



**Transit Advisory Board**  
Thursday, October 13, 2022  
4:00pm-5:30 pm

In Person Meeting at  
Alvarado Transportation Center  
100 1<sup>st</sup> St SW  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Santa Fe Training/Conference Room  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Virtual Meeting (Online) Via ZOOM  
Meeting ID: 844 7026 0486  
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

**Members Present**

Christopher Ramirez, Chair (ZOOM); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Harris Balkin (ZOOM); Jennifer Layne Frederick (ZOOM); Ryan Lee Haack (ABSENT); Jennifer Jackson (ZOOM); Samuel Jensen, (ATC/ZOOM); Don McIver (ABSENT); Rikk Murphy (ATC/ZOOM); Patricia Salisbury, (ZOOM); Hal Simons (ZOOM); Jacqueline Smith, PTAB (ABSENT)

**Staff Members Present**

Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communications Specialist (ZOOM); Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM), Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM);

**Visitors Present**

Charles Davis (ZOOM); Patrick Martin (ZOOM) Peter Rice, Downtown Albuquerque News (ZOOM), Albert Lee (ZOOM); Jett Metcalf (ATC/ZOOM); Dionna Arellano, Constituent Service Rep (ZOOM), Walter Fazio (ZOOM), Theresa, TAS (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM); Sayid Hossaini (ZOOM); Rachel Swanteson-Franz, The Wilderness Society (ZOOM)

**Land Acknowledgement**

Chair Ramirez started meeting with a land acknowledgement. The City of Albuquerque is on indigenous land and referred to as Tiwa land. That is currently represented by Sandia and Isleta pueblos. We ask for permission and blessing for us to be here and serve the community.

**Call to Order**

Christopher Ramirez, Chair, began the meeting at 4:04pm.

**Approval of Agenda or Additions**

Chair Ramirez asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Rikk Murphy motioned to approve the agenda, Samuel Jensen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Rikk Murphy, Steve Pilon, Patricia Salisbury and Hal Simons. Harris Balkin- no response

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Ramirez asked for a motion to approve the September 8 minutes. Jenny Jackson motioned to approve the meeting minutes, Rikk Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Jackson, Rikk Murphy, Steve Pilon, Patricia Salisbury and Hal Simons. Samuel Jensen abstained. Harris Balkin- no response

**Public Comment** – *Reminder there is a 2 minute limit on Public Comment(s).*

Althea Atherton- I'm concerned about a partial repeal of zero fares program requiring passengers to have IDs.

Hal Simons: Maybe solution is a nominal fare.

**TAB Chairperson's Report – Christopher Ramirez, Chair**

Christopher Ramirez: City councilors who are proposing Legislation to repeal zero fares to add ID's are just adding a barrier. Today's meeting is focus on bus and bus stop maintenance and safety. City Councilors have misinformation about safety and security on buses and stops. Transit equity and mobility sovereignty that people most impacted can self-determine themselves how they move around Albuquerque in a way that promotes dignity and respect. I'm hoping we can make a good suggestion to Council about moving forward with zero fares and community safety plan.

There are upcoming community meetings, focus groups and surveys for current Network Study. I encourage everyone to participate.

**Director's Report-Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director**

Bobby Sisneros: *Shared screen on Zero Fares report* <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/our-department/reports>  
Zero Fares report is also on our Transit page, Total August ridership 589,100, 16.34% increase in ridership. Total Fixed Route Ridership FY19 to FY23, Ridership by route, Sun van Ridership FY23 16,343 passengers, Sun Van Applications continue to climb. Security calls by Location and Types, Updates and costs incurred: Maintenance and Operating costs.

Jenny Jackson: What the costs are relative to number of riders? Can we see maintenance costs of rider's pre-pandemic vs now? Can we survey drivers and security on free fares?

Bobby Sisneros: I'd have to look into that maintenance cost per rider. UNM is currently doing a study/survey on drivers.

Steve Pilon: Regarding maintenance cost divide calls by number of people on lines

Samuel Jensen: What does maintenance costs cover? How are those costs divided?

Leslie Keener: Total maintenance cost. It would be tough to break it down.

Christopher Ramirez: We've never see data on age of fleet, might be helpful to see. Total fleet?

Leslie Kenner: Total fleet 245 with buses and vans combined

Steve Pilon: Has fleet been aging drastically in last year? Can we have an average age of fleet to help normalize repair cost?

