

**Transit Advisory Board**

**Alvarado Transportation Center – 2nd Floor**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 9, 2017**

**Board Members**

In Attendance:

Lucy Birbiglia, Cristen Conley, Nancy JonesFrancis, David Schott , Brendan Miller, Willie Richardson, , Warren Smith, Bob Tilley

**Members of the Public**

In Attendance:

Katherine Arndt, Judy Hatfield, Cheryl Hunt, Evelyn Kuhn

**ABQ Ride**

In Attendance:

Bruce Rizzieri, Director; Amanda Trujillo, Customer Service Supervisor

**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:** Members approved agenda.

**Approval of Minutes from February:**

Ms. Conley asked for approval of the Minutes. Mr. Tilley 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. Conley asked if there were members of the public that would like to see changes on Route 50. Ms. Conley suggested that they bring up their issues with Route 50 to their City Councilor.

Brendan suggested that service for Route 50 should change to every 15 minutes on weekdays, every 30 minutes on Saturdays and every hour on Sundays.

Ms. Arndt suggested asking neighborhood associations if they would be willing to volunteer with placing schedules at the bus stops as one of their public servant projects. Ms. Conley asked Mr. Rizzieri if the Transit Department would be able to provide hard copies of the schedules for the volunteers. Mr. Rizzieri said yes.

Ms. Conley asked if anyone would follow up with the City to see what is required for volunteering. Mr. Rizzieri said he has been working with the Mayor’s volunteer liaison on another project, if that project is approved he will tie this request into that project, if possible. If the project is approved a presentation will be provided to the board.

Mr. Tilley would like to see a really strong citizen group advocate for transit service and facilities. Ms. Conley agreed.

Ms. Hatfield said that the Lota Burger employees clean the bus stop in front of their store, which is located across the street from Holiday Bowl on Lomas. Mr. Rizzieri and Ms. Conley are going to work on writing the Lota Burger employees a thank you note. Ms. Kuhn suggested putting the thank you note in the newspaper.

Ms. Ardnt asked how citizens are going to cross the street safely to get to the platforms. Mr. Rizzieri said there will be different types of platforms depending on the area. Some platforms will be adjacent to the sidewalks, some platforms will be in the median but those ones are at traffic lights, mid-block platforms will have a pedestrian crossing lights and signalization. There will be HAWK lights and half lights as well. Mr. Rizzieri will have someone give a presentation on the platforms at the April TAB meeting. Ms. Conley would like information on accessibility for citizens that are differently abled included in the presentation.

Ms. Hunt says that the Rail Runner and the Route 50 times do not coincide and this makes it difficult to take trips to Santa Fe.

Mr. Tilley suggested that Encino Place has its own shuttle service to help transport citizens when the Route 50 bus does not have service. Mr. Tilley said that Rio Metro helps fund the Rio Rancho routes and maybe they could help out with Route 50.

 Ms. Kuhn says there are several citizens in her community that use wheelchairs and it’s difficult to go anywhere as a group because the buses can only transport two wheelchairs at a time. Mr. Rizzieri suggested calling the Department of Senior Affairs, which provides transportation for seniors.

Mr. Schott said there were some issues concerning sidewalk extensions and outdoor patio space in the Nob Hill area as well as other areas of the Central Corridor. Mr. Rizzieri said that the City has not changed the design for sidewalks in Nob Hill since January 2016; this is when these plans were finalized. To fulfill the request to further widen the sidewalks would require additional funds and require additional time.

Councilor Benton requested wider sidewalks in the Rio Grande and Central area, he wanted the travel lanes reduced so there was more room available to expand sidewalks.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Mr. Tilley would like to see everyone at the Central Avenue Study Project meetings. He also suggested getting on the mailing list so that if you cannot attend the meeting you can still receive updates or emails.

**Director’s Report**

Mr. Rizzieri encouraged everyone to get on the www.greatercentralave.com website. He gave an update on the meetings that were going on around town. Mr. Rizzieri also went over the ridership report. City Council approved the 2017 General Obligation Bond requests.

**Unfinished Business**

Mr. Rizzieri has not heard anything on the Business Advisory Board for Central Avenue or the status of the federal funds for the ART. City Council will have meetings concerning the FY18 General Fund in May.

Mr. Rizzieri is also going to have the Transit Finance Manager give a presentation on the City’s operating budget process.

**Meeting adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 1:15