



WHEREAS, the regional complex of medical facilities for the Northwest and Southwest Mesas will be located north of the Interchange of Interstate 40 and 118<sup>th</sup> Street. Access for resident of the Southwest Mesa to the center will require the development of 118<sup>th</sup> Street from Senator Dennis Chavez to Interstate 40 and the construction of an interchange of Interstate 40 with 118<sup>th</sup> Street; and

WHEREAS, The residents that live along the one developed section of 118<sup>th</sup> Street between Amole Mesa Avenue and Senator Dennis Chavez, travel an out of direction route to reach services north and east of their location causing extensive travel time for the simplest of errands; and

WHEREAS, Atrisco Heritage Academy, which has the third largest enrollment in the region behind only the main campuses of the University of New Mexico and Central New Mexico Community College is located on 118<sup>th</sup> Street. Senator Dennis Chavez is the only street that links the neighborhoods of the Southwest Mesa, via 98<sup>th</sup> Street and Unser Boulevard to the high school. The development of 118<sup>th</sup> Street will allow parents, students and staff another option for their commute to the school; and

WHEREAS, residential subdivision development in the Southwest Mesa, after a 10-year hiatus, is restarting including a new 151-home subdivision along 118<sup>th</sup> Street which will increase the number of commuters on 98<sup>th</sup> Street and Unser Boulevard. Constructing 118<sup>th</sup> Street will help alleviate traffic along these routes; and

WHEREAS, there are insufficient connections onto Interstate 40 from the Southwest Mesa. Mesa residents use 98<sup>th</sup> Street or Unser Boulevard to access Interstate 40, which overloads the interchange with traffic creating long travel time delays due to congestion during the peak morning and evening hours; and

WHEREAS, with the development of the employment center on Atrisco Vista Boulevard an access point along 118<sup>th</sup> Street will allow Southwest Mesa residents, who commute to the Atrisco Vista employment center, another option to access homes in the western section of the Southwest Mesa; and

WHEREAS, as made evident in the findings in this Resolution, designating the development of 118<sup>th</sup> Street from Interstate 40 to Senator Dennis Chavez is necessary for the orderly development of the Southwest Mesa of Albuquerque and to provide for the residents' public health welfare and Safety.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF

ALBUQUERQUE:

Section 1. It is a priority of the City of Albuquerque to develop and construct to the full planned cross-section, 118<sup>TH</sup> Street from Interstate 40 to Senator Dennis Chavez. Development of the segment should:

1. Comply with the City's Complete Streets regulations by accommodating for multiple modes of travel including motor vehicle, bicycles and pedestrians and providing landscaping.
2. Comply with Federal standards for roadway projects in Metropolitan Planning Areas to improve system efficiency throughout the Southwest Mesa.
3. Comply with Federal Environmental standards for roadway projects to protect the health of the natural environment.

Section 2. The City of Albuquerque encourages the New Mexico Department of Transportation and the New Mexico Transportation Commission to designate as a New Mexico Department of Transportation District 3 priority, the development of an interchange of 118<sup>th</sup> Street with Interstate 40. This should include the facility planning, all federal regulatory approval processes, design, engineering and construction.

Section 3. The City should initiate an engineering planning study to develop conceptual cross-sections, for 118<sup>th</sup> Street, identify the right of way corridor, and provide estimated development costs for the purposes of identifying funds.

Section 4. That funding the development of 118<sup>th</sup> Street and the Interchange is a City priority when seeking funds from the following revenue programs:

- **City of Albuquerque Capital Implementation Program for Calendar Years, 2023, 2025 and 2027,**
- **Programing new City of Albuquerque revenue that occurs in the Infrastructure Gross Receipts Tax Fund and One Time Federal Government Stimulus Funds,**
- **The City of Albuquerque State Legislative priorities for the purposes of procuring state funding for calendar years 2022 through 2027.**
- **Acquiring project funds from the New Mexico Department of Transportation Local Government Road Fund,**
- **Acquiring project funds in the 2025 through 2030 Transportation Improvement Program for the Mid Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, and**
- **Acquiring project funds from the Federal Highway Administration Discretionary**

**Grant Programs.**

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