

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY-FIRST COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-15-152 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Isaac Benton

1 RESOLUTION
2 ADOPTING THE SEPTEMBER 2014 DOWNTOWN WALKABILITY ANALYSIS AS
3 A CITY POLICY FOR PRIORITIZING MULTI-MODAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE
4 DOWNTOWN AREA.

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; and

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

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

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

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

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

5 WHEREAS, none of the recommendations are in conflict with the
6 current planning regulations and land-use policies established for the area by
7 the Downtown 2025 Sector Development Plan, and would implement many of
8 the recommendations of that plan for placemaking and walkability.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF
10 ALBUQUERQUE:

11 SECTION 1. The Downtown Walkability Analysis, attached hereto as
12 Attachment 1, shall be considered the current policy document for the
13 continued development, maintenance and upgrading of transportation
14 facilities in the public right-of-way in Downtown.

15 SECTION 2. The Department of Municipal Development shall
16 endeavor to implement the list of key improvements identified in Section 1 of
17 Attachment 2 to this legislation as soon as regular maintenance needs require
18 work in affected public rights-of-way and/or as funding is available.

19 SECTION 3. The City Council, the Department of Municipal
20 Development, and other affected agencies shall coordinate and study the
21 feasibility and costs of, and where applicable prioritize the development of
22 funding sources for the projects identified in Section 2 of Attachment 2 to this
23 legislation.

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