

## CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE 2024 TRANSIT EQUITY DAY RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS** Rosa Parks' birthday on February 4 is an opportunity to celebrate and educate about transit equity; and

**WHEREAS** a core tenet of transit equity is defined as transit-dependent bus riders having access to public transportation, and mobility sovereignty is transit-dependent bus riders making their own decisions about transit and mobility; and

**WHEREAS** transit equity connects transit riders to education, employment, healthcare, recreation and other opportunities that promote the health and health equity of our communities; and

**WHEREAS** transit equity promotes clean air and reduces climate change impacts; and

**WHEREAS** increased opportunities for employment in transit-related jobs form a key part of a just transition from fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS** transit is a human right and public good, 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** transit-dependent populations face disproportionate rates of traffic-related violence, and Albuquerque has one of the highest pedestrian fatality rates in the country; and

**WHEREAS** transitioning our transportation system from personal vehicle dependence to public transit as well as low and no emission buses and vans including electrified transit from renewable sources, is key to switching to renewable energy and creating safer streets that support a healthier and cleaner world; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Albuquerque has previously recognized Rosa Parks' birthday and Transit Equity with free buses, a mayoral proclamation and graphics on buses and social media since 2019, as well as permanently funding "Zero Fares" with free ART, ABQ Ride and Sun Vans.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the "Transit Advisory Board" supports the call for the City of Albuquerque to observe a Transit Equity Day, a day of action in remembrance of Rosa Parks and the acknowledgement of public transit as a human right, on February 3, 2024; 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 in the city budget; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED** the city make accessible and expand multilingual information and outreach about public transit in all major languages spoken in Albuquerque; and

**FINALLY, FURTHER RESOLVED** the city support evidence-based policy making and pursuing additional funding from the State of New Mexico, including the creation of a statewide transit equity fund, enhancing bicycle and pedestrian safety in accessing transit, and other resources including county and federal government to support public transit and transit equity including Zero Fares and expanding frequency and routes in transit-dependent communities.

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