

## TAOS PROJECT

February 20, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, New Mexico 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova:

The Taos Project Downtown Merchant's Association is in full support of the application by the Town of Taos to New Mexico MainStreet for the purpose of a Downtown Master Plan.

The focus of this grant applies to precisely what is needed in the downtown of Taos at this time. This plan will provide the direction to further implement much of the work outlined in the National Endowment for the Arts "Your Town" Charrette, as well as the Taos Cultural Plan.

The merchants and the community at large are currently engaged and extremely interested in improvements to our historic downtown. The Taos Project is happy to offer any assistance required to facilitate this work, should Taos be successful in being awarded these grant monies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Spray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Cynthia Spray

Director  
Taos Project

575-770-2531 (c)  
575-758-8826 (w)

108 Teresina Lane  
Taos, New Mexico  
87571



## TAOS REAL PROPERTY

MARIKA CHOMA, QUALIFYING BROKER

EXCLUSIVE, EXPERT REAL ESTATE REPRESENTATION IN ALL AREAS OF TAOS REAL ESTATE

104 LA LOMA ST. • TAOS, NM 87571 • T: 575.758-4004 • F: 575.758-2003

[MARIKA@TAOSREALPROPERTY.COM](mailto:MARIKA@TAOSREALPROPERTY.COM) • [WWW.TAOSREALPROPERTY.COM](http://WWW.TAOSREALPROPERTY.COM)

February 20, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

I am writing to offer my support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico Main Street application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. As one of the appointed Commissioners on the Town of Taos Historical Preservation Commission, I believe that our community will benefit greatly from the Master Plan that will utilize with the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District.

I offer my full support for the Town's application. I look forward to participating in this exciting project in whatever way I can and hope your proposal is successful in being selected for funding.

Sincerely,

Marika Choma  
Owner/Qualifying Broker  
Taos Real Property

Jivan Lee Consulting  
PO Box 2243 | El Prado, NM | 87529

February 21, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

I am writing to express my sincere support for and interest in the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. It's an important effort and the town and county of Taos will greatly benefit from the Master Plan. I'm glad it utilizes the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District and I look forward to great things should the application receive funding.

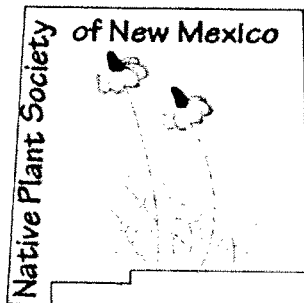
I'm a professional consultant working on sustainability issues, including climate change, sustainable agriculture, and renewably-powered sustainable communities. I'm also exhibiting fine artist. I've lived and worked in Taos for three over years, coming from New York via Montana and Albuquerque. I was thrilled with Taos for many reasons – its bastion of artists and forward-thinking residents, its rich culture, and its remarkable historic architecture being a few things. But I also felt that much was – and still is – at risk of being lost amidst shorter-term interests and fads that fail to see bigger-picture trends and threats to Taos' character. Be it by averting the loss of Taos' aesthetic beauty, preventing traffic congestion that affects usability, or by supporting continued innovation and creative pursuit, I believe a cohesive Master Plan for Taos' downtown could do wonders for securing Taos' long-term future.

I would be happy to participate in the Master Plan and hope your proposal is selected for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jivan Lee', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Jivan Lee



TAOS CHAPTER  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO

February 14, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

I am writing to offer our support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico Main Street application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan and will utilize the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District.

As President and Education Outreach Coordinator for the Taos Chapter of NPSNM, we are a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the conservation of the native flora of New Mexico. We would be delighted to lend our support as consultants in incorporating native plants into the landscape design of this project.

We have long envisioned this kind of partnership and ask that you consider its far-reaching beneficial impact - not only for our local community and region but also as a model for community partnership that can be shared and replicated elsewhere.

Thank you,

Claudia Bianca, President  
Education Outreach Coordinator  
Taos Chapter Native Plant Society of New Mexico

P. O. Box 3036  
Taos, NM 87571



Sanctuary Comes Home

February 21, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

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Project no: 2012.000  
Project name: Downtown Master Plan

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Dear Mayor Cordova,

As your newest Historic Preservation Commissioner, I am writing to offer my support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan, which will help to preserve the best of Taos's historic fabric while also allowing her to be mindfully developed to address traffic, pedestrian access, infrastructure development, and acequias, among other concerns.

