



TOWN OF TAOS RESOLUTION 07-10

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 06-64 IN SUPPORT OF AND AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A REGIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the United States of America through its agencies has “recompeted” the contract for operation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (the “Lab”); and

WHEREAS, the request for proposal for the Lab contract clearly sets forth a new paradigm for Lab operation and management; and

WHEREAS, under the new paradigm the operation and management of the Lab will be performed at the direction of a single, private, for-profit LLC; and

WHEREAS, the new management paradigm has led to a change in the taxable status of Lab operations; and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos County has reached out to neighboring local governments and communities in Northern New Mexico to seek their input and involvement on a consolidated approach to the challenges posed by the new operational paradigm; and

WHEREAS, because of the history of state legislative committees considering Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) changes that could have a severe negative financial impact (e.g. perhaps losing any enhanced revenue or even losing existing revenue), Los Alamos County and the cooperating governments and communities should take a proactive approach to protect against the possibility of state legislative changes that may have a negative impact on their revenue stream; and

WHEREAS, some local governments may experience a negative impact on their revenues, while Los Alamos may experience a positive impact, Los Alamos County has been exploring the possibility of participating with Northern New Mexico neighboring communities by contributing more funding to regional partnership efforts (i.e. the North Central Regional Transit District) than Los Alamos County might have otherwise done under the existing GRT revenue circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the local governments and communities wish to assist in providing enhanced regional partnership to address the impact of the changes in the operation and management of the Lab; and

WHEREAS, the cooperating local governments and communities wish to provide a mechanism for participation in and resolution of regional issues arising from the change in the Lab contract; and

WHEREAS, the cooperating local governments and communities agree that it would be equitable to ensure that changes in gross receipt taxes of cooperating local governments and communities arising from the change in the Lab contract be addressed through enhanced regional partnership; and

WHEREAS, the cooperating local governments and communities wish to take a proactive approach to protect against the possibility of state legislative changes that may have a negative impact on local revenue streams including, but not limited to, legislative changes directed specifically at changing the way the Lab is taxed; and

WHEREAS, enhanced regional partnerships shall be funded in a manner that aligns with and supports Los Alamos County and the Participating Regional Partners adopted strategic goals including, but not limited to, the current strategic planning goals of improving intergovernmental relations, diversifying the economy and improving transportation; and

WHEREAS, enhanced revenues that are allocated pursuant to cooperating local governments and communities agreements shall be used to achieve the strategic goals which concurrently assists neighboring communities through enhanced regional partnership activities; and

WHEREAS, enhanced regional partnerships should be entered into formally and explicitly through legal mechanisms which are subject to an open public process with the public having an opportunity for input; and

WHEREAS, enhanced regional partnerships should be equitable and should occur in a manner that prevents adverse feelings from County citizens and potential unintended negative responses from cooperating local governments and communities; and

WHEREAS, cooperating local governments and communities agree to keep the Governor, State and Congressional Delegations informed and to gain their support for continued use of this funding as a means of promoting and assisting with enhanced regional partnerships rather than seeking recourse through legislation or the courts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of Town of Taos supports the following:

- Town of Taos entering into a cooperative agreement with Los Alamos County and other governments and communities in this initiative; and
- Authorizing the Mayor of the Town of Taos to enter into and sign such an agreement
- As a signatory to such an agreement, take a proactive approach to protect against the possibility of state legislative changes that may have a negative impact on local revenue streams including but not limited to legislative changes directed specifically at changing the way the Lab is taxed.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ DAY OF FEBRUARY 2007.

TOWN OF TAOS

By:

BOBBY F. DURAN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Renee Lucero
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Renee Barela-Gutierrez
Town Attorney