and regulates land uses through a Future Land Use map that will guide development decisions.

Concurrently, an initiative is underway to update the City's Land Development Code (LDC). The LDC regulates the subdivision, development and use of land within the city. The LDC must be consistent with the General Plan to establish these rules.

This study session will provide an update to the Governing Body on the status of both separate but related and coordinated initiatives, including what has transpired, the current project focus and next steps. As a study session, the overall update will be followed by facilitated workshop activities.

Topics:

- Background
  - General Plan Update
  - Character Themes
  - Connections
  - Technical Analysis
  - Engagement Outcomes
  - Draft Future Land Use Map
  - Land Development Code Update
- Future Land Use Map Workshop
- Next Steps

Attachments/Links

1. Link: Governing Body Resolution No. 2023-15
2. Link: Santa Fe Forward Website
4. Link: Santa Fe LDC Update Website
5. Character Theme Descriptions
6. Character Theme Map