



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, June 13, 2024

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
<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/81063705990>
Meeting ID: 810 6370 5990
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Andrew deGarmo, Principal Planner (ZOOM), Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Madeline Skark, Marketing and Communication Specialist (ZOOM); Chris Bergs, IT (ZOOM)

Visitors Present

Albert Lee (ZOOM); TASS (ZOOM); Carlos Michelen Stofer (ZOOM); Peter Rice (ZOOM), Richard Meadows (ZOOM); Christopher Ramirez (ZOOM); Baruch Campos (ZOOM); Christopher Love (ATC/ZOOM);

Land Acknowledgement

Steve started meeting with a land acknowledgement reflecting on the fact that Albuquerque and New Mexico sits on unceded 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 4:05pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Vice-Chair Pilon asked for a motion to approve the June 13 agenda. Althea Atherton made a motion to approve the June 13 agenda, Dara Osher 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Dara Osher, Steve Pilon, Jennifer Restrepo and Katherine Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Pilon asked for a motion to approve the May 9 meeting minutes. Althea Atherton made a motion to approve the May 9 meeting minutes, Dara Osher 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Dara Osher, Steve Pilon, Jennifer Restrepo 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

Steve Pilon: There was a great turn out at the Adopt-A- Stop clean up on June 1. Thank you all for your help. Epoxy at ART Platforms look clean. Reminder there is not a TAB meeting in July.

Althea Atherton: Dara and I attended the PTAB meeting in May and it would be great to collaborate with PTAB and support each other's Boards. We learned clients will be able to make reservations 5 days in advance.

Christopher Love: I'd like to continue the communications between the Boards. It's a great opportunity to build a connection and work on projects together.

Dara Osher: I agree. I'd like to continue attending PTAB meetings and see how we can mutually support each other's groups.

Information Items

Andrew DeGarmo: I received questions from TAB regarding Network study. I organized these by topic. Web page is updated, Surveys are live; English and Spanish version. Span or service for Sunday, we can look at expanding hours. The proposed looks a lot better when comparing the frequencies. Route 50/16 is a difficult target market for span of service. We can look at other alternatives for the gap on Carlisle and Girard. We'd like to gather input and ideas. We can bring people to destinations but the destinations have to be interested in opening themselves to us. We have not got into route numbering. Regarding schools, we put the network together with our own knowledge of where the APS and bigger Charter schools. Please use interactive mapping tool for specific ideas of areas you may have. Microtransit zones areas in the SW could flow over to County and they would have to approve and fund that. We have not had a lot of communication with Kirtland. We reached out in the beginning of the project. They are definitely serious about increasing their security. Driver will not be able to drive on base. Route to base during pandemic ridership was falling and that is a very expensive route to run. Running smaller vehicles on lower ridership routes. We have thought about running a Sunvan, but it is not set up for a fixed Route service; no head sign, bike rack, no audible announcements. The cost is significant to get all these items on a smaller vehicle. We're still waiting on discussing bus stops until network is figured out.

Steve Pilon: Thank you to everyone who submitted questions to Andrew.

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Transit Director

Leslie Keener: April ridership ART 195,693 riders increase of 11%; Fixed route 553,196 riders increase pf 1.3%; Sun Van 16,644 riders increase of 7.3%. We're continuing to see increases in ridership. Transit Budget was approved with 65.4 million budget. We'll start conversations with TAB in November to give an opportunity to have discussions on how budget season works. Recently made a change to pay for our drivers for a split shift differential pay about \$10/hour. We are entering an MOA with the State to allow our Training department to do CDL testing internally. We were 37% vacancy rate for MCO, netted 16 drivers since hiring rate. Vehicle mechanics have seen a little bit improvement on vacancies, at 41%. We hired a Mechanic II and 1 in process and also Mechanic III. Our next hiring event is July 26.

Mike Davis: ABQ Ride Connect, project goals include successful marketing of APP, 2.4-3 PPVH, and increase in ridership. Service is flexible, extended hours to 6:00pm and to Saturdays for June and July. Three months into service. Higher ridership in SW Mesa zone. We do allow Customer Feedback with great comments.

Ben Garland: Does van take people to bus route or just within the zone?

Mike Davis: Yes we made sure to include a major route in the zone and yes passengers can be take just within the zone

Steve Pilon: Is there any idea of how much it costs to drop people off? Is Mechanic II the highest level?

Mike Davis: Initial cost estimate is \$26 per trip.

Althea Atherton: How far in advance can you schedule Microtransit?

Mike Davis: Same day trips, one trip at a time.

Michael Devin: Any on time data for scheduled timed rides?

Mike Davis: Yes, we can see a graph with wait times and APP will also show how long your wait will be.

Action Items:

Vice-Chair Pilon introduced *Resolution Approval of the Transit Advisory Board (TAB) for Fiscal Year 2025 Meeting Schedule*

Althea Atherton made a motion to approve Resolution, Michael Devin 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Jett Metcalf, Dara Osher, Steve Pilon, Jennifer Restrepo and Katherine Sullivan.

See Transit Advisory Board website for approved Resolution

<https://www.cabq.gov/transit/advisory-boards/transit-advisory-board>

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

Christopher Ramirez: Is transit working with HHH to make sure we're doing our best to accommodate people to help get to the cooling centers?

