



Transit Advisory Board
Thursday, September 14, 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: 881 2204 4942
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

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

Visitors Present

Peter Rice (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); TAS (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM); Ana Rios (ZOOM); Alejandro Villezcas (ZOOM); Sayid Hossaini (ZOOM); Jesus Hernandez (ZOOM); Michael Devin (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, Jett Metcalf 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen, Patrick Martin and Jett Metcalf.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the August 10 meeting minutes. Jett Metcalf motioned to approve the August 10 meeting minutes, Ben Garland 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen and Jett Metcalf.

Patrick Martin- abstain

The August meeting minutes will need to be approved at the October 12 meeting.

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

Althea Atherton: T4B is inviting you all to a Town Hall at ATC on September 28 4pm-6pm

Patrick Martin: Are there any plans to do secure bike parking at ART stations and Transit Centers?

Samuel Jensen: Stop closure for 16 was posted but was not filled out with the details. Any guidance on filling sign out so riders know where to go?

TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

Samuel Jensen: Introducing TAB Resolution: ABQ Ride/Rio Metro Merger Study. Supporting concept of studying. Timing seems off since ABQ Ride Forward Study is currently happening.

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: Our Daytona Facility has been renamed to Ken Sanchez Facility, after our former Councilor. *Shared screen: Dashboard on Transit website, showed July ridership.*

ABQ Ride put out a new BID for our drivers to help minimize our missed service. Unfortunately, this week we did have a lot of vehicles out so we saw another spike in missed service. We're looking at another BID in October to shorten span of service and create longer headways. Ultimately our goal is to increase our reliability. We received a Low-No Grant of 18.2 million and named Proterra in the grant. Since Proterra filed Chapter 11, FTA reached out to ABQ Ride and will put out something shortly to allow us to go with another manufacture.

I will reach out separately to Patrick about bike parking, we'll get information out to team to make sure information gets filled out correctly. I appreciate the work Althea's team is doing.

Patrick Martin: Can you download data from dashboard?

Carrie Barkhurst: I can send you a spread sheet with the data

Samuel Jensen: I'm concerned about possibly cutting what little service we have, even if temporary. If we make it where someone can't get to work at all we may have lost that rider.

Leslie Keener: Our first goal is the frequency. We'll have more conversation with the team tomorrow. We're getting lots of complaints about reliability.

Patrick Martin: IS there any urgency at City Council about making changes to fix this?

Leslie Keener: There are some incentives for drivers and mechanics in the works that have not gone as quickly as I hoped. Updated some trainings. We're focused on hiring. The turnover has been tough. We're open to any suggestions.

Samuel Jensen: Can you hire part time? Maybe you can get a pool of people that might be interested

Leslie Keener: Yes, we do hire part time.

Action Items

TAB Resolution: ABQ Ride/Rio Metro Merger Study introduced by Samuel Jensen.

TAB Resolution: ABQ Ride/Rio Metro Merger Study

WHEREAS high quality accessible public transportation is essential to the continued existence of a healthy, functional city that works for all residents; and

WHEREAS Albuquerque and New Mexico have historically operated a patchwork of underfunded, often disconnected public transportation systems which make regional travel needlessly time consuming and difficult; and

WHEREAS the current Albuquerque metro area extends beyond the boundaries of the city of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County; and

WHEREAS regional transit agencies in other metropolitan areas have shown the potential to raise additional funding and provide an improved rider experience;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Transit Advisory Board encourages the Albuquerque City Council and Mayor Keller to approve Council Bill R-23-163 which would direct the city and Rio Metro to study transit system consolidation and appropriate funding to support this study.

Chair Jensen asked for a motion on the Resolution. Jett Metcalf motioned to approve Patrick Martin 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen, Jett Metcalf and Patrick Martin.

The Resolution was approved and passed with no additions or corrections.

Information Items:

Margaret Lucero: TAB will be visit Ken Sanchez for a tour of the facility on Thursday, September 21 at 3pm.

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

Patrick Martin: ART ridership is up pre-pandemic. Good job ABQ Ride.

Samuel Jensen: We have a handful of openings on the board, please apply. We'd love to have more diversity and opinions on the board.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 4:42pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 12, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:10:55 Althea: September 28th, 4-6 PM at the Santa Fe meeting room at the Alvarado Transportation Center. Please email me at althea@togetherforbrothers.org

00:25:26 Patrick Martin: <https://www.cabq.gov/transit/our-department/transit-ridership-data>

00:40:03 tass: I have no comment at this time

00:41:13 Althea: Still waiting to hear about my application!

00:42:00 tass: I recommend putting the potential transit board position on ABQRide's Facebook & twitter

00:42:05 Patrick Martin: plus the field trip :)

00:42:18 Althea: Replying to "I recommend putting ..."

They did! But they could again

00:42:53 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Thank you!