



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, May 11, 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: 826 0012 6313

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 (ATC/ZOOM); Don McIver (ZOOM); Rikk Murphy (ABSENT); Katherine Sullivan (ZOOM)

Staff Members Present

Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communications Specialist (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Sandra Saiz, Fixed Route Operations Division Manager (ZOOM)

Visitors Present

Peter Rice (ZOOM); Jesus Hernandez (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); Luis Colunga (ZOOM); Justine Formain (ZOOM); Norma Garza (ATC/ZOOM); Jerry Sena (ATC/ZOOM); Melissa Roybal (ATC/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 4:04pm.

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, Steve Pilon and Katherine Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the April 13 meeting minutes. Jett Metcalf motioned to approve the meeting minutes, Patrick Martin 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).*

Justine Formain: The bus disappears when it's 1 minute away on the "Transit" app

Sandra Saiz: Will inform transit IT so they can work with App designer.

Albert Lee: Chris Payton attended and discussed electric vehicles at our Climate Action Plan Community Engagement meeting, and public survey is available to end of this month, link is in chat.

Patrick Martin: Marketing cards handed out at events are not updated with new electric bike policy. The walk sign does not work in conjunction with the green light. The problem is that the pedestrian walk sign stays on "do not walk" even when the same direction green light turns on. The only way the walk sign turns on is if someone presses the button before the signal change, which at Central and Louisiana can mean quite a long wait, and a large inconvenience for people transferring from the 157 to the ART.

Sandra Saiz: Will let our Marketing team know and Transit Planning, we work closely with traffic engineering.

Luis Colunga: Will safety plan be shared soon and is there any additional MCO de-escalation trainings?

Sandra Saiz: No update on plan, MCO de-escalation training was in January and refresher training in June. Para Transit, dispatch, customer service and security will have de-escalation and service animal training week of May 22.

Jett Metcalf: Route 11 had a full bus today and that was great to see.

TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

Samuel Jensen: Zero Fares report committee has been working on report for Council. We believe there's value in continuing zero fares, benefit for low income, practical benefit of avoiding conflict of fares collections, potential to increase ridership and will recommend a pass system not be implemented. Report has reflected general sentiments among TAB members with regards to zero fares.

We have two openings on TAB, please spread the word.

Information Items:

Adopt-A-Stop presentation was canceled due to a family emergency

Megan Holcomb: Adopt-A-Stop Community Bus Stop Cleanup June 3 9am-12pm, looking for 40 volunteers. State of the City is Saturday, May 20. It's a big community event with 30 community tables, live music, food trucks and games.

Director's Report: Sandra Saiz, Fixed Route Operations Division Manager

Sandra Saiz: *Shared screen* <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/documents/march-report-2023.pdf>

Went over March ridership, security and customer service calls, monthly updates and accomplishment.

Budget and Federal Grants can be updated at June meeting. Missed service due to no mechanics and vehicle servicers, so no buses are available for drivers. Drivers are help cleaning buses. Bus stop improvements on stations with monitors replacement, power washing, most of ART station have received new paint. RFP for painting regular bus shelters. July 1 new contract midday cleaning crew will be on Central and Unser turn around.

Steve Pilon: Can we divide numbers on security calls to boarding's? Can we see work orders complete over time for comparison?

Patrick Martin: Any updates on East Central Park and Ride?

Sandra Saiz: We'll ask planning to give an update

Samuel Jensen: What type are the new CNG buses?

Sandra Saiz: Gillig is the manufacture, 35 new 35 foot buses to replaces the 700 series.

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

Steve Pilon: Would like to discuss resolution for Rio Bravo construction at next TAB meeting.

Patrick Martin: It does seem worth discussing.

Samuel Jensen: Steve, do you want to approach NMDOT or ask Leslie how Transit responds to these in the future?

Steve Pilon: We need to respond to now to NMDOT, because they're about 60% done so if any changes need to be made it can still happen.

Ben Garland: If we're going to send a letter from Transit we need to be specific about what we're asking for.

Patrick Martin: Route 51 and 222 on bridge does not have high ridership.

Samuel Jensen: Doesn't seem like the fight to have with NMDOT, might be worth having a conversation on other projects NMDOT has that may affect Transit.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:04 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 8, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

- 16:10:48 From Ben Garland [TAB] : I've seen that, I think it's because there's a delay of a few seconds between the reported location of the bus and the actual location of the bus
- 16:13:34 From Ben Garland [TAB] : So the app probably doesn't want to tell you that it's possible to catch a bus that's 1 minute away, because in reality that bus might have already passed the stop 10 seconds ago or whatever. That's just the nature of bus GPS tracking, it's never going to show where the bus is second by second.
- 16:14:29 From Ben Garland [TAB] : Or rather, that the app *thinks* is 1 minute away
- 16:14:37 From Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque : Climate Action Plan (CAP) Community Engagement Meeting about Electric Vehicles and Buses
Public survey open until May 31 and YouTube video available on website
<https://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/climate-action-plan#CAP-community-engagement>
- 16:15:05 From Jennifer Frederick : I have used both the old and new apps simultaneously - because I do not find they are that reliable - usefulness depends on the day - so it's intermittent .
- 16:28:02 From Patrick Martin : It looks like we're on track to be about 70% of FY19 ridership, which is IMO impressive especially given the service cuts we've had to implement --- I think that shows that ABQRide has done a good job triaging service in these stressful times!
- 16:28:29 From Ben Garland [TAB] : Reacted to "It looks like we're ..." with 👍
- 16:29:26 From Jennifer Frederick : Reacted to "It looks like we're ..." with 👍
- 16:35:55 From Patrick Martin : Another reason to divide calls by boardings is also to remove differences due to number of weekdays in a given month
- 16:37:21 From Don McIver : Right...February 28 days; March 31...so the data by month number should be teased a bit more.

16:40:44 From Patrick Martin : I wonder why battery-CNG buses don't seem to exist?

16:51:18 From Patrick Martin : because I was curious: the rio bravo bridge is used by the 51 and 222, and the Montgomery bridge is used by the 157

16:55:33 From Justine Formain : Does the Rio Bravo Bridge redesign include pedestrian/bicycle sidewalks separated from traffic like on the bridges over I-40?

16:56:54 From Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque : Project Website:

16:56:58 From Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque : <https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>

16:57:35 From Ben Garland [TAB] : Yes, the current design has only a 4.5 ft wide sidewalk on one side. The new bridge will have 8 ft wide shared sidewalks (bike/ped) on both sides.

16:58:04 From Justine Formain : Good. Thanks.

16:59:52 From Ben Garland [TAB] : Agreed.

17:01:03 From Ben Garland [TAB] : I think Rio Bravo is somewhere around 75% funded

17:01:11 From Ben Garland [TAB] : Not sure about the other projects

17:02:31 From Jennifer Frederick : I do believe that transit considerations should always be included in any traffic construction - especially when roadways are being planned.

17:03:23 From Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque : A connection to the Rail Runner station at 2nd St and Rio Bravo does exist at the east end of the Rio Bravo project.