

LOCAL NEWS

SANTA FE + NEW MEXICAN



Thanks for visiting Santa Fe New Mexican. If you are 7-day print subscriber, please create an online account and then click 'subscribe' to activate your unlimited access. Otherwise, you're entitled to view 5 free articles every 30 days. Then, if you enjoy our site and want full access, we'll ask you to purchase an affordable subscription.

4 Remaining

Mayor defends 'sanctuary' status as city gets EPA grant

Print Font Size: - +

Posted: Thursday, January 5, 2017 11:12 pm | Updated: 12:45 am, Fri Jan 6, 2017.

By Daniel J. Chacón
The New Mexican

The city of Santa Fe will continue to seek federal grants despite President-elect Donald Trump's threat to cut off federal funding to "sanctuary" cities that don't use local resources to help enforce federal immigration laws, Mayor Javier Gonzales said Thursday.

The City of Santa Fe invites you to:
A Workshop on how to comply with the City of Santa Fe Residential Green Building Code Update



The update becomes mandatory on March 1, 2017
DON'T BE CAUGHT UNAWARE!!!
 A Workshop will be held:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 2017 FROM 8 TO 9AM
AT CITY HALL - IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa fe, NM

NEWS VIDEO



Santa Fe's mayor became a de facto spokesman for sanctuary cities last year when he defended their policies in widely circulated interviews with Fox News, CNN and other media outlets. Gonzales made his Thursday comments during a news conference at which city officials announced a \$150,000 grant from the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

"We fully are prepared to go forward and not only defend our status but to continue to seek more federal funds to invest in our community because we have positioned ourselves to be able to be good models for what can happen with those federal funds to improve the lives of its citizens," Gonzales said.

Santa Fe is one of five cities in the nation that received one of the EPA grants under the Obama administration. The money will be used for "long-term stormwater management and planning," said Melissa McDonald, the city's river and watershed coordinator.

"It's going to be a 12- to 18-month project," she said. "We are going to receive \$150,000 in technical assistance to write or rewrite our own stormwater management plan."

Gonzales said the city could work on a variety of initiatives, from capturing storm runoff for irrigation to expanding a program of releasing reservoir water into the mostly dry bed of the Santa Fe River.

When asked whether sticking to Santa Fe's sanctuary city policy gave him any pause, given Trump's promise to try to withhold federal funds from such cities,



Gonzales said: “Not at all.”

“Santa Fe fully intends to apply for every federal grant opportunity that exists out there,” he said. “I believe that we have fully earned the right to be able to apply for federal grants and receive them.”

The EPA grant announcement comes as the City Council prepares to consider a resolution “reaffirming, with pride, the status of the city of Santa Fe as a sanctuary for immigrants and calling for the strengthening of policies that will reinforce this status.”

“This is doubling down,” Councilor Joseph Maestas, who is co-sponsoring the resolution with Councilor Renee Villarreal, told the *Albuquerque Journal*. “We’re thumbing our nose at this incoming administration.”

Gonzales, who is actively involved with the U.S. Conference of Mayors, said that “there is a belief among other mayors nationally” that only law enforcement grants could be in jeopardy if Trump follows through on his threat. Santa Fe last year received about \$20,000 from the federal government for body cameras for police officers.

“Most likely, if the federal government pursues penalizing sanctuary cities because of that status, the belief among many who have looked at this is that those funds would be limited to the law enforcement side of the house,” the mayor said. “Having said all that, it’s very early. We don’t know what the president-elect is going to do. We don’t know if the statements that he made during the campaign will in fact be translated into direction to begin these deportation raids or to penalize cities that have the sanctuary status.”

An EPA regional administrator, Ron Curry, a former Santa Fe city manager and one-time Cabinet secretary under former Gov. Bill Richardson, said he didn’t know whether the \$150,000 grant is in any jeopardy.

FLYERS AND COUPONS



[View more weekly ads](#)

Tweets by [@thenewmexican](#)

Follow The Santa Fe New Mexican



MOST READ

1. Students, colleagues mourn loss of counselor who ‘impacted so many lives’
2. Game wardens in Kansas killed a deer in front of the family that kept it as a pet
3. Snow, cold front headed to Northern New Mexico
4. New Mexico still ranks near bottom

“How the new administration will interpret anything like this, I cannot tell you how that will be done,” said Curry, who plans to leave the federal agency in two weeks when Trump is sworn into office.

Contact Daniel J. Chacón at 505-986-3089 or dchacon@sfnewmexican.com. Follow him on Twitter @danieljchacon.

Discuss

Print 

Posted in Local News on Thursday, January 5, 2017 11:12 pm. Updated: 12:45 am.

