



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, February 9, 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: 830 1896 2855

Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

Samuel Jensen, Chair (ATC/ZOOM); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Jennifer Layne Frederick (ZOOM); Ben Garland (ZOOM); Jennifer Jackson (ZOOM); Michael Patrick Martin (ZOOM); Jett Metcalf (ATC/ZOOM); Don McIver (ZOOM); Rikk Murphy (ATC/ZOOM); Joseph Perez (ZOOM); Hal Simons (ABSENT); Katherine Sullivan (ZOOM)

Staff Members Present

Carrie Barkhurst, Senior Planner (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Andrew DeGarmo, Principal Planner (ZOOM), Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communications Specialist (ZOOM); Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Lawrence Kline, Principal Planner (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM), Chris Payton, Associate Director (ZOOM); Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Amanda Trujillo, Customer Service Supervisor (ZOOM)

Visitors Present

Charles Davis (ZOOM); Peter Rice (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); Theresa, TAS (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM); Christopher Ramirez, T4B (ZOOM); Steven Pan, (ZOOM); J. Formain (ZOOM); (505-220-5171); Kelsey Walker, Toole Design (ZOOM); Aaron Sussman, Toole Design (ZOOM)

Land Acknowledgement

Samuel 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

Samuel Jensen, Chair, began the meeting at 4:02pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Jett Metcalf motioned to approve the agenda, Don McIver 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Michael Patrick Martin, Don McIver, Jett Metcalf, Rikk Murphy, Joseph Perez, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the January 12 meeting minutes. Rikk Murphy motioned to approve the meeting minutes, Jett Metcalf 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Michael Patrick Martin, Don McIver, Jett Metcalf, Rikk Murphy, Joseph Perez, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan

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

Christopher Ramirez: I witnessed black male bus rider being harassed by a white security guard on the bus. De-escalating is not being done with security. Seems driver did not help situation. More training needs to be done with drivers and security. Thank you to Leslie and Bobby for responding quickly to incident.

Althea Atherton: Bus Rider Union on 4th Friday of the month at 3:30pm.

Jett Metcalf: Received many comments from Associate Dean of students at UNMH regarding changes to 790 bus routes. We need to serve as many people from all parts as we can.

TAB Chairperson’s Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

Samuel Jensen: Leslie can you respond to Christopher’s comment and 790 comments in Director’s report? What changes have been made and next steps to route changes?

Information Items:

Aaron Sussman: *shared screen on ABQ RIDE Forward Network Plan: Phase 1 Engagement Summary, see presentation at <https://abqrideforward.com/reports-documents/>*

Andrew DeGarmo: These are concepts that we could implement with our current resources. They are not proposals, they’re illustrations of what is possible with our current resources. What we want to hear from the public is where on the spectrum we should be?

Steve Pilon: We have a set of resources, like sun vans, that we can use to serve.

Patrick Martin: What would it look like if each spectrum contributed an idea for a middle ground?

Ben Garland: What would expect to see new service go in operation?

Andrew DeGarmo: 1 ½ years from now

Jett Metcalf: Are there comparisons that we can look at in other cities?

Andrew DeGarmo: That is not in JWA scope.

Samuel Jensen: Does JWA have any feedback from Tucson’s study? Existing Conditions Report pointed out we spend less per person in Transit than our peer cities. Seems like a missed opportunity to not make that front and center of the Existing Conditions Report.

Lawrence Kline: Shared Screen and presented *Transforming the Uptown Transit Center into a Joint Use Development*

We have two sites today, transit center and Nusenda. This will turn into three projects; north Project-Joint Development; Transit Plaza- private market rate housing, micro retail, pub, transit surface; South Project-TOD, not part of the federal interest, privately funded. Our next big task is the RAISE Grant application goes in on February 28. All the work products including the Development Agreement submitted to FTA as part of the Formal Joint Development Application. If successful, ground is planned to be broken in summer of 2024.

Action Items:

Samuel Jensen asked for any questions, comments or edits from TAB members on Letter of Support for FTA for Uptown Project.

Jenny Jackson: shared screen and made minor edits and corrections with TAB members.

Samuel Jensen asked for a motion to approve Support Letter. Jett Metcalf moved to approved, Rikk Murphy 2nd.

The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Michael Patrick Martin, Don McIver, Jett Metcalf, Rikk Murphy, Joseph Perez, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan

Uptown Support letter approved.

Director’s Report: Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: Zero Fares December report *zero fares report on ridership, maintenance, operating, marketing costs and updates*. <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/our-department/reports>

Council passed legislation O-22-47 on Monday, February 6. Zero Fares was extended to September 30, 2023. I appreciate Christopher for reaching out on the incident. We did address that issue once we heard and saw video. Metro Security and our MCO’s have done de-escalating training. Sun Van drivers will start their training soon.

Andrew DeGarmo: Regarding 790 route, we want to make sure he have coverage. Changes we are proposing to make is reducing frequency. There is not a strong peak hours on 790, we have good data on ridership with passenger counters. Suspending the 790 we are not leaving anyone completely stranded, every single stop on 790 is served by a route. We had proposals to reduce service on Central/ Route 66. We are going to continue to propose the 790 be suspended. Other adjustments on San Mateo 140 & 141 route to add service during peak hours. Comments about some routes we were ending too early; so we’re adding a later trip in evening on route 35 and 1.

Chris Payton: 5 Electric buses, in 8th month of running them. We have about 1 bus a month that has been giving us trouble. Range of buses traveling 70-75 mile/day. Winter months have less miles because they’re working a little harder. We have electric buses on routes 155, 31, 11. We are applying for additional funding, sue in April, for Low-No from FTA for 20 electric buses and on route chargers.

