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A MEMORIAL

OUTLINING THE HISTORY OF AGUA FRIA VILLAGE IN SANTA FE COUNTY  
AND REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF STATE AGENCIES IN  
DETERMINING IF A MUSEUM IS JUSTIFIED IN DOCUMENTING THE  
HISTORY.

WHEREAS, the Agua Fria village area has been known as  
Pueblo Quemado, Pindi Pueblo and Cieneguitas, and is  
generally considered to be the area from arroyo de los  
frijoles on the north to arroyo de los chamisos on the south  
and from the villa de Santa Fe league on the east to the  
Cieneguilla land grant on the west; and

WHEREAS, this area has had human habitation on its  
fertile Santa Fe river alluvial plains since at least seven  
thousand years before the common era; and

WHEREAS, the native peoples may have graded the land to  
create an irrigation system, and the first Europeans  
recognized the area's potential for agriculture; and

WHEREAS, archaeological digs done under Agua Fria road  
in 2009 for sewer extensions have indicated that two  
prehistoric settlements under the Pindi Pueblo site may date  
back to three thousand years before the common era; and

WHEREAS, el camino real de tierra adentro, also known as  
the royal road to the interior lands, brought the first  
expeditions to New Mexico, and, beginning in 1598, the first

1 colonists under Juan de Onate; and

2 WHEREAS, el camino real de tierra adentro was an artery  
3 of commerce and travel, joining Spain's colonial capital at  
4 Mexico City to the northern frontier of Santa Fe and spanning  
5 one thousand six hundred miles; and

6 WHEREAS, a number of Native American routes ran along el  
7 camino real de tierra adentro from the Aztec empire in Mexico  
8 to the turquoise mines in los Cerrillos; and

9 WHEREAS, earlier Native American trading routes ran from  
10 Mexico City to the pueblos of the valle de Rio Grande, then  
11 on to Chaco canyon and California; and

12 WHEREAS, el camino real de tierra adentro is recognized  
13 by the federal government as a national historic trail; and

14 WHEREAS, el camino real de tierra adentro has  
15 international significance and is recognized throughout the  
16 United States, Mexico and Central and South American  
17 countries where other caminos reales exist; and

18 WHEREAS, the original route of el camino real de tierra  
19 adentro runs through the heart of the traditional village of  
20 Agua Fria, on the present-day streets of Agua Fria road and  
21 junta del alamo, just past the ojos de San Isidro; and

22 WHEREAS, the actual name of "Agua Fria" is undocumented  
23 but residents speculate that it is from weary travelers  
24 splashing their faces with cold water from the Santa Fe  
25 river, the first mountain stream they would have encountered

1 on their journey from the south; and

2 WHEREAS, in 1776, Fray Francisco Atanacio Dominguez gave  
3 a census count to his superiors listing Agua Fria with  
4 fifty-seven families and two hundred ninety-seven people; and

5 WHEREAS, trade and travel on el camino real de tierra  
6 adentro shaped individual lives and the traditional historic  
7 community of Agua Fria and greatly affected its settlement  
8 and development as a farming community; and

9 WHEREAS, under the American occupation declared in Santa  
10 Fe on August 19, 1846, United States Army brigadier general  
11 Stephen Watts Kearney and other soldiers used el camino real  
12 de tierra adentro through Agua Fria village; and

13 WHEREAS, San Isidro Catholic church was constructed  
14 along the road in 1835 and schoolhouses were constructed  
15 along the road in the 1890s; and

16 WHEREAS, the Charles M. Probst remount station, situated  
17 in present day lugar de Padilla, was a stagecoach resting  
18 place and inn along el camino real de tierra adentro before  
19 its entrance into Santa Fe; and

20 WHEREAS, delegations from Native American tribes  
21 visiting the federal government offices in Santa Fe camped in  
22 the Agua Fria area; and

23 WHEREAS, in a 2012 proclamation, the Santa Fe county  
24 board of county commissioners recognized Agua Fria road  
25 through the historic village of Agua Fria as the original

1 route of el camino real de tierra adentro and acknowledged  
2 the route's significant impact on the development of Agua  
3 Fria village and the surrounding areas; and

4 WHEREAS, starting in 2013, the residents of Agua Fria  
5 village conducted a series of oral history interviews of the  
6 elders for the New Mexico historical records advisory board;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, an Agua Fria gateway monument was completed in  
9 2015 with design assistance from the national park service  
10 and the support of Santa Fe county; and

11 WHEREAS, the gateway monument is constructed with  
12 mud-plastered adobes made by the residents and a photo  
13 display of historic photographs; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2016, the residents of Agua Fria village  
15 developed an exhibit of photographs, stories and antique farm  
16 equipment on display at the historic Santa Fe foundation's el  
17 Zaguan gallery; and

18 WHEREAS, a historic structures and places survey was  
19 completed by Agua Fria residents and the national park  
20 service, based on the New Mexico historic preservation  
21 division's 1983 study;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the economic development department  
24 and the cultural affairs department be requested to study the  
25 possibility and economic benefits of creating a museum

1 commemorating the history of el camino real de tierra adentro  
2 in the Agua Fria village area; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the economic development  
4 department and the cultural affairs department be requested  
5 to meet with or otherwise involve representatives of the city  
6 of Santa Fe, the national park service, residents of Agua  
7 Fria village and other interested parties; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the economic development  
9 department and the cultural affairs department report  
10 recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative  
11 committee by August 1, 2018; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the secretary of economic development, the  
14 secretary of cultural affairs and the president of the Agua  
15 Fria village association.

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