



## **Transit Advisory Board**

Thursday, August 10, 2023

4:00pm-5:30 pm

In Person Meeting at  
Alvarado Transportation Center  
100 1<sup>st</sup> St SW

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mercer Conference Room Albuquerque, NM  
87102

Virtual Meeting (Online) Via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 853 9689 3496

Phone#: 1 669 900 6833 or 1 253 215 8782

### **Members Present**

Samuel Jensen, Chair (ATC/ZOOM); Steve Pilon, Vice-Chair (ZOOM); Jennifer Layne Frederick (ZOOM); Ben Garland (ZOOM); Jennifer Jackson (ZOOM); Michael Patrick Martin (ABSENT); Jett Metcalf (ZOOM); Don McIver (ZOOM); Katherine Sullivan (ZOOM)

### **Staff Members Present**

Carrie Barkhurst, Senior Planner (ZOOM); Leslie Keener, Director (ZOOM); Margaret Lucero, Executive Assistant (ATC/ZOOM); Bobby Sisneros, Deputy Director (ZOOM); Mike Davis, Deputy Director (ZOOM)

### **Visitors Present**

Peter Rice (ZOOM); Albert Lee (ZOOM); Charles Davis (ZOOM); TAS (ZOOM); Richard Meadows (ZOOM); Althea Atherton (ZOOM); Ana Rios (ZOOM); Daniel Manzano (ZOOM)

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Samuel started meeting with a land acknowledgement reflecting on the fact that Albuquerque and New Mexico sits on unseeded, 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 4:02pm.

### **Approval of Agenda or Additions**

Chair Jensen asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Don McIver motioned to approve the agenda, Jett Metcalf 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Don McIver, Jett Metcalf and Katherine Sullivan.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Katherine Sullivan motioned to approve the June 8 meeting minutes, Don McIver 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was voice approved by Jennifer Layne Frederick, Ben Garland, Jennifer Jackson, Samuel Jensen, Don McIver, Jett Metcalf and Katherine Sullivan.

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

Althea Atherton: We had three events at ATC. We gave out burritos, gift cards, waters. There was Art and poetry, t-shirts, photo stories, lots of fun stuff. This is a fun and creative way of connecting community to make bus and ATC feel safer. Wilderness Society is collecting signatures asking the city for budget positive transit plan with Jarrett Walker and Associates to use this opportunity to have a strengthen system. Bus Rider Union having Town Hall in September. *Link is in chat.*

Jenny Jackson: This is my last meeting, I've accepted a job with the City of Albuquerque.

**TAB Chairperson's Report – Samuel Jensen, Chair**

Samuel Jensen: We could use more people on the board. Please spread the word. We'd love to have a diversity of opinions and experiences.

**Director's Report:** Leslie Keener, Director

Leslie Keener: Please visit Transit website and see our new Data Dashboard. This is work in progress and please share your feedback on what you would like to see from a public standpoint. Transit received two new Federal Grants in June. \$18.2M for Low-No Emission Grants for Electric buses and Raise Grant for \$25M for the Uptown Transit Center Development. We have a new Customer Service Support Supervisor. We're continuing to have missed service, with some relief with the route suspensions on March. We had a handful of mechanics that exited in May, which was part of another spoke we saw. We're averaging 650 hours of missed service a week. We have a new BID in place on Saturday that will hopefully helped with the missed service. 30% overall vacancy rate for Motor Coach Operators (MCO) & Sun Van Chauffeur SVC, 50% vacancy rate on vehicle maintenance. We've been working closely with APD and ACS. ACS will be moving into the north lobby of our ATC Facility. ACS will have staff on a regular basis. Customer Service has moved back downstairs in the north lobby. APD is currently working on getting their positions created and filled. APD has camera access and has made several busts at Central /Louisiana ART platform, ATC, San Mateo & Cutler area. Cameras are constantly being monitored. Rules to Ride will be updated and a new banning process will be put in place. De-escalating and passenger removal is a big focus in training with our drivers. Security calls have been broken down in two categories. Group A is a more serious type and Group B is more for loitering, trespassing, etc. We've seen a spike in loitering and narcotics, but we've had a larger presence and more documentation so that is the reason for the data spike. A lot of these are happening off the bus, at bus stops, ATC, platforms, etc. 35 CNG vehicles on order, they'll start to arrive in October, December through January. They'll replace old fleet. City Council Legislation R-23-1152 to cease install of bus wraps on our buses and Sun Vans. This will be on the agenda for Council for August 21.

Katherine Sullivan: Suggested putting a link to application process on Dashboard. When will electric buses come on board?

Leslie Keener: 2-3 years for electric buses.

Steve Pilon: I noticed ONE Albuquerque logo on some bus windows that obscures windows, will that be effected as well on new Legislation? Regarding new banning process, how are passengers going to be identified when boarding buses?

Leslie Keener: We're still working through the process, it will be more of a facial recognition and that will instigate the passenger removal process. We'll have more to present as we're working through the process.

Samuel Jensen: Do you know make & model of the new CNG buses? Are these replacing old fleet or adding? How are the contracted cleaners working out? Is the cleaning of ART stations moving forward? Do you have an official recommendation and what kind of impact it will have on revenue, regarding the new legislation?

