



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, June 8, 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: 860 0361 3169

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

Carrie Barkhurst, Senior Planner (ZOOM); Andrew DeGarmo, Principal Planner (ZOOM); Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communications Specialist (ZOOM); Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM);

Visitors Present

Peter Rice (ZOOM); Jesus Hernandez (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); Luis Colunga (ZOOM); Aaron Sussman, Toole Design (ZOOM), Charles Davis (ZOOM); TAS (ZOOM); Kelsey Walker, Toole Design (ZOOM); Gavin Pritchard, JWA (ZOOM); Shreya Jain, JWA (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, 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.

Approval of Minutes

Patrick Martin has changes to May 11 meeting minutes on page 2, under first public comment he mention pedestrian walk sign. *See chat for added changes.* Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the May 11 amended meeting minutes. Jett Metcalf motioned to approve the amended 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).*

Patrick Martin: Pride bus looks great.

TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

Samuel Jensen: Samuel Jensen: It would be great to see all of the buses electric. Is the City planning on submitting anymore grants for low emission buses? Everyone who has applied has received it because they have fewer applications.

Information Items:

Aaron Sussman: Presentation on ABQ Ride Forward Network Plan: Phase II Engagement Summary

Purpose: Create greater understanding about transit choices and tradeoffs, generate feedback on two network concepts: Ridership and Coverage, inform the development of draft network plan (phase II). Key takeaways: in the abstract, people strongly support the principles of the ridership concept, in practice there is a more modest preference for the ridership concept over the coverage concept, Convictions are strong: respondents who prefer ridership or coverage both believe their preferred concept will benefit them and the city overall, all income groups indicate a willingness to walk farther to access more frequent service, regular transit users are split; occasional transit users strongly prefer ridership concept. What comes next? City leadership will provide direction on where the rider-coverage spectrum the Draft Network Plan should be, then Project team will develop a single Draft Network Plan for public feedback.

Jett Metcalf: Was demographic information collected from the focus groups for the in person meetings? It concerns me that the highest amount of ridership is not represented by biggest amount of data being used to establish relationships and yet one is the contradictory frame work.

Aaron Sussman: Demographic information collected from online survey. We wanted to break out the data as best as we could to reflect the perspective of regular or more reflective of transit users. This planning effort is not just about existing riders, but overall this a preference among city residences and how their taxes are spent. It's important to get both perspectives.

Steve Pilon: Has JWA done any post-change surveys, with the change in level of satisfaction, on their designs, in Houston?

Kelsy Walker: I worked with Houston Metro in the past and not aware of any surveys done.

Patrick Martin: Do we want to redesign network more useable for transit users or for people that don't really use it?

Samuel Jensen: People who use transit system already know how underfunded it is. I think if we ask the question does Transit in Albuquerque needs more funding or higher service levels. I think you'd get a lot clearer answer than why people are responding one way or another.

Ben Garland: Dropped bike survey link in chat.

Don McIver: Complaint I hear is it is not convenient as an argument for frequency. These results make sense to me from an occasional rider perspective.

Steve Pilon: There are other aspects that are complimentary to ridership concept, like transit signal priority and que jumpers that will enhance the quality and speed of the service. They are more feasible with ridership concepts.

Aaron Sussman: We can provide a brief update next month on status of documents getting posted online.

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: April fixed ridership 545,925 rider, increase of 19%. ART 176,622 riders increase of 14%. Sun Van 15,507 riders increase of 7%. We're looking at a reduction on 66 route. 27 vacancies for Sun Van Chauffeurs, 104 vacancies for Motor Coach Operators. We have a new Training Division in the department. We are at 9 of 11 positions of bus stop workers/maintainers. Budget passed 68 million for the department at the last council meeting. General Services Department got 25 of their unfilled metro security positions moved to APD to create a new transit function within APD. We have the ability to monitor ART platforms, through cameras and microphones. Adopt-A Stop clean-up we picked up 2,420 lbs of trash with 21 volunteers. Pride bus is out and running and will be at the pride parade and will do a press conference later this month on our visit Albuquerque buses. Daytona Facility visit with TAB Margaret will reach out to you with dates.

Steve Pilon: APD has a unit of people of unsworn officers, are those the officers that will be assigned to transit?

Leslie Keener: Yes, PSA officers, that is my understanding.

Patrick Martin: There is a data science volunteer group helping out APD, perhaps they can help out with data science transit questions.

Action Items

Samuel Jensen asked for a motion to approve Resolution approval of the Transit Advisory Board for fiscal Year 2024 meeting schedule. Patrick motion to approve the Resolution, 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 and Steve Pilon.

Steve Pilon introduced Resolution on Rio Bravo Bridge Reconstruction on how to influence NMDOT to include transit on projects. TAB members decided to focus their efforts on other NMDOT projects. Resolution was not voted on.

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

No public comment

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:32 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:06:54 Patrick Martin: 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 beg 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

00:09:14 TAS: No comments at this time

00:38:44 Patrick Martin: as a note: median household income in new mexico is 54k

00:46:16 * Steve Pilon *: Houston re-design was also budget neutral

00:48:06 Ben Garland [TAB]: <https://abqbikeplan.com>

00:48:26 Patrick Martin: although even the question of "should the transit network get more funding" leads necessarily to the question "should the money be spent more on increasing coverage or ridership"

00:49:48 Ben Garland [TAB]: ABQ Bike Plan survey ends soon on June 18

00:56:27 TAS: Those smaller buses are had on the spine/back

01:10:46 Patrick Martin: <https://twitter.com/RAILMag/status/1660764958794170368>
this is the tweet

01:14:49 Leslie Keener: Replying to "https://twitter.com/..."
thank you

01:22:22 Don McIver: The PR is the hard part

01:24:18 Patrick Martin: <https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>

01:31:32 Jenny Jackson: I generally agree with what other people are saying-- a specific project
doesn't seem like the right fight to pick. I've got a hard stop at 5:30 so I need to run. See you all
next month!

01:33:42 TAS: Thank you.