



Transit Advisory Board

Alvarado Transportation Center – 2nd Floor

Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2017

Board Members

In Attendance:

Lucy Birbiglia, Cristen Conley, Nancy JonesFrancis, , David Kesner, Brendan Miller, Willie Richardson, , Warren Smith, Bob Tilley, Harris Balkin, Orville Pratt, Rachel Hertzman

Members of the Public

In Attendance:

Katherine Arndt, Beverly Hill, Cheryl Hunt, Michael Lawler, Michael Stubbs

ABQ Ride

In Attendance:

Annette Paez, Acting Director; Amanda Trujillo, Customer Service Supervisor; Yvette Garcia, Administrative Assistant; Adrian Cera, Office Assistant

Meeting Called to Order:

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 11:51 AM. He then took roll and asked everyone that was in attendance what their mode of transportation to the meeting was: Brenden Miller-Walk, Cristen Conley-Car, Lucy Birbiglia-ABQ Ride, Patricia Salisbury-Walk, Nancy JonesFrancis-Walk, Bob Tilley-Walk, David Kesner- Car, Willie Richardson-Car, Rachel Hertzman-Taxi, Harris Balkin- Car, Orville Pratt-Car, Annette Paez- Car, Amanda Trujillo- Car, Yvette Garcia- Car, Adrian Cera- Car, Cheryl Hunt- Car, Beverly Hill- Carpool, Kathryn Arndt- Walk, Michael Lawler- Bus, Michael Stubbs- Bus

Acceptance of Agenda: None approved by acclimation

Approval of Minutes from November:

Ms. Conley had one correction to Ms. Birbiglia last name was incorrectly spelled in two places. Minutes accepted by acclimation.

Public Comment

Ms. Hill spoke about the ridership being down. She wanted to point out that she stopped riding due to not knowing where the busses stop and also she called 311 and they could not tell where the bus stops were located. She also checked out the ART stations at Bryn Mawr and was excited that the Hawk signals talked to her. Ms. Hill wanted to mention that we need to have some kind of training to the media about light signals and how they work.

Ms. Conley responded to Ms. Hill's comment, by saying that it would be a great idea and we will make that recommendation to Dayna.

Mr. Tilley stated that the media is famous for misinformation. Hawk signal has nothing mysterious about it. If there is a red light flashing, that means stop. There is an outreach program on our website that tells you more about the signals for the ART.

Mr. Balkin mention that the last two Saturday nights, he volunteered at Coors and Central ART station. What he noticed was if there is a right turn lane from north bound Coors to east bound Central the Hawk signal button is on the median, on the station in the middle of Coors. There is not one on side of the street. Someone that is vision-impaired would have to cross the street to get to that Hawk button.

Ms. Conley asked Ms. Paez how you would handle tick list issues. Ms. Paez stated that she will proved this information to Andrew DeGarmo to go out to these locations.

Ms. Arndt mentioned that as a pedestrian, cars do not care to stop when you are at that crosswalk. Mr. Miller recommends a solution to this problem would be to propose a re-design to Coors and Central intersection to eliminate the right turn bypass lane design or add a traffic light to make them stop.

Ms. Conley told Mr. Miller and Mr. Tilley that our next letter needs to come out sooner than later.

Mr. Pratt stated that we should include U-turns on those right turns because people are trying to get through to cross over to the street. Mr. Kesner added to Mr. Pratt's comment, stating that he thinks people are going to make U-turns all they want, but he feels that law enforcement will really have the authority to stop those illegal U-turns that the public is making.

Ms. Hill stated that she has being hearing from some of her friends that the lights at intersections are very confusing because there all these horizontal lights and the ones for the cars is in the middle and the ones for busses is on the left, so when cars are sitting there waiting for a green arrow to turn left, their green arrow come on, but the light for the bus is red. There are no signs on those signals that say bus or car on them, so you have people honking to go and some people are confused on when it's safe to go.

Mr. Balkin responded to Ms. Hill's comment and said that there are physical signs that designate the lanes as "bus only" or car only. Ms. Hunt spoke about how she attended an AARP driving course and they did not talk about anything regarding signal lights, lanes or right hand turns. She thinks that they need to get involved with the ART project to understand and to teach the public how this system works. Ms. Conley stated that one of Ms. Hunt concerns was to get someone to help with the driving classes. Ms. Conley mention that she does know of someone from the safety bureau. She will look into contacting them to see if they can conduct some driving classes.

Mr. Stubbs wanted to mention that back when he used to ride the city bus in 1983, the buses were required to wait for you. He has made several complaints to 311 for a supervisor to contact him back. At the stop at San Mateo and Central, he said had a bus driver get down to load a bike on the bike rack. Mr. Stubbs stated the driver saw him, but looked at him, got on the bus and drove away.

Ms. Conley asked Ms. Paez when she hears about these issues and problems, how does she go about handling them and is she coordinating with other systems in the city. Ms. Paez stated that Transit has no control over traffic signals or lighting; that is all Traffic Engineering. HDR is the company that designed the ART system and they and Transit recognized there are still many changes coming to the system because it's not fully-functional right now.

Chair persons report

None

Director's report

Ms. Paez stated that she will be acting Director until further notice. Ms. Paez talked about the ridership being down 6 percent to fiscal year 2018 compared to fiscal year 2017. As gas prices go down, ridership will be down due to people taking their vehicles. Ms. Paez mentioned that transit is working closely with APD to monitor illegal U-turns and

giving tickets or warnings to let the public know this is not acceptable. Ms. Paez wanted to mention if anyone knows of anybody that would like to join our ParaTransit advisory board, we are in need of board members to volunteer to help us. Ms. Paez talked a little about the Quantum, the electric wheel chair system. The Quantum is a system positioned to sit curb side of the vehicle. The individuals themselves have the ability to tie their selves down instead of the driver and it's all done by a push of a button. Katherine Cordova talk about commercials and public outreach. She also wanted mention that yesterday at the ART staff meeting, they talked about sponsoring all our PSA on Facebook and other ways to get the message out. We have an app that you can visit that allows the public to have more than one ticket on their phone. Our apps are available on our website, www.myabqride.com, labeled as ABQ-Ride + and ABQ-Ride-Tix.

Unfinished business

Ms. Salisbury asked when the changes to D-Ride and route 37 go into effect. She also asked when the new route would go into effect. Ms. Paez replied to Ms. Salisbury's comment by saying around March this will take affect along with the ART project.

New business

Mr. Balkin wanted to suggest the ART busses that are not being used to get them out to the northeast heights and west side, so the public can view them. In addition to ART we have a new mayor. We should possibly invite him to attend one of our meetings to voice his concerns and feelings about what going in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 13:15

DRAFT