Leslie Keener: GILLIG is the make and these will be replacing old fleet, diesel hybrid 700's. Contracted cleaners started June 1 and are cleaning buses at CUTC for a mid-day refresh. Drivers also have air freshener neutralizers on their buses that we are trying out. We are hoping to have the shelters painted by end of year. ART stations from Louisiana to Downtown have been repainted. All restriping, decals, concrete cleaning and looking at doing crack resealing. All broken monitors have been replaced. We need to submit a fiscal impact analysis to council.

Steve Pilon: Will new CNG buses have the same up keep of diesel buses they are replacing and will mechanics be able to work on the new buses?

Leslie Kenner: Mechanics were involved in the demonstration meetings with GILLIG. There will be extensive training for these new buses and will make sure mechanics have all of the certifications to work on our entire fleet. All drivers are trained on electric buses.

**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)).

Margaret Lucero: TAB will be taking a tour of Transit's Ken Sanchez Facility in September.

Althea Atherton: DOT passed new rule change to allow oral cannabis testing instead of urine testing. It might be helpful for ABQ Ride in the future. *Link in chat.* Bus Rider's meetings will begin again in September.

**Adjournment**

Meeting ended at 4:55pm

**Next Meeting: Thursday, September 14, 2023; 4:00 PM via online (ZOOM) or in person**

**Below are the chat messages exchanged during the ZOOM Meeting**

00:05:12 Peter Rice - Downtown Albuquerque News: Peter Rice from DAN  
00:05:13 Althea Atherton: Althea Atherton- Bus Rider Organizer with Together for Brothers  
00:05:38 TASS: Just saying Good Afternoon. I'm a regular ABQ RIDE rider.  
00:07:03 Albert Lee (he/him), City of Albuquerque: Albert Lee, Sustainable Transportation Specialist, City of Albuquerque, Sustainability Office  
00:07:19 Ana Rios (She/Her/Ella): Ana Rios - Together for Brothers  
00:09:07 TASS: I shall comment in chat if I need to comment. Thank you  
00:09:20 Don McIver: Steve is here now  
00:10:06 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Congratulations Jenny!!  
00:10:09 Bobby Sisneros (ABQ RIDE): Congratulations Jenny!!!  
00:10:12 TASS: Congratulations Jenny!  
00:10:43 Althea Atherton: [https://act.wilderness.org/a/abqride-better-for-all-1?fbclid=IwAR0zrlCtddNUJWlmwWNMQ4z\\_MbUgbC0EtGTsddYNiND9HxiVXiLkHktwQAE](https://act.wilderness.org/a/abqride-better-for-all-1?fbclid=IwAR0zrlCtddNUJWlmwWNMQ4z_MbUgbC0EtGTsddYNiND9HxiVXiLkHktwQAE)  
00:11:38 Althea Atherton: Above is the sign in sheet from the Wilderness Society about a budget-positive solution for transit  
00:12:00 Althea Atherton: Here is a scheduling when2meet for our Albuquerque Bus Riders Union meetings for fall: <https://www.when2meet.com/?20714643-ZJpna>  
00:12:04 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Link for sharing: <https://www.cabq.gov/clerk/boards-commissions/boards-and-commissions-membership-application>  
00:12:13 Don McIver: Congrats Jenny!  
00:14:23 TASS: For getting more TAB members, I recommend posting on ABQ RIDE's Facebook and twitter to get the word out.  
00:19:42 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Yay more data transparency! I know Patrick would love this lol.  
00:19:47 Althea Atherton: Reacted to "Yay more data transp..." with ❤️  
00:20:13 Althea Atherton: Replying to "Yay more data transp..."

The Bus Rider Union is going to be so excited :-) We love this stuff

00:22:41 Jett Metcalf (he/him/his): Reacted to "The Bus Rider Union ..." with 🦋  
00:35:53 Carrie Barkhurst | ABQ RIDE: <https://abqride-cabq.hub.arcgis.com/>  
00:36:08 Althea Atherton: Reacted to "https://abqride-cabq..." with ❤️  
00:38:43 Jennifer Frederick: Congratulations Jenny - you have done good work here and will be missed  
00:39:33 Althea Atherton: Reacted to "Congratulations Jenn..." with ☐  
00:41:21 Jenny Jackson: Thanks everyone!  
00:50:27 Don McIver: Good thorough report, Leslie. Thank you  
00:51:04 Ben Garland: It's been amazing to see the positive progress that ABQRide has made this year.  
00:51:14 Jennifer Frederick: Reacted to "It's been amazing to..." with 👍  
00:52:03 \* Steve Pilon \*: who is the local contact person for wilderness society?  
00:52:56 Althea Atherton: Replying to "who is the local con..."

Rachel S-W from the Urban2Wild program just moved onto go to law school and the position is open right now. I have contacts at the national office we are working with in the meantime if you are interested

00:53:04 Althea Atherton: Replying to "who is the local con..."

\*Rachel S-F

00:54:40 \* Steve Pilon \*: Replying to "who is the local con..."

I will be in touch via Email

00:54:47 Althea Atherton: [althea@togetherforbrothers.org](mailto:althea@togetherforbrothers.org)  
00:55:20 TASS: Thank you  
00:55:28 Althea Atherton: <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/us-department-transportation-allows-oral-fluid-drug-testing>