More Stories

- US energy boss lauds opening of nuke repository
- Majority of third-graders with reading deficiency promoted to fourth grade
- Proposal extends options on medical marijuana in N.M.
- There's no charge for a civil tongue
- La Emi fans flames of flamenco in Northern New Mexico

Most Read

- Students, colleagues mourn loss of counselor who 'impacted so many lives'
- Game wardens in Kansas killed a deer in front of the family that kept it as a pet
- Snow, cold front headed to Northern New Mexico
- New Mexico still ranks near bottom for education quality
- Many claim they've solved Forrest Fenn riddle, but treasure hunt continues

for education quality

- 5.Many claim they've solved Forrest Fenn riddle, but treasure hunt continues
- 6.Impasse cuts KOAT from DirecTV lineup
- 7.In deep hole, a chance for economic improvement
- 8.Storm closes schools, brings cold temps
- 9.Actress concerned about cell towers photographed on cell phone while driving



Renewal by Andersen
WINDOW REPLACEMENT FROM A COMPANY YOU CAN TRUST

3 YEARS NO INTEREST*
— PLUS —
SAVE 20%

OFFER ENDS JAN 31ST

To our readers, Santarenewmexican.com now uses Facebook to power its comments forum. You will need to login using your Facebook account to post comments to news articles. As always, we do require you to use your real, full name when posting and to be courteous to others when posting.

1 Comment



This thread is closed

Joe Martinez

Santa Fe has the right idea. With a little help those "undocumented immigrants" can be know how they'll vote. California does it some way or other. And dont forget, they do work money will keep on coming. We have two senators and two congress reps with influence.

Like · Jan 6, 2017 9:35am

Facebook Comments Plugin

STYLEWE **FREE SHIPPING**

Shop Now



Is Your
HOME
Winter Ready?

11 Ways to Prevent
Frozen Pipes

TLC [Learn More](#)

TODAY'S NEW MEXICAN



There's no charge for a civil tongue

New Mexico finds that even if the state's justice system can be held accountable for its actions, it's not a winning strategy.



State: Unprepared third-graders promoted

PEDECA: 80% of kids behind in reading gone to fourth grade, fewer than 1% of parents notified of deficiencies

By Tom Ichniowski
 A state education assessment said that 80 percent of third-graders who were promoted to fourth grade last year were behind in reading. The assessment also found that fewer than 1 percent of parents were notified of their children's reading deficiencies.

By Tom Ichniowski
 A state education assessment said that 80 percent of third-graders who were promoted to fourth grade last year were behind in reading. The assessment also found that fewer than 1 percent of parents were notified of their children's reading deficiencies.

Proposal extends options on medical marijuana in N.M.

bill allows producers to grow more plants, gives more flexibility to patients

By Tom Ichniowski
 The state legislature passed a bill that would allow medical marijuana growers to grow more plants and give patients more flexibility in how they use their medicine.

Only so much one man can do

As debate over Obama's legacy continues, one Chicago housing project is left with mixed feelings

By Tom Ichniowski
 As the nation debates the legacy of President Barack Obama, one Chicago housing project is left with mixed feelings about the impact of his policies.

A familiar face? Playoff games are rereleases

Even NFL playoff reruns are a somewhat new experience for the first-time sports viewer

By Tom Ichniowski
 For many first-time sports viewers, watching NFL playoff reruns is a new experience. The games are often rereleased on television.

Mechines, which can cause damage or injury and don't alert if often used without training or experience

By Tom Ichniowski
 Drones, which can cause damage or injury and don't alert if often used without training or experience, are becoming more popular.

the assessment finding deficiencies that 80 percent of third-graders who were promoted to fourth grade last year were behind in reading. The assessment also found that fewer than 1 percent of parents were notified of their children's reading deficiencies.

The state legislature passed a bill that would allow medical marijuana growers to grow more plants and give patients more flexibility in how they use their medicine.

As the nation debates the legacy of President Barack Obama, one Chicago housing project is left with mixed feelings about the impact of his policies.

For many first-time sports viewers, watching NFL playoff reruns is a new experience. The games are often rereleased on television.

Drones, which can cause damage or injury and don't alert if often used without training or experience, are becoming more popular.



Click to read the eNewMexican edition
 View the digital replica of today's Santa Fe New Mexican.



Click to read the digital edition of Pasatiempo
View an exact replica of the latest edition of Pasatiempo magazine.

Sections

- Home
- News
- Sports
- Opinion
- Pasatiempo
- Magazines
- Life
- Multimedia
- Weather

Services

- Place Classified Ad
- Subscription Services
- Submission Forms
- Site Index
- Featured Ads
- Featured Ads Reprints
- Open House Listings
- Open House Re-Prints
- Add Search Toolbar
- Ad Rates

Connections

- Phone number:** 505-983-3303
E-mail: webeditor@sfnewmexican.com
Address: 202 E. Marcy St.
Santa Fe, NM 87501
- Contact us
 - The Taos News
 - The Sangre de Cristo Chronicle
 - Enchanted Homes Real Estate Magazine

Search

Search in:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasatiempo | <input type="checkbox"/> Opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News | <input type="checkbox"/> Magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> Photos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Life | <input type="checkbox"/> Video |

© Copyright 2017, The Santa Fe New Mexican, Santa Fe, NM.