



November 16, 2017

Mayor Javier Gonzales
City of Santa Fe
200 Lincoln Avenue
Santa Fe, NM 87504-0909

Dear Mayor Gonzales,

The Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) is proud to present you the Climate Courage Award for your leadership endorsing climate actions as Mayor of Santa Fe, for spearheading the wonderful Verde Fund and for using your full term including these remaining months in office to make a difference locally in addressing this profound global challenge.

As Mayor of Santa Fe you have taken many meaningful steps to help mitigate the perils of human induced climate change including establishing the Climate Action Task Force and heeding many of its recommendations, signing the Compact of Mayors, putting your full support behind the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission 25 Year Plan to help our City achieve carbon neutrality by 2040, and becoming one of the places joining the US Climate Alliance to help achieve our common commitments to the Paris Accord, despite the Trump Administration's backward stances.

The Verde Fund is a bright and shining example of a policy that you conceived of and delivered on which deserves special commendation because it uplifts teamwork and climate solutions while empowering those in need. CCLI cares a lot about these intersecting values, we appreciate your dedication in implementing the Verde Fund and we stand with you as a partner to help ensure the longevity of this seminal public private partnership.

Bringing about genuine climate solutions involves many tasks (as summarized in our C Change Project at www.takeresponsibility.us) but one that is unmistakable is embracing the Electric Vehicle (EV) revolution along with a fully renewable energy electric grid. Together these integral steps will make gas cars and fossil fuel electricity obsolete within a generation. CCLI applauds you for supporting this vital movement. By supporting steps such as transitioning the City fleet towards Electric Vehicles you are reinforcing locally the global leap needed to engender a clean & healthy future. Soon - as solidarity and the practicality of alternatives unfold - we won't need to pollute our planet to get around nor will we need fossil fuels to run our economy.

Rather, like our City Different, we will emerge on a different path - one of responsibility, respect, integrity and innovation, creativity and common sense - the path of becoming sustainable on Earth. We thank you Mr. Mayor for the example you have set and the leadership you have shown in this new direction.

Sincerely,

Robb Hirsch
Executive Director & Founder