It is with absolute certainty in the positive outcome of such a venture that I ask for your support.

As a commissioner, a resident of the historic district, and as an architectural professional committed to the well-being of my community, I would be happy to participate in the development and implementation of a Master Plan.

I hope the proposal is selected, and wish all the participants and benefactors the very best in this important effort.

All my Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Prinz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rachel Prinz

◆ Architectural & Landscape Design ◆ Historic Preservation ◆ Eco-Communities ◆

110 Padre Martinez Lane #5, Taos, NM 87571  
intentiondesign @ gmail.com  
575.751.3658



February 21, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor

Town of Taos

400 Camino de la Placita

Taos, NM 87571

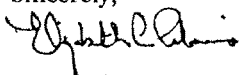
Dear Mayor Cordova,

I am writing to offer my support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan and will utilize the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District.

Taos Community Foundation is a Community Corporation that helps make an impact on our community through charitable giving. We partner with local and regional agencies, individuals, businesses, and families to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. Taos Community Foundation and our donors respond to complex and growing issues and needs affecting our region by making well placed grants and bringing diverse groups together to identify solutions to specific community challenges.

I would be happy to participate in the Master Plan and hope your proposal is selected for funding.

Sincerely,



Foundation Director



February 17, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

We are writing to offer our support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan and will utilize the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District.

Three nights a year we host Pecha Kucha Night TAOS, a localized global phenomenon where Taos artists are given an opportunity to showcase and present their work. The term "PechaKucha" is Japanese and refers to the sound of "chit chat." The founders, Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham of Klein Dytham Architecture, were inspired to create Pecha Kucha to fill the artistic void by allowing people to share their work with the community in public spaces, and in a relaxed manner. The first PechaKucha Night was held in Tokyo, Japan in February 2003 as an event for creative folks to meet, network, and showcase their work in public. Today, Pecha Kucha is held in 470 cities worldwide and has turned into a massive celebration, inspiring creatives.

Pecha Kucha Night Taos takes place three times a year at various venues around Taos. We are now on our sixth event and personally have witnessed the value, appreciation and need for bringing art to the community of Taos!

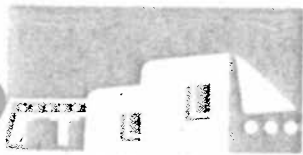
We would be happy to participate in the Master Plan and hope your proposal is selected for funding.

Sincerely,  
J. Matthew Thomas & Richard Spera  
*Pecha Kucha Night Taos co-organizers*

P: (575) 613-0601

W: [pecha-kucha.org](http://pecha-kucha.org)

E: [pechakuchataos@gmail.com](mailto:pechakuchataos@gmail.com)



**Hotel La Fonda**

**DE TAOS**

THE OLDEST HOTEL IN TAOS NEVER LOOKED BETTER.

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February 20, 2012

Mayor Darren Cordova  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

The Hotel La Fonda de Taos being located in the heart of the Arts and Cultural district is very supportive of the concept of the development of a Downtown Master Plan. Addressing traffic, parking, beautification and other infrastructure improvements will compliment the town's improved efforts to more effectively market Taos as a premier New Mexico tourist destination. Count on the La Fonda to participate in whatever capacity appropriate to securing the ACD grant.

Sincerely,

Steven Slick



February 15, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova and Council members,

I am writing to offer the support from Cantu LLC for the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan and will utilize the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District. It is no secret that I personally am a huge supporter of any kind of improvements that can be made to the Historic District, our Plaza or the Arts and Cultural District.

These improvements are crucial to Taos as we are a destination for thousands of visitors. Infrastructures as well as facades, sidewalks and roadways are in serious need of repairs.

We support the Downtown Master Plan and any funds that could be sought to improve all and anything that needs attention. Cantu LLC has a membership of 6 and we are all in support of these improvements and of this Grant. We are fortunate there are people willing to work for this. I personally would be willing to volunteer my time to participate in the development of the plan. Please let me know in what area that I could be of service.

We look forward to participating in this project and to see the improvements to be made.

Respectfully,

Judi Cantu, Property Manager,  
Property Owner

Notes

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

February 17, 2012  
Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571  
Re: Main Street Application and Downtown Master Plan

Dear Mayor Cordova:

I am writing in strong support of the Town of Taos' New Mexico Main Street application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan.

