



City of Albuquerque

Department of Municipal Development



Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

Jennifer Turner, Director

Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM

- **Call to order**
 - The Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee Meeting of February 10, 2025, was called to order by Alex Applegate at 4:03 pm.
- **Introductions**
 - **Committee Members Present**
 - Ryan Mast (Vice Chair)
 - Luciana Roça
 - Alex Applegate
 - Adrian Carver
 - Naomi George
 - Frank Horine
 - **Committee Members Absent**
 - None
 - **Staff Members Present**
 - Tara Cok (MRCOG)
 - Valerie Hermanson
 - Albert Lee (Sustainability)
 - Jessica Sapunar-Jursich (DMD)
 - Eli Kosko
 - Julie Luna (BernCo)
 - Robert Messenger (CABQ Planning)
 - Paul Olson (DMD)
 - Jenae Robertson (TYLin)
 - Agnes Vallejos
 - Debbie Wolfe (BernCo)
 - **Visitors Present**
 - David C'De Baca
 - Dianne Cress, Bike ABQ
 - Ben Garland
 - Steve Pilon, Transit Advisory Board
 - Christopher Ramirez, T4B
 - Peter Rice, Downtown Albuquerque News



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- **Review and Approval of February 10, 2025 Meeting Agenda**
 - Member Applegate then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Member Roça moved to approve the agenda. Member George seconded. Motion approved 5-0
Yes: Ryan Mast, Naomi George, Luciana Roça, Alex Applegate, Adrian Carver, Frank Horine
No: None
- **Review and Approval of January 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
 - Member Applegate then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Member Carver moved to approve the agenda. Member George seconded. Motion approved 4-0-1
Yes: Naomi George, Luciana Roça, Alex Applegate, Adrian Carver, Frank Horine
No: None
Abstain: Ryan Mast
- **Public Comments** (Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per audience member)
 - Please email comments to Jessica Sapunar-Jursich (jessica@cabq.gov) before the meeting. **Emailed comments must be received by 4 pm on February 10, 2025 and will be read aloud in the meeting. OR** use the virtual raise hand feature during the meeting. In the meeting, please wait until recognized to begin comments.
 - No emailed comments
 - Christopher Ramierz: I am Together for Brothers, and I am speaking as a bicyclist and bus rider in Albuquerque since 1998. This week I am celebrating the restriping of Central Avenue from 1st to 8th Street, with separated bike lanes that will make the street safer for bicyclists, those who roll, walkers, and drivers. We need more separated bike lanes in all parts of the city; more so in communities that are low income, communities of color and transit dependent. At the most recent Open House with Municipal Development we learned about 187 new solar and pedestrian level streetlights coming to east Central. It shouldn't have taken this long to get, as we've been asking for over a decade, but we look forward to seeing them in November of 2025. We also learned about business access and transit lanes on east Central, that I believe are false solutions. I feel that the Municipal Development aren't listening to the neighborhood that recognizes that this is the most dangerous street in the country with more pedestrian deaths than anywhere else. The sidewalks along Central Avenue are too small. They are often electric streetlight posts in the middle of the sidewalk that prevent people with wheelchairs or strollers from accessing the sidewalk. They often have to be in the street which interferes and competes with bicyclists. The international district has the highest number of people with disabilities and highest concentration of transportation dependent people.



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- Steve Pilon: Along with where Christopher left off, I was disappointed with the public presentation last week. They have no intention of a road diet along east Central. The BAT lanes are inadequate treatment that people have to cross 6 lanes in order to get to the other side of the street. After speaking with an engineer from Lee Engineering, they have no intention of narrowing the through lanes from 12 feet and repainting would be too expensive. There was also no previous discussion of the study done about 3 or 4 years ago from Bohannon Huston for the road diet. It never became clear on why it wasn't adopted. Also, the engineer from Lee was unaware that this study was done either. I'm hoping that GAATC can look into this for a better solution for this traffic solution. The speed limit is also not going to be reduced and will maintain 40 MPH in which 5 people were killed about a year ago.
- Ben Garland: The changes coming to Central downtown between 1st and 8th Street will no longer have 4 way stops at every intersection, as originally proposed. My concern now is that the new bike lanes that will go in will only have a stripe of paint, with no protection from the vehicles on the road. This is very inconsistent with FHWA guidance that "in an urban environment where there are more than 7,000 vehicles per day, the bike lane should have some sort of separation even if there are just small armadillo bumps". I don't think it's acceptable to put a bike lane in an urban environment without physical protection.
- **Discussion / Action Items**
 - Discussion: GAATC Orientation, Jessica Sapunar-Jursich, Sr. Transportation Planner, Department of Municipal Development, City of Albuquerque
 - Discussion on:
 1. History of GAATC
 2. GAATC Member seats available and how to apply
 3. Review of requirements, responsibilities and role for GAATC committee members (including attendance)
 4. Review the roles of an Advisory Board versus an Advocacy Group
 5. Selected examples of previous GAATC involvement in plans and projects
 - Discussion: Committee Member Seat Updates, Jessica Sapunar-Jursich, Sr. Transportation Planner, Department of Municipal Development, City of Albuquerque
 - Topic was incorporated in previous discussion item.
 1. Youth (under 24 years of age) representative – candidate moving through the process
 2. Bicyclists representative – candidate moving through the process
 3. Pedestrian and Transit Users representative – vacant



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4. Individuals with a Disability representative – on board until another applicant applies
- Action Items: Nomination and Voting for Chair and Vice Chair 2025 member roles.
 - Motion for Alex Applegate to be Nominated as Chair:
Alex Applegate (motion); Naomi George (second)
Yes: Ryan Mast, Naomi George, Luciana Roça, Alex Applegate, Adrian Carver, Frank Horine
 - Motion for Luciana Roca to be Nominated for Vice Chair:
Luciana Roça (motion); Adrian Carver (second)
Yes: Ryan Mast, Naomi George, Luciana Roça, Alex Applegate, Adrian Carver, Frank Horine
- **Presentations**
 - Vision Zero and East Central Business Access & Transit (BAT) Lanes & Mid-Block Crossing project, Valerie Hermanson, Transportation Planner Manager, Department of Municipal Development
 - Purpose: Provide educational information and background about Vision Zero, best practices, ABQ's Vision Zero program, and lower cost/high impact project example with the East Central Business Access & Transit (BAT) Lanes / Mid-block Crossings project
 - Presentation information given:
 1. Traffic fatalities: how we got here, safe systems approach, best practices to address safe roads
 2. ABQ's Vision Zero Program/Year-in-Review (Action Plan Update) prioritized themes (safe roads/safe speeds), actions (lower cost/high impact), and HFIN/Vulnerability Index (high HFIN and vulnerability score)
 3. East Central BAT lane and mid-block crossings project
 - a. Proposed locations for 2 new mid-block crossings with median refuge islands and pedestrian hybrid beacons (PHBs) along east Central near Britt and near Dorothy
 - Next steps:
 1. Design and implementation funded by automated speed enforcement (ASE)/VZ funds
 2. Finalize design
 3. Bid out project for implementation – time TBD, project includes long lead time items (PHBs)
- **Staff Reports**



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- Municipal Development (DMD)
 - Jessica Sapunar-Jursich, Paul Olson, Valerie Hermanson
 - Clarification on Open Meetings versus Public Meetings:
 - While both terms are often used interchangeably, there is a difference between the two types of meetings.
 - Open Meetings follow the legal requirements of the Open Meetings Act (OMA), these meetings are open to the public for observation and ensuring government transparency
 - Public Meetings are intended to involve the public and ensure public participation in government processes
 - GAATC is an Open Meeting, not a Public Meeting so it is not required to have a public comment period by the OMA
 - BAT Lanes are currently being reviewed and planned
 - Kicked off design of the Buena Vista Boulevard project, between Gibson and Central; presentations and public meetings to come in April 2025, June 2025, and August 2025 (if needed)
- Council Services
 - No updates
- Parks and Recreation
 - No updates
- Planning
 - No updates
- ABQ RIDE
 - No updates
- Sustainability
 - No updates
- Bernalillo County, Julie Luna
 - A complete list of 2025 Complete Streets Projects can be found on the Bernalillo County website → “Public Works → “Transportation Planning” → “Complete Streets Planning” <https://www.bernco.gov/public-works/transportation-planning/complete-streets-planning/>
 - Includes detailed project information
- MRCOG
 - No updates
- NMDOT District 3



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- No updates

- **Next Meeting:** March 10, 2025, 4 – 6 pm

- **Adjourn**