Althea Atherton: Regarding Network Study: demographics on different routes. I want to make sure we are not leaving marginalized riders behind for specific routes for this study.

Andrew deGarmo: When we did on board surveys in 2022 our sample size was calculated to get a represented sample of the system, so high ridership routes we probably have enough data, but lower ridership routes we didn't get enough people to say what the demographics were.

Albert Lee: Does ABQ Ride have any plans to increase number of covered bus stops around the city for new proposed network.

Leslie Keener: No plans at this time.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:28pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 8, 2024; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:07:50 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Where in the world is Steve pilon lol

00:11:50 Jennifer Restrepo: technical difficulties.

00:12:16 Jennifer Restrepo: Yes

00:18:26 Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant: Members of the public, please feel free to put your questions or comments in the chat. Thank you

00:27:22 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Is APS ABQ Public Schools?

00:27:31 Ben Garland: Yes

00:27:39 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): thanks!

00:28:20 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Do you have this same projection for commuters (around 8am or 5pm)?

00:36:30 tass: Why does the plan for the Route 2 turn on Layton. It makes more sense for it to turn directly from Eubank to Academy.

00:38:06 Ben Garland: Los Alamos has their own circulator shuttles. KAFB should too if they don't already. That's their problem to figure out, IMO.

00:38:13 Michael Devin: Reacted to "Los Alamos has their..." with 👍

00:41:17 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "Los Alamos has their..." with 👍

00:42:06 Ben Garland: I would like to see a bus stop spacing of 2,000 feet across the whole network. That would save a lot of dwell time compared to how many of the current stops are ~1,000 feet (or less) apart.

00:44:32 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Reacted to "Los Alamos has their..." with 👍

00:46:17 Ben Garland: I think it's reasonable to assume that asking people to walk an extra 2 minutes to the bus stop would save more time than that during the entire trip due to reducing the potential start/stop dwell time by nearly half

00:46:57 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): I feel like Layton makes sense; it provides more neighborhood access where otherwise there wouldn't be, and it means the bus only has to make one left turn versus a left on academy and then a right on Ventura. From Layton, the bus can just continue straight onto Venture.

00:47:20 Carlos A. Michelén Ströfer: Reacted to "I would like to see ..." with 👍

00:47:22 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): 800 feet wow

00:52:21 Althea: I'd be interested in that if the federal government pays for the service :-)

00:52:28 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "I'd be interested in..." with 👍

00:52:30 Ben Garland: Reacted to "I'd be interested in..." with 👍

00:52:37 Michael Devin: Reacted to "I'd be interested in..." with 👍

00:52:41 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Replying to "I'd be interested in..."

00:52:46 tass: Yes, they certainly have the money to do it...
tass: There is a need for a KAFB internal circulator bus. It might be useful throughout the day for folks to go to meetings.

00:54:09 Michael Devin: Reacted to "There is a need for ..." with 👍

00:57:21 Michael Devin: Agreed on the KAFB circulator bus. To get from the base gates to many of the buildings you either have to bike or it's a 20+ minute walk and it turns a lot of people away from relying on public transit

01:13:23 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: General ABQ RIDE question....Considering the increasing impacts of extreme heat, are there plans to install more covered bus stops that provide shade for riders on the current and proposed bus network?

01:13:47 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "General ABQ RIDE que..." with ❤️

01:14:05 Ben Garland: Reacted to "General ABQ RIDE que..." with 👍

01:15:58 Ben Garland: I wonder why there's a spike at noon?

01:16:19 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Lunch trips

01:16:58 Ben Garland: Using on-demand micro transit to go out to eat? Hmmm

01:19:09 Carlos A. Michelén Ströfer: Reacted to "General ABQ RIDE que..." with ❤️

01:26:04 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: It may be a good idea to advertise these cooling services inside the buses

01:26:07 Leslie Keener: we are in the process of dispersing the locations of the cooling centers to our drivers so that information is available on the buses, etc

01:26:32 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "we are in the proces..." with 👍

01:26:55 Christopger Ramirez (T4B): Reacted to "we are in the proces..." with ❤️

01:27:00 Carlos A. Michelén Ströfer: Reacted to "we are in the proces..." with 👍

01:27:03 Leslie Keener: we can send these handouts to the group as well so you all have them

01:27:04 Christopger Ramirez (T4B): Replying to "we are in the proces..."
Thanks Leslie!

01:27:14 Christopger Ramirez (T4B): Reacted to "It may be a good ide..." with 🙌

01:27:14 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "we can send these ha..." with 🙌

01:30:08 Christopger Ramirez (T4B): Margaret rocks!!!!

01:30:12 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "Margaret rocks!!!!" with ❤️

01:30:17 Ben Garland: Reacted to "Margaret rocks!!!!" with ❤️

01:30:20 Althea: Reacted to "Margaret rocks!!!!" with ❤️

01:30:20 Leslie Keener: Reacted to "Margaret rocks!!!!" with 👍

01:30:22 Althea: Reacted to "Margaret rocks!!!!" with 👍

01:30:23 tass: Thank you all!

01:30:25 Michael Devin: Thanks transit staff! We really appreciate all of your hard work

01:30:49 Michael Devin: Reacted to " Margaret rocks!!!!" with ❤️