

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

AGENDA DATE: 11/09/2021(Regular Agenda)

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

City Representative Peter Svarzbein (915) 212-0001

City Alexsandra Annello, (915) 212-0002

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL: (Goal 7- Enhance and Sustain El Paso's Infrastructure Network)
(Goal 1- Cultivate an Environment Conducive to Strong, Sustainable Economic Development)
(Subgoal 1.7 – Identify and develop plans for areas of investment and local partnership)

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what?

Discussion and action to suspend November Sun Metro route closures to 2nd quarter 2022 to fully ascertain return of ridership and to create a timeline for reinstatement of route closures during the pandemic from March 2020 to present.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) prohibited non-essential travelers to come into the United States due to the pandemic in March 2020. The City of El Paso suspended Sun Metro routes for the safety and wellbeing of the residents in March 2020. During the month of October of 2021, DHS announced fully vaccinated non-essential travelers will be able permitted to come into the United States starting on November 8, 2021. Last month, the City of El Paso announced Sun Metro modified/new/removed routes. The routes were modified and created based on ridership data which it promises to offer a better public transportation service to our community. It removed the routes 3, 16, 33 and 42. It created only two routes 12 & 17, and modified 5, 6, 12,17, it impacts 3, 5, 6, 12, 17, 26, 33, 42, 89 and Alameda Brio. The new schedule will take effect on November 21, 2021. Route 16 is scheduled for deactivation as part of the modification program and Route 11 will be reactivated as an option for non-essential travelers.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one? N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer? N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

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Sun Metro to remove and change routes in November

by Staff

Friday, October 15th 2021



Sun Metro (Credit: KFOX14 / CBS4)

EL PASO, Texas (KFOX14/CBS4) — Sun Metro has made changes to its routes.

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The city of El Paso is holding two public meetings on Monday to inform the community about the changes.

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Changes were made to its route schedule to improve route efficiencies, stated a news release from the city.

“We look at data to determine ridership and what routes make sense to modify,” Assistant Director for Sun Metro, Astrid Bunner said.

The schedule will take effect on Sunday, November 21.

The community meetings will be held in the Sun Metro Transit Operations Center located at 10151 Montana Avenue on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

“We hold these meetings to inform the public before November 21. We also have information available at those stations that will be changing routes,” Bunner said.

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ROUTE MODIFICATIONS

Impacted routes are: 3, 5, 6, 12, 16, 17, 26, 33, 42, 89 and Alameda Brio

- Route 5: Far East/ Cielo Vista Express – route change now traveling on Pebble Hills minimizing Zaragoza traffic congestion
- Route 6: Far East/ Mission Valley Express – route change now traveling on Pebble Hills, minimizing Zaragoza traffic congestion
- Route 12: Doniphan Circulator – route and schedule change providing service to Artcraft, Borderland, and Upper Valley
- Route 17: Three Hills NW EPCC – route and schedule change to service South Desert Boulevard directly for improved service time. Route 19 to serve the area

Alameda Brio will improve service times and a more direct connection from Mission Valley Transit Center to the Downtown Transit Center. Modification in service will arrive at Downtown Transfer Center faster due to the elimination of stop at Five Points.

NEW ROUTES

- Route 26: Five Points/Alameda Express – new express route servicing 5 Points and the University Medical Center of El Paso campus.
- Route 89: Zaragoza Bridge Circulator – new route due to increase in service demand

ROUTES REMOVED

DUE TO DUPLICATION OF SERVICE AND/OR LOW RIDERSHIP

- Route 3: Ysleta Express – route will be deactivated. Alameda Brio to serve the area
- Route 16: Upper Valley Circulator – route will be deactivated. Route 12 to serve the area
- Route 33: Gov't Hill via Bassett Place – route will be deactivated. Multiple route options to service the area.
- Route 42: Northeast Connector – route will be deactivated, Dyer Brio to serve the area

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