



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, March 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: 884 8725 0935

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

Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

Carrie Barkhurst, Senior Planner (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communications Specialist (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM), Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Dwayne Baker, Data Specialist (ATC/ZOOM)

Visitors Present

Peter Rice (ZOOM); Theresa, TAS (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ATC/ZOOM); Christopher Ramirez, T4B (ZOOM); Aaron Sussman, Toole Design (ZOOM), Michelle Poyourow, Jarrett Walker & Associates (ZOOM); Jesus Hernandez (ZOOM); Diverse IT (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 4:03pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Patrick Martin 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, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the February 9 meeting minutes. Patrick Martin 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, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

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

Althea Atherton: Would like introduce a City of Albuquerque 2023 Transit Budget Equity Resolution at the next meeting.

Christopher Ramirez: We would like to ask the City to increase budget by 10 million with the help of the Bernalillo County, State and Federal Government, to address driver pay, service, zero fares and rider engagement. (*Resolution in chat*)

TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

No update from Chair

Information Items:

Michelle Poyourow: *shared screen on ABQ RIDE Forward Network Plan: Phase 2 Network Concepts, see presentation at <https://abqrideforward.com/reports-documents/>*

High Ridership Concept or High Coverage Concept

In early stages of Phase 2 Public Engagement

Don McIver: Are 2 examples showing on extreme on or in middle of continuum?

Michelle Poyourow: 100% Ridership purpose concept, Coverage concept is as far as the city could move. They are both implementable, same amount of buses and budget. Credible extremes.

Patrick Martin: Is there difficulties getting onto Sandia National Laboratories?

Michelle Poyourow: We cannot run a route through there and because it has to be end of a route and it has to justify a route all by itself, it's not a big enough dense location to do that.

Carrie Barkhurst: With gates redesigned it's harder to get buses through and checking ID's.

Samuel Jensen: If more funding was increased, it wouldn't be so challenging expanding service. How difficult would it be to add service back into those areas that were cut off? Could service be spread out more thinly on the weekends?

Patrick Martin: Is City in contact regarding zoning code?

Carrie Barkhurst: City Council is working on updating Comprehensive plan and will take it out to public at the end of the year.

Michelle Poyourow: What is the transit network and fund to make comp plans succeed?

Ben Garland: We need to start thinking about how we can help people get to the bus stops.

Steve Pilon: There was discussion of using Sun Vans on demand using in areas being deprived of service.

Michelle Poyourow: There is demand response service in coverage concept in low dense ridership areas.

Director's Report: Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director

Bobby Sisneros: January ridership is delayed. March 6 Council meeting approved proposed service suspensions. Suspensions will be in effect March 25, see CABQ, transit website for details.

Samuel Jensen: What is transit proposing in budget?

Bobby Sisneros: We present a budget to Administration, Administrations and Council will make additions and subtractions, then back to the department which might look totally different from what was initially submitted.
Patrick Martin: Is driver salary set by Transit or by Council?

Bobby Sisneros: Transit has to present to administration.

Steve Pilon: We missed an opportunity vote for State Legislation money for bus system.

Ben Garland: Are you following up with MCO applications?

Bobby Sisneros: Our Marketing and HR team follow up.

Bobby Sisneros: Zero Fare Evaluation report, Post-Zero fare project study, Paratransit Self-Certification implementation plan, Short Range Tactical Security Plan, Long Range Security Program, Security Incident Tracking. Research request on bus stop station safety and program strategy for transit operations personnel. Each have a list of technical advisory teams incorporated.

Samuel Jensen: Any opportunities for TAB members to be involved on Tech teams?

Bobby Sisneros: Yes, if any TAB members interested please let TAB chair know.

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

Althea Atherton: ABRU meeting on March 17 at 2:30pm

Dwayne Baker: I'd like to make a presentation on the Adopt-A –Stop program at one of the TAB meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:30 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 13, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:00:33 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Margaret Lucero, ABQ Ride @ ATC
00:00:54 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Althea Atherton, T4B @ ATC
00:02:30 tas: Good Afternoon. I hope all are well
00:10:29 Peter Rice / Downtown Albuquerque News: Peter Rice, Downtown Albuquerque News
00:12:45 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: WHEREAS transit is a human right and public good, and transit equity is identified as the community members most impacted, transit dependent bus riders, having access to transportation they need, and unequal access to public transit based on age, disability, gender, income and race have persisted to this day with cuts in public funding for transit and subsequent fare increases in many transit systems; and

WHEREAS The City of Albuquerque invests in public transit at lower rates than our peer cities and has a unique opportunity to address these inequities during the ABQ Ride Forward system redesign initiative knowing cities such as Houston, Texas have received more equitable redesign plans by investing more into their systems during this process; and