Taos is well positioned to leverage an investment of your time to undertake this master planning effort. Our firm, PlaceMakers, had the pleasure of assisting with the Taos SmartCode, along with the Chemisa Verde master plan. A Downtown Master Plan will build upon the significant work you've already completed, allowing you to pull from the code and the Arts and Cultural District to enhance and protect downtown character while sparking economic development and resilience.

The multiple grant sources of funding secured by the Town of Taos Planning Department for these past planning efforts speaks to the level of regional and national attention you have garnered with your exemplary planning. Main Street will honor this level of commitment, and will certainly spark yet more investment with a Downtown Master Plan shining a national spotlight on Taos.

Just last week, I included images of Taos in my TEDx talk, pointing to how places are using visionary planning methods and tools to extract the DNA of their highest-functioning local urbanism, and allowing it to happen as a matter of right in new development and redevelopment.

Great communities are nurtured into greatness. Like gardens, they are the products of intention. Of thoughtful design. And before design, of understanding what landscape and culture inspire. PlaceMakers looks forward to supporting your efforts in any way we can, and wish you the best in this important new endeavour.

Best regards,

Hazel Borys  
Managing Principal  
PlaceMakers, LLC

**PlaceMakers, LLC**  
5136 Sevilla Ave., NW  
Albuquerque NM 87120  
(204) 989-0217  
(204) 960-0100  
www.placemakers.com  
www.placeshakers.com



**Hazel Borys, Susan Henderson and Nathan Norrils** are founding members of the **Transect Codes Council**, a non-profit advisory panel serving the continued growth of open source, transect-based codes for planning and regulating our built and natural environments.





**RESOLUTION 12-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF TAOS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ENDORSING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN.**

**WHEREAS**, the Arts and Cultural District is eligible for a grant to develop a Downtown Master Plan; and

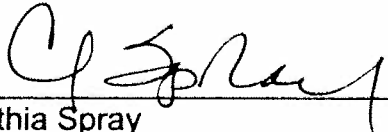
**WHEREAS**, the Historic Preservation Commission is dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the Taos Historic Overlay Zone, the Taos Downtown Historic District, the La Loma Plaza Historic District, and the Arts and Cultural District; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Historic Preservation Commission will dedicate time and technical assistance to the Town, the Arts and Cultural District Steering Committee, and the consultant team toward the completion of the Downtown Master Plan; and

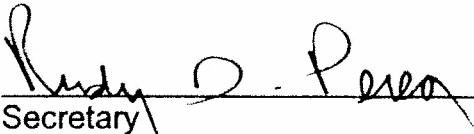
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Historic Preservation Commission endorses the application for grant funding and encourages the Town Council to approve the application.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED**, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012, by the Town of Taos Historic Preservation Commission.

**BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Spray  
Chairperson

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

February 14, 2012

Darren Cordova, Mayor  
Town of Taos  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova,

I am writing to offer my support for the Town of Taos' New Mexico MainStreet application for the development of a Downtown Master Plan. The community will greatly benefit from the Master Plan and will utilize the previous work already accomplished by the Arts and Cultural District.

As the Senior VP of Artpace, I am pleased to have been a part of the development of the innovative planning that may, in the future, include studio and live/work space for working artists in Taos. Artpace is a national nonprofit developer of affordable space for artists, arts organizations and creative businesses. We completed a Preliminary Feasibility Study and Arts Market Survey in 2011 and are looking forward to playing a continued role in helping your community create long-term, sustainable and affordable space for your creative workers. Your creative community truly defines who you are and is what visitors and residents talk about most in defining what is most special about Taos.

I would be happy to participate in the Master Plan and hope your proposal is selected for funding.

Best regards,



Wendy Holmes

Senior Vice President, Consulting and Strategic Partnerships



Mayor Darren Cordova  
400 Camino de la Placita  
Taos, NM 87571

Dear Mayor Cordova

I am writing in support of a grant for the Taos Arts and Cultural District for a Downtown Master Plan. As a business owner in the Historic District, I think a Master Plan would be a great idea for improving commerce downtown not just for locals but tourists also. Also, as an active member of the bicycling community I would like to volunteer to help increase the use and ease of cycling downtown. On behalf of Taos Cyclery, I want to offer my full support for the Town's application. I look forward to participating in this exciting project.

Thank You,  
Doug Pickett  
Owner Taos Cyclery