

# **RIBBON-CUTTING: Water Street Restroom and Information Booth**

*100 Water Street, at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 30*

SANTA FE, June 28 – Members of the public, the business community, and the media are invited to attend the ribbon-cutting of the Downtown restroom and information booth at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 30. Mayor Alan Webber will be joined in the ceremony by City Councilors, members of the Santa Fe legislative delegation, and representatives of the Community and Economic Development and Public Works departments. The site at 100 Water Street is one block from the Santa Fe Plaza.

"A public restroom may not seem like a big deal, until you need one," says Mayor Webber. "We have long needed a clean, safe and convenient public restroom near the Plaza, and as of today, we have a great one. My thanks go to the Governor, the Legislature, our City Councilors and the Public Works and Tourism departments—all of the people who made this major public project a reality. This is a big deal for our community!"

In 2016, the Governing Body passed a Resolution to undertake the project. The Resolution cited persistent complaints from visitors and residents about the lack of public facilities downtown. It stated that a restroom would relieve a burden on local businesses and stimulate spending, while also helping to create community spirit in the Plaza area. The groundbreaking of the facility took place on July 14, 2021; it will be open for use after the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Randy Randall, Executive Director of TOURISM Santa Fe says: "We are so excited to finally have a positive response to the most asked question in our Visitor Centers and around the historic district -- 'Where are the restrooms?' Our answer can now be that they are on Water Street, one short block from the Plaza. We are so thankful to the many merchants who have made their facilities available to visitors."

The State invested \$500,000 in the project. The City provided the balance of the \$1.1 million design and construction budget.

The facility conforms to Santa Fe Historic District guidelines. It was built by Albuquerque-based FacilityBuild and includes 10 stalls in both the men's and women's bathrooms, and a family restroom. There will also be a Tourism Santa Fe information booth at the site. Randall notes that Santa Fe receives 2.5 million visitors each year.

The facility will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, with hours extended to 9:00 p.m. in July and August.

**Media Contact:** For information about the restroom and Tourism information center, contact Randy Randall, Director of Tourism Santa Fe, [rRANDALL@santafenm.gov](mailto:rRANDALL@santafenm.gov).