WHEREAS the City of Albuquerque is currently facing a driver shortage impacting services; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the “Transit Advisory Board” joins the Albuquerque Bus Rider Union (ABRU) and others and supports the call for the City of Albuquerque to increase the transit

budget for fiscal year 2024 by \$10 million with a priority to Zero Fares, driver pay, community safety, transit user engagement and a vision plan for our network redesign with fewer compromises to coverage and ridership; and

FURTHER RESOLVED the city will engage community to seek additional funds from county, state and federal sources to match a city investment of at least \$2.5 million; and

FURTHER RESOLVED the city and Transit Department continue to focus on racial, economic and other inequities in access to public transit and the need for free and accessible transit with the mayor and city council to include Zero Fares in the city's FY24 budget; and

FURTHER RESOLVED the community understands the need for a "vision plan" as part of the Albuquerque Ride Forward initiative to show what kind of transit system our city could have with stronger investment; and

FURTHER RESOLVED the city and Transit Department invest in transit user engagement including authentic community input, supporting the co-creating of a transit user "bill of rights", collaborating with transit user organizations and also engage accessible and multilingual information AND outreach about public transit in English as well as other languages including but not limited to Arabic, Dari, Diné, Mandarin, Spanish, Swahili and Vietnamese; and

FINALLY FURTHER RESOLVED the city and Transit Department also support community safety, driver pay and compensation, frequency and routes in transit dependent neighborhoods, equitable transit infrastructure including cleaning, improving and maintenance of bus stops in transit dependent communities and clean, electric and low-emission buses and vans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the "Transit Advisory Board" certifies this resolution and will share the resolution with the mayor and city councilors.

00:13:03 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: [Link to the resolution — https://docs.google.com/document/d/15D-vJj2IVxTlyI2WdHRT_VO4y1q6UX0BkHbHC9Vi0Kc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15D-vJj2IVxTlyI2WdHRT_VO4y1q6UX0BkHbHC9Vi0Kc/edit?usp=sharing)

00:14:13 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: althea@togetherforbrothers.org

00:14:36 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: althea@togetherforbrothers.org

00:17:17 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: Just a reminder too that we have stipends (gift cards) for transit dependent bus riders who want to participate in community meeting and focus groups for the ABQ Ride Forward.

00:18:19 Christopher (he or they) Tiwa Lands - Albuquerque: We can definitely include that Jenny.

00:19:44 Jenny Jackson: Reacted to "We can definitely in..." with 👍

00:36:59 Ben Garland [TAB]: If anybody wants to learn more about this stuff, read the book Human Transit. The ABQ library has it. If you're thinking about buying it, you might want to wait for the updated 2nd edition that is currently being written :)

00:43:14 Jennifer Frederick: Reacted to "If anybody wants to ..." with 👍

00:47:08 tas: I've heard the ABQ buses are unable to enter Wyoming gate. Eubank gate and Gibson gate can accommodate buses.

00:49:28 Ben Garland [TAB]: Reacted to "If anybody wants to ..." with 👍

00:51:27 tas: Can ABQRIDE communicate with Kirtland (KAFB) about working out some way to get folks to base and around inside base??

00:53:12 tas: Thanks Steve!

00:54:08 Bobby Sisneros (ABQ RIDE): @ TAS our Planning group works with KAFB to identify opportunities for an increased ABQ RIDE presence. Andrew and his team continue to work hard on this issue.

01:05:52 tas: Thank you Bobby

01:07:37 Patrick Martin: Oh on that note --- what is the status of the change to the policy on bikes/ebikes/scooters on buses?

01:09:12 Carrie Barkhurst (ABQ RIDE): sorry - I have an appointment I have to get to. Thanks for the great conversation!

01:09:22 Ben Garland [TAB]: Reacted to "sorry - I have an a..." with 👍

01:10:55 Mike Davis (ABQ Ride): Ebikes and escooters are currently allowed.

01:11:17 Don McIver: Thank you Michelle

01:13:07 * Steve Pilon *: I googled "suburban repair" and got lots of references to fixing Chevy suburbans ☐

01:14:55 Patrick Martin: When will the website be updated?

01:14:59 Patrick Martin: <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/routes-and-schedules/bus-safety-rules>

01:17:38 * Steve Pilon *: "Sprawl repair" looks like it works better

01:23:02 Mike Davis (ABQ Ride): Yes, we will update our website regarding e-bikes.

01:23:08 Patrick Martin: Great, thanks!

01:25:04 * Steve Pilon *: Shortage of workers everywhere. US military unable to meet recruiting goals last year

01:28:34 Patrick Martin: Can we get an email listing what the groups are again?

01:32:08 Jesus Hernandez: jesus hernandez

01:32:22 tas: Thank you