

City of Las Cruces®

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Council Action and Executive Summary

Item # 6Ordinance/Resolution# 14-091For Meeting of _____
(Ordinance First Reading Date)For Meeting of November 18, 2013
(Adoption Date)

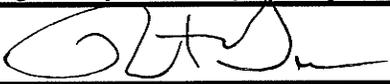
Please check box that applies to this item:

 QUASI JUDICIAL LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE

TITLE: A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE HISPANIC AND WOMEN FARMERS AND RANCHERS OF AMERICA AND ITS EFFORTS TO ENSURE PARITY BETWEEN CLAIMS PROCESSES PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

PURPOSE(S) OF ACTION:

To support parity between claims processes.

COUNCIL DISTRICT: N/A		
<u>Drafter/Staff Contact:</u> Harry S. (Pete) Connelly	<u>Department/Section:</u> Legal/City Attorney	<u>Phone:</u> (575) 541-2128
<u>City Manager Signature:</u>		

BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

Agriculture is an important component of the economy of Southern New Mexico, producing world famous chiles and providing jobs and economic stimulus. The United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") assists farmers and ranchers throughout the United States by administering loans. The Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers of America ("HWFRA") is an association that advocates for civil rights and provides technical assistance to farmers and ranchers for the organization, coordination, distribution and promotion of agricultural produce.

Members of the HWFRA grow produce for local, state, national and international markets and are dependent upon state and federal government resources for economic assistance. For decades, the HWFRA has submitted loan and funding applications to the USDA for irrigation projects, equipment purchases, crop insurance, taxes, and other similar assistance and, along with Native American and Black farmers, have routinely been ignored, denied and discriminated against in the accessible and equitable award or grant of federal monies to farmers and ranchers in the United States.

United States Senator Tom Udall and United States Senator Martin Heinrich are united in their efforts to ensure parity in the claims processes which affect the HWFRA.

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

1. Resolution.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Is this action already budgeted? N/A	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	See fund summary below
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	If No, then check one below:
	<i>Budget Adjustment Attached</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expense reallocated from: _____
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from a new revenue source (i.e. grant; see details below)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from fund balance in the _____ Fund.
Does this action create any revenue? N/A	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funds will be deposited into this fund: _____ in the amount of \$ _____ for FY _____.
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no new revenue generated by this action.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

N/A

FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:

Fund Name(s)	Account Number(s)	Expenditure Proposed	Available Budgeted Funds in Current FY	Remaining Funds	Purpose for Remaining Funds
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES:

1. Vote "Yes"; this will support the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers of America and their undertaking to ensure parity between claims processes for federal and state assistance.
2. Vote "No"; this will not support the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers of America and their undertaking to ensure parity between claims processes for federal and state assistance.
3. Vote to "Amend"; this could include further direction to staff.
4. Vote to "Table"; this could allow City Council to postpone consideration of the resolution.

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

REFERENCE INFORMATION:

The resolution(s) and/or ordinance(s) listed below are only for reference and are not included as attachments or exhibits.

N/A

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

RESOLUTION NO. 14-091**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE HISPANIC AND WOMEN FARMERS AND RANCHERS OF AMERICA AND ITS EFFORTS TO ENSURE PARITY BETWEEN CLAIMS PROCESSES PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

The City Council is informed that:

WHEREAS, agriculture is an important component of the economy in Southern New Mexico, producing world famous chiles and providing jobs and economic stimulus for our area; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") is charged with assisting farmers throughout the United States by administering loans; and

WHEREAS, the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers of America ("HWFRA") is an association that advocates for civil rights and provides technical assistance for the organization, coordination, distribution and promotion of agricultural produce; and

WHEREAS, the HWFRA grow produce for local, state, national and international markets and are dependent upon state and federal government resources for economic assistance; and

WHEREAS, HWFRA has for decades submitted loan and funding applications to the USDA for irrigation projects, equipment purchases, crop insurance, taxes, and other similar assistance and, along with Native American and Black farmers, have routinely been ignored, denied and discriminated against in the accessible and equitable award or grant of federal monies to farmers and ranchers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, United States Senator Tom Udall and United States Senator Martin Heinrich are united in their efforts to ensure parity in the claims processes which affect the HWFRA.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the governing body of the City of Las Cruces:

(I)

THAT the City Council supports the work of United States Senator Tom Udall and United States Senator Martin Heinrich in their efforts to ensure parity in the handling of claims processes which affect the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers of America.

(II)

THAT a copy of this Resolution shall be conveyed to the President of the United States and other appropriate elected and appointed officials as designated by members of the City Council.

(III)

THAT City staff is hereby authorized to do all deeds as necessary in the accomplishment of the herein above.

DONE AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2013.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(SEAL)

VOTE:

Mayor Miyagishima: _____

Councillor Silva: _____

Councillor Smith: _____

Councillor Pedroza: _____

Councillor Small: _____

Councillor Sorg: _____

Councillor Levatino: _____

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney