



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, April 11, 2024

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: 867 4154 4404
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

Samuel Jensen, Chair (ABSENT); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM/ATC); Michael Devin (ABSENT); Jennifer Layne Frederick (ABESNT); Ben Garland (ABSENT); Michael Patrick Martin (ZOOM); Jett Metcalf (ABSENT); Dara Osher (ZOOM); Jennifer Restrepo (ZOOM/ATC); Katherine Sullivan (ZOOM @ 4:16PM)

Staff Members Present

Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Megan Holcomb, Marketing & Communication Specialist (ZOOM); Chris Bergs, Technical Program Manager (ZOOM)

Visitors Present

Albert Lee (ZOOM); TASS (ZOOM); Ana Rios (ZOOM); Carlos Michelen Stofer (ATC/ZOOM); Sayid Hossaini (ZOOM); Miriam Tennent (ZOOM); Peter Rice (ZOOM)

Land Acknowledgement

Steve started meeting with a land acknowledgement reflecting on the fact that Albuquerque and New Mexico sits on unceded 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

Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair, began the meeting at 4:16pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Vice- Chair Pilon asked for a motion to add new members Dara Osher and Michael Devin to agenda roll call. Althea Atherton motioned to add new members the agenda, Patrick 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Jennifer Restrepo, Patrick Martin, Steve Pilon, and Katherine Sullivan

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Pilon asked for a motion to approve the March 14 meeting minutes. Patrick noted a correction under Land Acknowledgement from unseeded to unceded. Dara Osher motioned to approve corrected meeting minutes, Althea Atherton 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Patrick Martin, Steve Pilon, Dara Osher and Jennifer Restrepo. Katherine Sullivan, abstained.

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

Megan Holcomb: ABQ Ride is hosting an event on Earth Day with a group of 4th grade students, planting some flowers at ATC on Monday, April 22.

Albert Lee: Earth Day Festival at Balloon Park, information and link in chat.

TAB Chairperson's Report – Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair

Welcome newest TAB member Jennifer Restrepo.

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: Welcome to new board members. February fixed route, including ART, 553.9K passengers and 15.8K passengers for Sunvan. Applications for Sunvan continue to climb. ABQ Ride is hosting a hiring event at Ken Sanchez on Friday, April 19. Our focus will be mechanics and vehicle servicers. ABQ Ride connect launched March 18 in SW Mesa and Rio Grande zones. In week one we saw about 28 trips and the numbers continue to climb with each week. We're looking at extending the time frames from 5:30pm to 6:00pm. We're also looking at adding a stop just outside the Rio Grande zone where there's a grocery store. We are waiting for the charging stations for the electric vans we purchased for connect. Rules to Ride updates will be on socials, buses, shadowboxes and platform monitors. I hope to have an update on the Network Study next meeting. New bus stop signs are almost complete on Central. Painting of all the shelters is underway. Contractors are going route by route. ART stations will get new paint and a new epoxy flooring. Long Range Security plan has been awarded to Parametrix. They will be pulling data in the next couple weeks and then do public outreach with drivers and riders.

Althea and Steve requested ridership by route and passenger per hour of operations for Microtransit vs Fixed Route vs Sunvan.

Information Items

No information items

Action Items:

No action items

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

Patrick Martin: Is there any thought about having secure bike parking at ART transit and or Transit Centers?

Leslie Keener: We haven't spent much time on that, focus has been on cleanliness.

Carlos Michelen Stofer: Having secure bike parking will be helpful.

Althea Atherton: Are people able to call to schedule a ride for ABQ Ride Connect?

Mike Davis: Yes, you can call our Customer Service to schedule that ride.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 4:54pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 9, 2024; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:01:18	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant:	Althea Atherton, TAB member @ ATC
00:01:54	Ana Rios, She/Her/Ella, T4B:	Ana Rios, Mother Organizer with T4B
00:02:14	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant:	Jennifer Restrepo, TAB member @ ATC
00:02:24	Ana Rios, She/Her/Ella, T4B:	She will let us know when we have quorum
00:02:43	Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant:	Carlos Michelen, public @ ATC

