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**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

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**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

**FROM:** Jon K. Zaman, Director of Council Services

*Jon 8/14/18*

**SUBJECT:** Transmittal of Legislation

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Transmitted herewith is Bill No. R-18-40 Establishing City Policy For The Implementation Of Downtown Walkability Improvements; Repealing And Replacing R-15-152 (Enactment R-2015-024) (Benton), which was passed at the Council meeting of August 6, 2018, by a vote of 9 FOR AND 0 AGAINST.

In accordance with the provisions of the City Charter, your action is respectfully requested.

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY THIRD COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-18-40

ENACTMENT NO. R-2018-047

SPONSORED BY: Isaac Benton

1 RESOLUTION

2 ESTABLISHING CITY POLICY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DOWNTOWN  
3 WALKABILITY IMPROVEMENTS; REPEALING AND REPLACING R-15-152  
4 (ENACTMENT R-2015-024).

5 WHEREAS, the City Council in early 2014 commissioned Jeff Speck, a  
6 nationally-known urban planner, designer and author, to study the overall  
7 walkability of the city's core and make recommendations for pedestrian,  
8 bicycle and traffic improvements that could be implemented there which  
9 resulted in the Albuquerque Downtown Walkability Analysis submitted by Mr.  
10 Speck on September 5, 2014 (the "report"); and

11 WHEREAS, this study involved close coordination and dialogue with  
12 relevant city agencies and stakeholder groups, including the Department of  
13 Municipal Development, ABQ Ride, Downtown residents and business owners,  
14 and revitalization leaders; and

15 WHEREAS, the report makes recommendations for vehicle lane  
16 reconfigurations, bicycle facilities, roadway realignments and sidewalk  
17 improvements that could improve circulation and livability in Downtown; and

18 WHEREAS, the report also makes policy recommendations aimed at  
19 encouraging the continued revitalization and redevelopment of the area and  
20 addressing challenges such as parking, safety and street trees; and

21 WHEREAS, these recommendations include many that could be  
22 implemented inexpensively during already-scheduled roadway maintenance  
23 and small improvement projects, such as restriping lanes and enhancing  
24 signalization, and others that warrant further consideration and/or  
25 prioritization of funding, such as providing at-grade pedestrian and/or traffic  
26 crossings over the railroad tracks for some east-west streets, conversion of

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1 one-way streets to two-way facilities, and reducing vehicle lanes to calm traffic  
2 on major thoroughfares; and

3 WHEREAS, many of the recommendations aim to further enhance  
4 current redevelopment efforts, such as Innovate ABQ, Bus Rapid Transit and  
5 the Rail Yards redevelopment with timely improvements to the public right-of-  
6 way; and

7 WHEREAS, none of the recommendations are in conflict with the  
8 current planning regulations and land-use policies established for the area  
9 and would implement many of the relevant recommendations for place-making  
10 and walkability; and

11 WHEREAS, although R-15-152 as adopted establishes the current  
12 policy for the continued development, maintenance and upgrade of public  
13 transportation facilities in Downtown; and

14 WHEREAS, continued progress toward a more vibrant and walkable  
15 Downtown is dependent on the adherence to the well-studied and well-  
16 reasoned policies established by R-15-152; and

17 WHEREAS, notwithstanding, certain improvements made pursuant to  
18 R-15-152 have recently been reversed or otherwise abandoned to the  
19 detriment of Downtown; and

20 WHEREAS, in order to ensure consistent and predictable future  
21 progress consistent with R-15-152 a revised resolution may be necessary to  
22 clarify and better implement the guiding policies established by the City  
23 Council.

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF  
25 ALBUQUERQUE:

26 SECTION 1. R-15-152 is hereby repealed in its entirety, and replaced with  
27 this resolution.

28 SECTION 2. The September 5, 2014 Albuquerque Downtown Walkability  
29 Analysis, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and incorporated herein by reference is  
30 the City's current policy for the continued development, maintenance and  
31 upgrading of transportation facilities in the public right-of-way in Downtown.

32 SECTION 3. Exhibit 2, as attached hereto and incorporated herein by  
33 reference, lists and categorizes the specific policies outlined by the report for

ease of reference, and the Department of Municipal Development shall implement the list of key improvements identified in Section 1 of Exhibit 2 as soon as regular maintenance needs require work in affected public rights-of-way and/or as funding is available. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the four-way-stops at 4<sup>th</sup> and Roma and at 5<sup>th</sup> and Roma, listed as part of item 15 of Exhibit 2, "signalizations improvements," shall be immediately reinstated.

**SECTION 4.** The City Council, the Department of Municipal Development, and other affected agencies shall coordinate and study the feasibility and costs of, and where applicable prioritize the development of funding sources for the projects identified in Exhibit 2 to this legislation.

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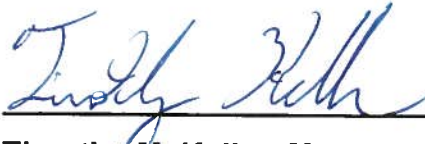
1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August, 2018  
2 BY A VOTE OF: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST.  
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8 Ken Sanchez, President  
9 City Council  
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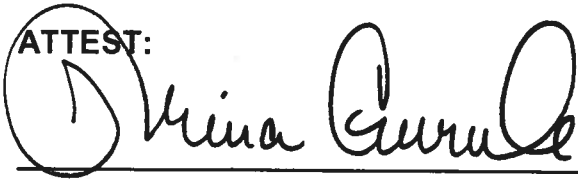
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12 APPROVED THIS 20 DAY OF August, 2018  
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17 Bill No. R-18-40  
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21 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor  
22 City of Albuquerque  
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25 ATTEST:

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28 Trina Gurule, Acting City Clerk  
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