

**Transit Advisory Board**

**Alvarado Transportation Center – 2nd Floor**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 9, 2017**

**Board Members**

In Attendance:

Lucy Birbiglia, Cristen Conley, Annie JonesFrancis, David Kesner , Brendan Miller, Orville Pratt, Willie Richardson, Patricia Salisbury, Warren Smith

**Members of the Public**

In Attendance:

Katherine Arndt, Judy Hatfield, Cheryl Hunt,

**ABQ Ride**

In Attendance:

Bruce Rizzieri, Director; Amanda Trujillo, Customer Service Supervisor

**Guest Speaker:**

Brian Reilly, Director of the Corridors Initiative for the City of Albuquerque

**Meeting Called to Order:**

Ms. Conley called the meeting to order at 11:51 AM. She then took roll and asked everyone that was in attendance what their mode of transportation to the meeting was.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

There was not an Agenda to accept.

**Approval of Minutes from January:**

Ms. Conley asked for approval of the Minutes. Brendan stated that there are a couple of corrections needed. All members of the board agreed that the Meeting Minutes will be approved upon amendment.

**Public Comment:**

Ms. Hunt said that a Bus Stop maintenance employee passed by the stop she was at without checking to see if it was clean. She said that the bus stop was not clean and she feels like the maintenance employee should’ve stopped and cleaned it up. She asked if the bus stops are supposed to be cleaned every day. Ms. Conley replied by saying the Bus Stop maintenance employees are each assigned a quadrant and have to take care of any 311 bus stop complaints first then they proceed with their daily schedule. She suggested calling 311 if a bus stop is in bad condition.

Ms. Arndt and Ms. Hunt would like to see schedules at every bus stop. Mr. Rizzieri said that there is not sufficient staff to maintain flat panels at every bus stop, however, he will look into the feasibility of placing flat panels at major bus stops.

Mr. Rizzieri reminded everyone that “Text to Ride” is available. Each bus stop has a text ID and a bus stop number. Once you enter that information, it will give you the next two times that the bus should arrive at the bus stop.

Ms. JonesFrancis reminded everyone that there is a small majority of passengers that do not have phones. Mr. Miller stated that the Text to Ride does not tell you if the bus is running late.

Mr. Rizzieri said if you use the ABQ RIDE app you will be able to see bus locations.

Ms. Conley suggested that volunteers could update schedules at the bus stops.

**Presentation**

Brian Reilly gave a presentation on the Transit Oriented Development Project for Central Ave. The Transit Department applied for the Transit Oriented Planning Grant and the FTA awarded the Grant to the Transit department. It’s a three department collaboration of Transit, Economic Development and the Planning Departments.

Mr. Reilly described the purpose of the Grant as planning for and taking advantage of the development and ridership that can be induced by ART, as well as calibrating the proposed integrated development ordinance. He said cities that have done both have doubled their development results and the benefit for their residents.

Previous studies have identified the potential for two billion dollars of reinvestment in the corridor within the next ten years and one billion dollars in collective savings to households that are able to take advantage of an improved Transit System. It is estimated that 9,000 new jobs could be created.

In March from the 7th to the 13th there will be a series of public meetings to present information and receive input. A team of local and national individuals will look at the corridor and give their thoughts concerning the portions of the corridors that can contribute the most to the redevelopment investment goal and the community benefit goal.

The “greatercentralave.com” website provides information concerning the various meetings. On Tuesday, March 7th, there is a kick- off meeting at the Special Collections Library. The wrap-up meeting is on Monday, March 13th, at the Kimo Theater.

Mr. Rilley is looking for volunteers to be “co-conveners”. Co-conveners would assist in contacting and speaking with people in their neighborhoods or business area about this out-reach effort.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Ms. Conley said the emails to our civic leaders was a success with many of the Civic Leaders responding. Ms. Conley asked members of the board if they were willing to be contacted by their City Councilor. Everyone was in agreement.

Ms. Conley and Bob Tilley identified some construction closure and signage issues on Central. Mr. Rizzieri will look into the issues.

**Director’s Report**

Mr. Rizzieri briefly described the City’s General Obligation Bond program process. He talked about the Committee-of-the-Whole (COW) capital implementation program meeting. The next meeting, which is called the Mark-Up meeting, will be held on March 16, 2017.

Mr. Rizzieri described the Fiscal Year 2018 budget process. He also went over the Ridership report. Ridership was down from last year.

Mr. Rizzieri talked to the Board members concerning their terms. He asked the Board Members to give him an update about who has applied for reappointment so he can find out what stage of the process it’s in.

Mr. Smith asked why during construction there isn’t a Rapid Ride bus stop at Louisiana and Central. Mr. Rizzieri said the buses can’t make the turn from southbound Louisiana to westbound Central, so the buses are being detoured to Wyoming Blvd. from the Uptown Transit Center, and then westbound on Central.

Ms. Birbiglia asked Mr. Rizzieri when the first ART station is going to be ready. Mr. Rizzieri said there are between five and six stations under construction right now. He’s not sure which one will be ready first but he will get a schedule. Ms. Birbiglia also asked if the ticket vending machines will be handicap assessable and Mr. Rizzieri said, “Yes”.

Mr. Rizzieri explained the construction issues for the Central / Lomas / Rio Grande Blvd. area.

Ms. Salisbury asked if the Transit department would consider stopping in front of Silver Street Market. Bruce said they are already looking into that possibility.

**Meeting adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 1:17