

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-__

INTRODUCED BY:

Mayor Alan Webber

Councilor Renee Villarreal

Councilor Chris Rivera

A RESOLUTION

**DESIGNATING THE FIRST MONDAY IN MARCH AS “COVID-19 MEMORIAL DAY”
IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES AND IN HONOR
OF THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO SUFFER FROM THE IMPACT OF THE VIRUS; AND
URGING RESIDENTS TO CONTINUE TAKING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO
MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS.**

WHEREAS, other municipalities throughout the country have designated the first Monday
in March as COVID-19 Victims and Survivors Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is an illness caused by a virus that can transmit
from person to person that has spread across the world, creating a global pandemic that is having
catastrophic effects on human life, our community, and our economy; and

WHEREAS, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, observance of public health orders to
social distance and to stay at home have created challenges for small businesses, workers, and
schools, which are working to comply with limited resources; and

WHEREAS, school districts, teachers, students, and parents are grappling with the

1 challenges of distance learning and working to prevent any potential learning loss due to not
2 teaching in-person; and

3 **WHEREAS**, local and state governments, health departments, and public servants have
4 taken bold actions to protect residents, support struggling local economies, and find innovative
5 ways to provide services; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in response to rapid spread of COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, essential
7 workers have stepped up to provide critical services to help protect our communities and save lives,
8 sacrificing their own health and safety; and

9 **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities
10 and communities of color, exacerbating inequities already prevalent in our systems that we must
11 address as a nation; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the symptoms and severity of COVID-19 can vary dramatically by individual
13 and the long-term health implications for survivors is largely unknown, as many survivors suffer
14 with lingering side-effects of the disease long after they no longer test positive; and

15 **WHEREAS**, more than [number at time of adoption] people worldwide and [number at
16 time of adoption] in the United States have lost their lives due to COVID-19, and, in the City of
17 Santa Fe alone, more than [number at time of adoption] lives have been lost to this deadly virus;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, each life lost to COVID-19 mattered and leaves a hole in the hearts of loved
20 ones, family members, and surrounding community; and

21 **WHEREAS**, public health guidance and policies targeted at prevention, such as social
22 distancing, wearing masks in public, and staying home help mitigate the spread of COVID-19,
23 prevent illness, and lessen the burden on individuals and society.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body hereby designates
25 the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Memorial Day”, in remembrance of those who have lost

1 their lives and in honor of those who continue to suffer from the impact of this virus.

2 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body joins with over fifty other cities
3 around the country that are recognizing the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Memorial Day”
4 in remembrance of those who have lost their lives and continue to suffer lasting effects of the virus
5 and to commemorate them in an appropriate manner determined by the City each year.

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body urges residents to continue
7 taking preventative measures such as social distancing and following public health orders to
8 mitigate spread of this virus, in tribute to essential workers and those who rose in service to protect
9 the public.

10 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this ____day of _____, 2021.

11
12
13 _____
14 ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

15 ATTEST:

16
17 _____
18 KRISTINE MIHELIC, CITY CLERK

19 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

20 
21 _____
22 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

23
24
25 *Legislation/2021/Resolutions/COVID-19 Memorial Day*