



Tim Keller, Mayor

## Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) – MINUTES

November 8, 2021 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM



### Committee Members Present

Richard Meadows (Chair); Dan Jensen; Nevarez Encinias

### Committee Members Absent

Josiah Hooten; Lanny Tanning

### Staff Members Present

Julie Luna (Bernalillo County); Debbie Bauman (CABQ DMD); Seth Tinkle (CABQ Long-Range Planning); Tara Cok (MRMPO); Aaron Sussman (BHI); Clare Haley (BHI); Cheryl Somerfeldt (CABQ Parks and Rec); Paula Dodge-Kwan (CABQ DMD); Petra Morris (CABQ Council Services); Tim Brown (CABQ DMD); Whitney Phelan (CABQ Parks and Rec)

### Visitors Present

Peter Rice (Downtown Albuquerque News); Diego Garcia (Together 4 Brothers); Alejandro Villezcas (Together 4 Brothers); Jamie Jung

### Richard Meadow called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM

### Approval of November Meeting Agenda

- *Dan J (motion); Navarez E (second) – approved unanimously*

### Approval of October Meeting Minutes

- *No official minutes from October due to lack of quorum*

### Discussion/Action Items

- Approval of past meeting minutes
  - *Richard M (motion); Dan J (second) – approved by majority*
- Approval of Resolution on I-25 Interchange Options
  - *Richard M (motion to approve); Dan J (second) – approved unanimously*
- Approval of Bikeway Evaluation Process methodology
  - Aaron S provided a review of bikeway evaluation criteria and methodology from December 2020 GABAC meeting.
  - *Dan J (motion to approve); Navy E (second) – approved unanimously*
  - Jamie J: Is the methodology presentation available on the website?
    - Aaron S: It is posted in the minutes for past meetings but will be posted on the resources page now that it has been approved.

**Next Meeting: Monday, December 13, 2021**



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### General Announcements / Meeting Format



### Public Comments (2 minute limit per audience member)

- No comments

### Presentations

- Alameda Drain Trail Update, Christina Sandoval, City of Albuquerque Parks & Recreation
  - Bernalillo County has completed phases 1 and 2 of the project from Paseo del Norte to Montañó Rd along Alameda Drain. The City is responsible for the trail from Montañó Rd to Mathew Ave. The trail will curve near Mathew Ave and continue to 4<sup>th</sup> St.
  - Project design is complete, and bidding will start tomorrow.
  - Section from 4<sup>th</sup> St to Griegos Lateral is at 90% design phase and is waiting for construction funding
  - There will be a new HAWK signal at 4<sup>th</sup> St where the existing median refuge is located
  - Working on making crossing improvements near Indian School Rd/Griegos Lateral. Interim improvements may be installed while construction funding is being procured.
  - Dan J: What would happen to the project if the bids are not within the affordability requirements?
    - Christina S: Depending on where the bids come in, the City may need to work with bidders if they are over budget.
    - Debbie: The bidding process can be slow and the City needs to get approval from the DOT. On-call contracts are usually an outlet for reducing the cost, but the City can't use on-calls for federally funded projects.
  - Dan J: Can you provide the committee with the bids this week?
    - Debbie B: The City can't share the bids until they are official.
    - Christina S: We can present at the next GAATC meeting with the results.
  - Dan J: Is there a place where the public can look for the records?
    - Christina: The City Clerk opens the bids, but for legal reasons the official bid winner will not be released until a decision has been made.
- City Bike Planning Initiatives, Clare Haley, BHI
  - Recap of Bike Thru Burque Week
    - Bike Thru Burque Week took place from October 9-17
    - BHI presented on event components and community partners
    - More than 25 businesses participated as sponsors and contributed more than \$3,500 in prizes plus \$1,300 in t-shirts

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- Bicycle and Trail Map Update
  - BHI is under contract to update the City bike map, which was last updated in 2020
  - Updates will include an updates bikeways map and revised narrative content and guidance
  - GAATC members were encouraged to help distribute the link; discussion took place as to whether copies of the survey should be printed but with no resolution
  - Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QHQ8V7P>
  - The intent is for the updated bike map to be ready in time for widespread distribution on Bike to Work Day
  - Richard M: Will the map be posted online?
    - A PDF of the map is available online. There has been discussion of creating an online interactive version.
  - Debbie B: Outreach should include tourist organizations