Steve Pilon: What is the comparison to CNG or diesel buses?

Chris Payton: We are only running them at 75 miles per day so they don’t get stranded. We hope to get them moving along further as we have more reliability and consistency with them.

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

No public comment

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:37 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:00:40	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant:	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant, Transit @ ATC
00:00:58	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant:	Sam Jensen , TAB Chair @ ATC
00:01:02	Althea Atherton:	Althea Atherton, Together for Brothers Bus Rider Organizer
00:01:18	Charles Davis:	Charles Davis, Assistant City Attorney

00:01:22 Patrick Martin: Patrick Martin, TAB member online

00:01:32 Don McIver: Don McIver, TAB Member Online

00:01:34 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Jett Metcalf, TAB @ ATC

00:01:53 Andrew de Garmo (ABQ RIDE): Andrew de Garmo, ABQ RIDE principal planner

00:02:01 Mike Davis (ABQ Ride): Mike Davis, ABQ Ride Deputy Director

00:02:15 tas: Good Afternoon

00:02:18 Bobby Sisneros (ABQ RIDE): Bobby Sisneros, ABQ RIDE Deputy Director

00:02:19 Chris Payton - Transit: Chris Payton, ABQ Ride Associate Director

00:04:05 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Albert Lee, Sustainable Transportation Specialist, Environmental Health Department

00:04:08 Jennifer Frederick: Jennifer Frederick TAB

00:05:38 Peter Rice / Downtown Albuquerque News: Peter Rice / Downtown Albuquerque News

00:05:44 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Christopher Ramirez, Together for Brothers

00:05:49 Kelsey Walker, Toole Design: Kelsey Walker, Toole Design

00:05:50 Aaron Sussman: Aaron Sussman, Toole Design Group

00:05:52 Amanda Trujillo: Amanda Trujillo - Customer Service Supervisor Transit

00:06:13 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Rikk Murphy, TAB @ ATC

00:10:46 Joseph Perez: Yes

Approval of Agenda

00:11:05 Joseph Perez: Yes

Approval of Minutes

00:12:32 tas: De-escalation training would be valuable for security and drivers. (For ABQ police as well)

00:12:55 Althea Atherton: <https://bit.ly/zerofaressurvey>, Althea@togetherforbrothers.org

00:26:58 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: The on board survey is that more than 75% of bus riders have a household income of less than \$25,000 which is very different from survey respondents

00:34:18 Carrie: Excellent observation, that is one reason we reported out the in-person results separately. Of the 600 in person responses, 55% were under \$25,000 income and there was also much higher rates of daily riders.

00:35:29 Althea Atherton: Will this slideshow be available on the ABQ Ride Forward website?

00:44:11 Althea Atherton: thank you!

00:44:52 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Albuquerque Bus Rider Union (ABRU) is also excited to host Aaron at the next meeting to share the information and opportunities for next steps for bus riders

00:46:34 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Reacted to "Excellent observatio..." with 👍

00:46:40 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Replying to "Excellent observatio..."

Thanks Carrie

00:47:10 Althea Atherton: Reacted to "Excellent observatio..." with 👍

00:51:09 Kelsey Walker, Toole Design: Patrick, are you describing a map/concept where service (bus hours) is distributed proportionally based on density? i.e., areas with more people/residents get more service

00:52:41 Patrick Martin: Replying to "Patrick, are you des..."

Yes, that's a simpler explanation haha

00:52:48 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Agreed Samuel! We need a bigger investment in transit.

01:11:03 Jennifer Frederick: no questions but I agree with this plan and have seen similar projects achieve the goals you are talking about

01:13:00 tas: More housing near a transit hub (such as Uptown) is an excellent idea.
01:14:11 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Would encourage Lawrence and Transit to get the Affordable Housing Coalition to support this project.
01:19:37 Patrick Martin: (I hope we can get a similar development in the walmart lot ☐)
01:20:13 Althea Atherton: That's a great idea Patrick- ideally with a grocery store to make it less of a food desert
01:21:09 Althea Atherton: We need both housing and grocery services in that corner of Southeast
01:25:29 Steven Pan: So will the two concepts be posted to the abgrideforward website before or after the 2/23 meeting?
01:26:18 Patrick Martin: How is the current status of driver and mechanic hiring?
01:26:37 Steven Pan: Also is there any push to make it easier to walk among the four quadrants of uptown? Sprinting across an eight lane stroad from ABQ shopping center to Coronado center is not...ideal
01:29:56 Leslie Keener: Hiring - drivers and mechanics we are still relatively flat at this point.
01:30:43 Leslie Keener: working on a mentoring program, changing our training program, focusing on re-training initiatives, and building relationships with potential feeder training centers for the mechanics
01:32:12 Carrie: Steven, yes, Municipal Development is working on pedestrian enhancements at Louisiana and Indian School Rd. intersection to shorten the crossing distance and adding a HAWK signal on the east side of Louisiana
01:32:42 Steven Pan: Also same issue with walking to uptown transit center. With the project discussed in the meeting today it'd be good to be easier to walk to UTC
01:32:55 Steven Pan: Ok thanks Carrie!
01:34:29 Patrick Martin: Do we still have the issues with going up hills?
01:34:57 Andrew de Garmo (ABQ RIDE): Replying to "So will the two conc..."

JWA is finalizing the report that will accompany the concepts. We'll post that the week of 2/20, shooting for 2/21.

01:35:46 Steven Pan: Replying to "So will the two conc..."

Oh ok, thanks Andrew!

01:37:19 Althea Atherton: Here's the updated link to register for the Albuquerque Bus Riders Union's February 24th meeting: bit.ly/abru2023. Feel free to email me at Althea@togetherforbrothers.org if you have any questions