**Information Items:**

Christopher Ramirez: *shared screen website* <https://trimet.org/publicsafety/>

Trimet in Portland has a Transit community safety program.

Suggested using transit ambassadors, using de-escalation training in buses and at bus stops.

Leslie Keener: We have 5 bus stop maintenance workers responsible for 630 bus shelters, 5 Park n Rides, 19 ART stations and 2,100 stops. We trying to actively hire in that department. We respond to 311 calls as we get them. We appreciate everything they do. We have cameras at all of our facilities and ART platforms, in process of getting cameras at Uptown. All buses have cameras. They are tied into Real Time Crime Center (RTCC),

but are not monitored at all times. APD or Security has to call in an incident happening for RTCC to actively look at the camera.

Christopher Ramirez: How does metro security process data for safety and incident reports?

Leslie Keener: We'd have to bring Metro security on to answer that question.

Heading Home report is extremely preliminary findings suggest it would be beneficiary to have social workers on buses, but there is not any plan put in place yet.

Steve Pilon: How many slots filled to be filled for cleaning stops? Do drivers have a button to push to activate RTCC?

Leslie Kenner: Budgeted for 11 bus stop maintenance workers. Buses have panic button that goes to our dispatch.

Hal Simons: Target sponsors Uptown bus stop, what did sponsorship get them and what are their responsibilities to maintain it.

Bobby Sisneros: Adopt a Stop program will review cleaning supplies and training how to safely use products. Dwayne Baker oversees that program.

Christopher Ramirez: There is a difference between Adopt a Stop and naming of ART station.

Bobby Sisneros: We used to sell sponsorship to different rapid ride stations to help raise money for operations.

Dionna Arellano: Target has not adopted Uptown bus stop, but it's encouraged that they do.

Leslie Keener: *responding to Patricia's question in chat*

We'll have to have Union agreements in place for contracted workers.

Harris Balkin: Drivers have been using reversible lane quite a bit and that will help decrease concerns I've had.

Samuel Jensen: Is there a system in place to replace worn out signs?

Bobby Sisneros: The new signs we've put out as a test to make sure they are visible. We're hoping to start replacing all signs in spring.

### **Action Items**

Christopher Ramirez: *shared screen City of Albuquerque Transit Equity Day Resolution  
TAB members reviewed and made changes during meeting  
Resolution pertains to community safety plan*

***WHEREAS*** *building an equitable and effective public transit system requires that all people, especially transit dependent bus riders, feel safe and comfortable using it; and*

***WHEREAS*** *community safety on buses and bus stops must include allocating funding resources from city, county, state, federal and community partner sources; authentic community engagement; cleaning and maintenance; data; infrastructure (benches, information, ramps, shelters, sidewalks, streetlights and more); social workers; training for conflict resolution, de-escalation and intervention; and solutions other than law enforcement or security; and*

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Albuquerque Transit Advisory Board (TAB) supports the City of Albuquerque to create a Transit Equity and Community Safety Plan by December 2022 with approaches (including some of those listed above) other than law enforcement or security; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED** the city and Transit Department should co-create the Transit Equity & Community Safety Plan with a broad group of city, bus riders, Transit staff and community organizations; and

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the City of Albuquerque Transit Advisory Board (TAB) certifies this resolution and will share the resolution with the mayor and city councilors.

Community Safety Plan Resolution-voice approved

Harris Balkin-yes

Jennifer Frederick- yes

Jenny Jackson- yes

Samuel Jensen- yes

Rikk Murphy-yes

Steve Pilon- yes

Hal Simons- left meeting at 5:37pm

Patricia Salisbury- left meeting at 4:54pm

*No quorum to continue with Zero Fares Resolution review*

**Second Round of Public Comment** (Reminder there is a 2 minute limit on Public Comment(s)).

Patrick Martin: Does the cost of zero fares include the savings of not dealing with fare machines?

