



Transit Advisory Board

Thursday, October 10, 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
<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/88566729911>
Meeting ID: 885 6672 9911
Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

Members Present

Samuel Jensen, Chair (ZOOM); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ATC/ZOOM); Michael Devin (ZOOM); Jennifer Layne Frederick (ABESNT); Ben Garland (ZOOM); Michael Patrick Martin (ZOOM); Jett Metcalf (ZOOM); Carlos Michelén Ströfer (ATC/ZOOM) Dara Osher (ABSENT); Jennifer Restrepo (ABSENT)

Staff Members Present

Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Jessica Luna, Facility Office Manager (ZOOM); Chris Bergs, IT (ZOOM) Madeline Skrak, Marketing and Communication Specialist

Visitors Present

Albert Lee (ZOOM); Peter Rice (ZOOM), Baruch Campos (ZOOM); Kelly Frazier (ZOOM); Jeff Blair (ZOOM); Anna Rios (ZOOM); Deborah Gray (ZOOM); Chris Love (ZOOM); Anthony Harkness (ZOOM); Anami Dass (ATC/ZOOM)

Land Acknowledgement

Samuel 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

Samuel Jensen, Chair, began the meeting at 4:05pm.

Approval of Agenda or Additions

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the October 10 agenda. Althea Atherton made a motion to approve the agenda. Carlos Ströfer 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen, Patrick Martin, Jett Metcalf, Carlos Ströfer, and Steve Pilon.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the September 12 meeting minutes. Patrick Martin made a motion to approve the September 12 meeting minutes, Michael Devin 2nd the motion. The motion was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen, Patrick Martin, Jett Metcalf, Carlos Ströfer, and Steve Pilon.

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

Ana Rios: I'd like to encourage support of today's resolution

Patrick Martin: Is Marketing kept in the loop of things? It seems like I know things before they do.

Carlos Ströfer: The new electric scooters around the downtown area are a great addition for microtransit.

TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair

Samuel Jensen: Please let folks know TAB has a few vacancies so please ask them to apply if they are interested.

Director's Report: Leslie Keener, Transit Director

Leslie Keener: September ridership ART 180,235 riders decrease of -8.5%, Fixed Route 647,388 rider's increase of 8.8%; Sun Van 16,261 riders increase of 2.8%. Connect service 1,161 riders. Vehicle availability MCO 98 vacancy rate, SVC 22 vacancy rate, struggling with Mechanics at a 51 % vacancy rate. We're seeing difficulty not making line up in the mornings. New Gillig buses rolling out for service last week. Continuing to make sure we are recruiting and hiring with a rapid hiring event on November 1. We are in the process of sending vehicle out to Cummins for work. ABQ Ride Network Study, public comment for Phase III closed a month ago and our planning team is in the process of going through that public input and I'll keep you posted where that goes. New See Say App and updated Suspension policy was released on October 1. We held our first Bus Rodeo on September 29 it was a great event for the employees and family. ACS is making their rounds in the mornings and evenings at ATC. APD has moved into the ATC as well. We've had some discussion on new bike racks on ART buses. We've ordered 2 new racks to pilot, they should be arriving in December. We'll have more discussion to improve on racks.

Samuel Jensen: Timeline for next steps on ABQ Ride Forward and what recommendations came out of the public? Can the new signs be put on newer poles? Bus stop inventory?

Leslie Keener: End of next month we'll have a recap on what that engagement looks like, then we'll have more conversations with the Administration and Council staff. I would suspect maybe early next year and then a month or two from when we roll out we'll have an implementation plan.

Althea Atherton: Are APC on every route? Can we get a break down of ridership on each bus? Who sets playlist of music at ATC?

Leslie Keener: They're on all ART buses and some routes. New buses will have APC's. We can get our data guy to send that to you. We're looking a upgrading PA system so we have an ability to broadcast, Andrew sets playlist.

Ben Garland: Is there enough data on APC to notice if ridership numbers go up?

Leslie Keener: We saw a really big jump in July, right now we're up 12%. Hopefully it will continue to climb as our vehicle reliability gets better.

Steve Pilon: I would love to work with mechanics when they start on the bike racks. I'd like to second what Sam mentioned about rationalizing the stops and how close/far apart they are.

Patrick Martin: On the APC's how much can we compare to pre-pandemic numbers? How comparable are the APC and fare box numbers?

Leslie Keener: It will be a much better comparison.

Carlos Michelén Ströfer: Will new bike racks be in the same space and how many bikes can it hold?

Leslie Keener: Yes same space on bus and maybe 2 on each side. We can reach out to Steve when mechanics start on that installation.

Unfinished Business:

Althea Atherton: TAB retreat on Saturday, November 9, 2024 9am-1pm at the ATC Santa Fe Conference Room. Goals discussion, review By-Laws, Boards and Commission will attend to answer any questions. Althea will circulate a draft agenda.

