



Transit Advisory Board
Thursday, November 13, 2023
4:00pm-5:30 pm

In Person Meeting at
Alvarado Transportation Center
100 1st St SW
2nd Floor, Mercer Conference Room Albuquerque, NM
87102

Virtual Meeting (Online) Via ZOOM
Meeting ID: 878 6385 2590
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

Samuel Jensen, Chair (ABSENT); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM/ATC) Jennifer Layne Frederick (ZOOM); Ben Garland (ZOOM); Michael Patrick Martin (ZOOM); Jett Metcalf (ZOOM); Katherine Sullivan (ZOOM)

Staff Members Present

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

Visitors Present

Jason (ATC/ZOOM); Peter Rice (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); TAS (ZOOM); Richard Meadows (ZOOM); Ann Sullivan (ZOOM); Jamal Davis (ZOOM); Sayid Hossaini (ZOOM); Jesus Hernandez (ZOOM); Michael Devin (ZOOM) Aiden Ortiz (ZOOM); Kelsey Atherton (ZOOM)

Land Acknowledgement

Steve started meeting with a land acknowledgement reflecting on the fact that Albuquerque and New Mexico sits on unseeded, indigenous land and indigenous people still comprise over 14% of the population of our State. That population faces many disparities that are disproportionate compared to other populations of New Mexico. Through this committee, I'd like to work towards equity for all people in the State, including indigenous people and honor their stewardship of this land.

Call to Order

Steve Pilon, Vice Chair, began the meeting at 4:01pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Vice Chair Pilon asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Patrick Martin motioned to approve the agenda, Althea Atherton 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Jennifer Layne Frederick, Patrick Martin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Pilon asked for a motion to approve the October 12 meeting minutes. Althea Atherton motioned to approve October 12 meeting minutes, Patrick Martin 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Jennifer Layne Frederick, Patrick Martin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

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

No public comment

TAB Chairperson's Report – Steve Pilon, Vice Chair

No update from Vice-Chair

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: Thank you to Jett and Althea for helping out with Ride Appreciation Day. Zero Fares passed. Focusing on security, cleanliness and driver and mechanic new hires. Shared September ridership numbers 595,009 riders, 16.9% increase. We had two hiring events on October 17 and 27. They were very successful. We had 76 conditional offers. We had some overfill on Sunvan, It looks like we're going to have a good dent in vacancy rates. Schedule changes that went into effective on October 14 seems to be successful, we're not have missed service. First pilot Gillig CNG buses arrived last week. They'll be doing pre-delivery inspections and wraps. We are working with a contractor to do some onsite washing on the outside of the buses. There is some talk about them also doing the inside. Bus stop signage on 66 will be fabricated and replaced by February. We'll work on it piece by piece.

Steve Pilon: How many drivers will we be short after you've got the new hires in?

Leslie Keener: 60-70 vacancy. We're not stopping with the hiring events. We have 14 mechanic vacancies. We're working with Intellitech College for mechanics.

Patrick Martin: How long are Sunvan applications good for? Is having 50 vacancies enough for having normal service?

Mike Davis: Applications are good for 3 years.

Leslie Keener: We're still talking trough the service portion and how to bring it back. We'll continue to keep you posted.

Ben Garland: Has self-certification application put a strain on Sun Van?

Mike Davis: We are predicting ridership to go up in Sunvan and we are watching that closely.

Althea Atherton: Where does ABQ Ride Forward Network study stand?

Leslie Keener: We received Phase II Public engagement, we're going through the process deciding where we're going to land.

Information Items:

Shared screed Recent Drug Testing Rules Updates for Transit Agencies presentation, by Althea Atherton, Ann Sullivan and Jamal Davis.

See link next to November 2023 minutes to download presentation Recent Drug Testing Rules Updates for Transit Agencies

Action Items

Althea shared screen on Oral Fluid Drug Testing for Transit Employees and Applications Resolution, changes were made by TAB Members.

Althea motioned to pass amended Oral Fluid Drug Testing for Transit Employees and Applications Resolution, Patrick 2nd the motion. The motion was voted yes and approved by Althea Atherton, Jennifer Layne Frederick, Patrick Martin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

See link next to November 2023 minutes to download Oral Fluid Drug Testing for Transit Employees and Applications Resolution

Althea shared screen on Letter to Secretary Xavier Becerra, US Department of Health & Human Services, changes were made by TAB members.

See link next to November 2023 minutes to download Letter to Secretary Xavier Becerra.

Steve Pilon asked for a motion to approve letter. Althea motioned to approve amended Letter to Secretary Xavier Becerra, Patrick 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Jennifer Layne Frederick, Patrick Martin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

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

Patrick: 157 route service change to Air Force base is great.

Steve Pilon: Is there a pilot program to use Sunvan on fixed routes?

Leslie Keener: It's Micro transit. We've been doing some research and hope to share more information in the future.

Jett Metcalf: Zero Fares is huge news!! I'm happy to see it continue.

Ben Garland: New addition to pin curbs in the ART lane are awesome.

Leslie Keener: They're going to help advance the safety of our buses.

Althea Atherton: I attended an impact conference and had really good and creative conversations about having an alternative customer service presence or help aid on the buses. I want to start working towards that.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:16pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 14, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:01:29 Jennifer Frederick: Hi Guys! Not well today will be on audio – and want everyone to know how excited I am about the permanent Zero Fares – a great move for our city! Yay! Jennifer Frederick

00:01:43 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Thank you

00:01:47 Althea May Atherton: Reacted to "Hi Guys! Not well t..." with ♥

00:02:18 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "Hi Guys! Not well t..." with ♥

00:16:59 Jett Metcalf - TAB: Wow, great numbers! Good job all ABQ Ride staff!

00:17:08 Jennifer Frederick: Reacted to "Wow, great numbers! ..." with ♥

00:17:16 Althea May Atherton: Reacted to "Wow, great numbers! ..." with ♥

00:18:37 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "Wow, great numbers! ..." with ♥

00:22:57 Jennifer Frederick: I want to put out that before the change in the schedule, which I will admit I was dismayed to see the bus frequency go down - but I have had some rides since and the reliability of my trips have increased - so I have to say - that was a good plan.

00:23:18 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Reacted to "I want to put out th..." with ♥

00:23:25 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Reacted to "Wow, great numbers! ..." with ♥

00:23:38 Althea May Atherton: Replying to "I want to put out th..."

I had a similar experience- I hate to see a drop in frequency but I haven't been ghosted by the bus yet

00:23:41 Althea May Atherton: Reacted to "I want to put out th..." with ♥

00:23:55 Jennifer Frederick: Replying to "I want to put out th..."



00:52:04 Patrick Martin: I think since we are currently two certifications away from being noncompliant with federal rules, keeping the BIFR is fine

00:55:21 Patrick Martin: agreed, that's also the thing that requires the most action imo

01:17:03 tass: Thank you