### **Adjournment**

Meeting ended at 5:41 pm

**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 10, 2022; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person**

### **Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting**

00:02:34 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Rikk Murphy at ATC  
00:02:42 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Samuel Jensen at ATC  
00:03:01 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Jett Metcalf at ATC  
00:10:01 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Margaret Lucero  
00:10:11 Charles Davis: Charles Davis, Assistant City Attorney  
00:10:13 Bobby Sisneros (ABQ RIDE): Bobby Sisneros, ABQ RIDE  
00:10:14 Dionna Arellano (she/her): Dionna A - Mayor's Office  
00:10:15 Althea May Atherton (they/them): Althea May Atherton- I am a board member of the Victory Hills Neighborhood Association and the recently-appointed chair of the District 6 Coalition Transportation Committee  
00:10:28 Rachel Swanteson-Franz: Rachel Swanteson-Franz w/ The Wilderness Society  
00:10:35 Mike Davis (ABQ Ride): Mike Davis, ABQ Ride  
00:10:36 Megan Holcomb: Megan Holcomb, Public Information Officer at the Transit Department  
00:10:39 tas: I'm Theresa I'm an ABQRide transit rider  
00:10:41 Sayid M Hossaini: Sayid Hossaini w/together for brothers  
00:10:42 Peter Rice / Downtown Albuquerque News: Peter Rice, Downtown Albuquerque News

00:15:36 Jennifer Frederick - ECHO Admin Support: Jennifer Frederick - coming in late - my apologies  
00:15:40 tas: The minutes are not available at <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/advisory-boards>  
00:16:07 Hal Simons: Hal Simons - Transit Rider  
00:16:09 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: They are added to website after they are approved  
00:17:55 Albert Lee: Albert Lee, Sustainable Transportation Specialist, Environmental Health Department, City of Albuquerque  
00:18:14 tas: It is more convenient to not have to pay since ABQRide buses don't have tap passes  
00:21:45 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: [abqrideforward.com](http://abqrideforward.com)  
00:32:53 tas: That's an excellent question. What do the bus drivers' think of the free ride program?  
00:39:00 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: <https://trimet.org/publicsafety/>  
00:41:24 Althea May Atherton (they/them): This ambassador program is incredible, I really hope we can make something like it happen here.  
00:43:02 Jennifer Frederick - ECHO Admin Support: Portland is a great city to liaison with - and they have great ideas excellent  
00:45:44 Patricia salisbury: Could maintenance services be contracted?  
00:47:32 Patricia salisbury: The board has always endorsed free transit.  
00:49:36 Patricia salisbury: special attention must be given to the coors/ central bus stop. people live with all their belongings and shopping g carts there!  
00:53:54 Patricia salisbury: ART needs to stop at winrock!! it gods through win rock but does not stop. ART stops only at uptown and in front of target  
00:55:00 Patricia salisbury: I have to leave the meeting. now. So sorry!  
01:00:16 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GAhuddM8vTjuIbqu7WIRjvTLdz5PRXP-MICrBUzClhk/edit?usp=sharing>  
01:06:13 Patrick Martin: does TAB rules have "division of the question"?  
01:07:54 Althea May Atherton (they/them): I am a member of the public and not a board member but I think that Zero Fare is a big part of the safety picture so if I were on the board, I would advocate for it to be in one resolution.  
01:10:38 Patrick Martin: (in some orgs it's possible to hold a vote on including or removing a subset of a resolution before final passage is why I ask)  
01:11:39 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: TRANSIT EQUITY & COMMUNITY SAFETY RESOLUTION  
01:11:49 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HLq4jPJ7iqp-aU5ut73obbcvXhHnlFreggF4SvgBed4/edit?usp=sharing>  
01:20:31 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HLq4jPJ7iqp-aU5ut73obbcvXhHnlFreggF4SvgBed4/edit?usp=sharing>  
01:21:25 Patrick Martin: regarding asking the state for money, it's worth remembering also that according to an nmsu report that between 2015 and 2019 people in Bernalillo county paid a total of about \$600 million more per year to the state than the state spent on BernCo  
01:22:01 Steve Pilon: Thanks for that info Patrick  
01:22:13 Patrick Martin: link to that report: <https://www.nmcounties.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/New-Mexico-Revenue-Expenditure-Study.pdf>  
01:33:40 Steve Pilon: I apologize, but I must leave the meeting at this time. Thanks to all for a great meeting.  
01:35:37 Jenny Jackson: I've got to leave.  
01:36:44 Dionna Arellano (she/her): I have to run. Thanks everyone for all of your hard work!  
01:38:14 Bobby Sisneros (ABQ RIDE): Sorry i have to go folks.  
01:39:49 tas: Yes the fare machines are problematic  
01:42:28 tas: Thank you