Action Items:

Resolution of Support of Endorsing Plans for Transit Outdoor Spaces in Albuquerque, New Mexico
Resolutions was deferred to November 14 meeting, Transit Advisory Board voted to create Ad-hoc committee on outdoor Transit Equity and was voice approved by Althea Atherton, Michael Devin, Ben Garland, Samuel Jensen, Patrick Martin, Jett Metcalf, Carlos Ströfer, and Steve Pilon.

This committee is to present on the need for ABQ Ride to serve outdoor spaces and refine the draft resolution. Committee: Althea Atherton, Christopher Love, Carlos Michelén Ströfer, Baruch Campos, Haley Bert, Patrick Martin, Michael Devin and Samuel Jensen.

Information Items:

No Information Items

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

Anami Dass: Concerns on suspension policy, page 7 asks DOB twice, restriction on gender identifier also concerned about appeals process is inaccessible to transit independent and now suddenly banned from buses and Level 1 offenses does not have a max suspension making it so a Level 1 will have a lifetime ban. Policy should be tweaked to balance out equity.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 5:21pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 14, 2024; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person

Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting

00:07:09 Baruch Campos-Gallardo: Baruch Campos - Together for Brothers
00:07:38 Ana Rios, She/Her/Ella: Ana Ríos - Together for Brothers
00:07:44 Keely Frazier: Keely Frazier PTAB
00:08:08 Chris Love: Chris Love PTAB
00:15:11 Anthony Harkness: Anthony Harkness PTAB
00:21:25 Chris Bergs - Transit IT Manager: And the Exec's competed too!
00:21:33 Althea: Reacted to "And the Exec's compe..." with ♥
00:21:36 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "And the Exec's compe..." with ♥
00:24:38 Steve Pilon: Leslie, thanks for looking into better bike racks on ART!
00:30:51 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "Leslie, thanks for l..." with 🍷
00:31:39 Maddy Skrak: Here's a press release with more details on the APC rollout:
<https://www.cabq.gov/transit/news/bus-ridership-up-in-albuquerque>
00:31:59 Ben Garland: Reacted to "Here's a press relea..." with 😊
00:34:37 Patrick Martin: This sounds a little like what the Rail Runner has?
00:35:33 Ben Garland: The rail runner has bike racks now?
00:35:43 Michael Devin: Reacted to "Leslie, thanks for..." with 🍷

- 00:36:03 Patrick Martin: I've only seen it once, I think maybe on the cab car they have the less-theoretical ones?
- 00:36:34 Samuel Jensen - TAB Chair: I think they have two cars with racks now. They're in the place of the seats under the stairs on the cars without restrooms.
- 00:36:43 Ben Garland: Interesting, all I ever saw was an empty space with some questionable straps but I haven't ridden it in over a year.
- 00:36:55 Patrick Martin: Reacted to "I think they have tw..." with 👍
- 01:03:58 Ben Garland: I would be in support of ABQ Ride creating some marketing materials on how to access these places via bus + bike, e.g. take the X bus to stop ABC, then head south on the adjacent multi-user path for 2 miles to reach the park.
- 01:04:41 Althea: Replying to "I would be in suppor..."
- They have done these in the past on their instagram and social media accounts at least, but maybe signage on the buses themselves would be good
- 01:05:13 Ben Garland: Replying to "I would be in suppor..."
- 👍
- 01:07:01 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: San Mateo County used to run weekend shuttles for several popular county parks. Not sure if they are still operating.
<https://www.smcgov.org/district-4/news/south-county-park-shuttle-program>
- 01:07:06 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/weekend-shuttles-county-parks-parks-department>
- 01:07:31 Ben Garland: Basic data on how many people visit Valle de Oro, Petroglyphs (at whatever entrance the proposed bus would go to), and Balloon Fiesta Park on a daily basis would be a good start. Are we talking dozens? Hundreds?
- 01:09:42 Ben Garland: *** from Albuquerque
- 01:09:59 Michael Devin: Seeing data on interest for reaching these outdoor spaces from transit dependent riders (like what T4B did) would be helpful too
- 01:10:33 Ben Garland: That might be difficult because everyone will say "Free bus? Sure I'd love to go there!"
- 01:11:35 Patrick Martin: FWIW, a monthly service that provides decent access one weekend or something a month wouldn't be an awful idea imo
- 01:12:13 jettmetcalf: Reacted to "FWIW, a monthly serv..." with 👍
- 01:12:18 Ben Garland: Reacted to "FWIW, a monthly serv..." with 👍
- 01:12:22 Michael Devin: Reacted to "FWIW, a monthly se..." with 👍
- 01:22:02 Steve Pilon: Reacted to "FWIW, a monthly serv..." with 👍