### Staff Reports

- Municipal Development (DMD)
  - Engineering (Debbie Bauman)
    - The bond passed and we will be going through the City's process to appropriate the money. Funding should be available in April or May.
    - Next month the committee needs to approve the meeting schedule for 2022.
    - We are still awaiting the announcement of the new Vision Zero Coordinator. The HR process should be wrapped up soon.
    - In spring 2022, DMD will present improvements to the Paseo del Norte corridor from Rainbow Blvd to Ventana Parkway. DMD will also present corridor studies for the McMahan Blvd and Unser Blvd road widening projects.
    - The City is about to open bids on the East Central Ave HAWK signal and restriping project.
    - Restriping Alexander Blvd will take place in the spring and will add bike lanes near the Montgomery Blvd interchange.
    - Richard: Any construction plans on West Central?
      - Debbie: We have federal funding for the north side of Central between Unser and 98<sup>th</sup>. The project will reconstruct the road and add bike and trail facilities, as well as ADA facilities. Construction may start near March 2023. We can present the designs in the January GAATC meeting.

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- Vision Zero (Tim Brown)
  - The City is trying out new safety features at the traffic signals on San Mateo Blvd and Montgomery Blvd. The City added reflective back plates to the signals to reduce red light running and crashes. Studies show these reduce crashes by 5%-10%. If the improvements are effective, the City will install them on new traffic signals and retrofit old ones.
  - The City is installing Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons at three middle schools. Delays in supply chain have been slowing the project down but they will hopefully be up in April before the end of the school year.
- Council Services (Petra Morris)
  - No updates, but there will be updates on e-bike policy drafts in December.
- Parks and Recreation (Whitney Phelan)
  - Final plans are ready to extend the trail near the Tom Bullock Urban Forest. Parks and Recreation is also working on e-bikes policies and talking internally about trail projects priorities.
  - Richard M: What is your process for evaluating projects?
    - Whitney P: Funding is limited and some of the remaining gaps are more difficult to implement due to ownership issues. GAATC can help by amplifying projects that will improve the transportation system.
    - Christina S: We will be using some of the GAATC evaluation tools, but some of the decision-making process is also political. There is also an evaluation study of trail conditions looking at 311 calls to determine maintenance needs.
- Planning (Seth Tinkle)
  - Long-range team is working through community planning area assessment projects. Near Heights rough draft was posted in mid-October and it is open for comment. Link: <https://cpa.abc-zone.com/near-heights-draft>
  - Southwest Mesa rough draft will be posted online in the next few weeks.
  - Last month Richard asked how information in the CPAs will be shared with decision-makers. Action Plans will include recommended priority projects and will be forwarded to City Council. Planning staff will then incorporate policy changes into the IDO and Comp Plan.
- Bernalillo County (Julie Luna)
  - List of county bicycle/pedestrian projects included in the attachment.
  - December GAATC meeting will include a presentation about the Isleta Drain Project.



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- MRCOG (Tara Cok)
  - A new data visualization tool that shows crash data from 2015-2019 will be available in a month. The website will include an updated High Fatal and Injury Network (HFIN) map and a separate bicycle/pedestrian HFIN map. MRMPO will let GAATC know when the map is available and can help demonstrate how to use it.
  - Jamie J: Thank you for providing a bicycle/pedestrian specific map. I also have feedback about how to make the online maps easier to use. An updated pdf in addition to the interactive map would make it easier to read for people with vision impairments. More clarity between the different colors or using different shapes/symbology instead of colors would help for color blindness.
- NMDOT District 3
  - No representative present

### Public Comment:

- Alejandro V: T4B did a walking/biking audit at CiQlovia in the International District. What is the status of improvements to biking infrastructure in the International District?
  - Aaron S: Feedback from CiQlovia will be incorporated into the Louisiana Blvd project. There may also be an opportunity to present T4B work at future GAATC meetings.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:26 PM**

**Next Meeting: December 13, 2021**