00:04:58 Dara Osher: Sorry I was a minute or two late!
00:05:14 tass: Reacted to "Sorry I was a minute..." with 👍
00:08:04 tass: Reacted to "Jennifer Restrepo, T..." with 👍
00:08:13 tass: Reacted to "Althea Atherton, TAB..." with 👍
00:08:13 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Nice to meet you!
00:13:19 tass: Transportation Plan - Virtual Survey

Distribution: Now through April 15, 2024

00:13:58 <https://arcg.is/a9fGq>
tass: Kirtland AFB needs your help with upgrading the Base's transportation network! We're asking for your input in order to align the base's long-term facility and infrastructure development with its plan for supporting associated transportation requirements. To accomplish this, our team is collecting traffic data, interviewing base personnel, and coordinating efforts with external agencies. These efforts will help us identify areas for policy improvements and growth projections, establish commuter trends, and target growth outside the Base. Ultimately, this crucial information will result in a comprehensive report covering the surrounding road networks; vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian circulation maps; public transit routes; travel demand patterns and commute times; and parking demand and capacity. It also will be used to justify future projects, policy reform, and other planning and design efforts.
00:16:40 tass: Transportation Plan - Virtual Survey

Distribution: Now through April 15, 2024

00:17:00 <https://arcg.is/a9fGq>
Miriam Tennent (Sandia Labs): Reacted to "Transportation Pla..." with 👍
00:22:28 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): unseeded vs. unceded?
00:22:47 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "unseeded vs. unceded..." with 👍
00:24:11 tass: Transportation Plan - Virtual Survey
Distribution: Now through April 15, 2024
<https://arcg.is/a9fGq>
00:25:45 tass: Kirtland AFB needs your help with upgrading the Base's transportation network! We're asking for your input in order to align the base's long-term facility and infrastructure development with its plan for supporting associated transportation requirements. To accomplish this, our team is collecting traffic data, interviewing base personnel, and coordinating efforts with external agencies. These efforts will help us identify areas for policy improvements and growth projections, establish commuter trends, and target growth outside the Base. Ultimately, this crucial information will result in a comprehensive report covering the surrounding road networks; vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian circulation maps; public transit routes; travel demand patterns and commute times; and parking demand and capacity. It also will be used to justify future projects, policy reform, and other planning and design efforts.
00:26:09 Carlos: Is there transit to the Balloon Fiesta?
00:26:21 Althea: Replying to "Is there transit to ..."

00:26:36 The 141 bus goes pretty close to it
Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Earth Day Festival NM 2024
<https://earthdayfestivalnm.com/>
00:26:49 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Register for free as a sponsor
<https://earthdayfestivalnm.holdmyticket.com/tickets/428578>

00:27:29 Patrick Martin: Replying to "Is there transit to ..."
Unfortunately not on Sundays

00:27:42 Althea: Replying to "Is there transit to ..."
Oh right! I always forget that :-)

00:45:35 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Clarification - Anyone from the public can register for free before April 21, scroll down to the Earth - Sponsors and Employees of Sponsors ONLY tickets

00:50:10 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): A low ridership microtransit vehicle is likely far less expensive than a low ridership fixed route.

00:50:37 Althea: Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
I worry about access though- not everyone has a smartphone

00:51:26 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
Can it only be called via smartphone/app? Usually you can also call to schedule

00:52:06 Patrick Martin: it's also worth noting that the 36, which serves the rio grande area of abqrideconnect, had 2.8 boardings/hour in 2022

00:52:55 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Reacted to "it's also worth noti..." with 👍

00:53:03 Patrick Martin: Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
I think most expenses are due to paying the driver, not fuel or stuff, so it probably doesn't save that much money

00:53:33 Patrick Martin: Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
it does save an MCO, and a vehicle, which is useful in times like now where we're short on MCOs and mechanics

00:54:28 Patrick Martin: Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
well, it *would* save that if it means they get to reduce/remove that route ;)

00:55:02 Dara Osher (She/Her, TAB Member): Replying to "A low ridership micr..."
Also full-size buses cost way more than the smaller vans, more fuel efficient, and it's very costly to constantly run a route on a schedule instead of doing on-demand where you're only responding to someone's demand for a ride. Nationally speaking, microtransit can save transit agencies hundreds of thousands if it means replacing low ridership fixed routes.

00:55:49 tass: Thank you

00:55:51 Ana Rios, She/Her/Ella, T4B: Thank you!.