

SUN METRO CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SMCAC)
July 9, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00PM. The following Committee Members were present:

District	Name	Present	Absent
D1	Keith Andrews	X	
D2	Elisa Tamayo		X
D3	William Graham	X	
D4	Sandy Azcona	X	
D5	Aziz Afravi	X	
D6	Angela Ochoa	X	
D7	Sylvia Carreon	X	
D8	Scott White	X	
Mayor	Xavier Banales	X	

1. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Committee meeting of May 14, 2025.

Motion made by Ms. Carreon, seconded by Mr. Afravi, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the meeting minutes of May 14, 2025.

2. Welcome of new members to the committee.

Mr. Rimkus introduced Mr. Banales and Mr. Andrews and they each gave a brief statement about their experience and appointment to the committee.

3. Discussion regarding Sun Metro Transit License Agreements.

Mr. Rimkus provided a summary of the licenses currently in place, and discussed pending transit licenses for South Central Regional Transit and Greyhound. Mr. Rimkus also reviewed the City of Socorro's transit service and its transit license. Mr. White inquired on maintenance and Mr. Rimkus replied.

4. Discussion regarding a vision statement for the committee.

Mr. Rimkus introduced Roman Sanchez, Chief Innovation Officer, who reviewed the role his office plays with strategic planning for the City of El Paso. Julie Baldwin Munoz, Chief Strategy Officer, gave a brief presentation to include purpose and approach for establishing a vision statement and priorities for the committee. Ms. Carreon asked if Mr. Sanchez and his team would be contacting the members, Roman replied and introduced Coral Contreras, Performance Analyst, who is a member of his team.

5. Discussion regarding an update on Sun Metro Rising.

Mr. Mendez updated the members, Ms. Carreon asked if ridership data is gathered by the drivers, Mr. Mendez replied the data is recorded using technology located inside the buses. Mr. Andrews asked if Sun Metro Rising is available online, Mr. Mendez replied that it is.

6. Discussion regarding an update on Veterans Ride for Free grant progress.

Ms. Fierro provided a report on the program and grant funds remaining. Ms. Azcona asked for numbers of passes issued and ridership, Ms. Fierro replied with the requested information. Ms. Orozco also replied to Ms. Azcona's questions. Mr. Graham asked regarding grant funds utilized for the LIFT portion of the program, Mr. Arnold replied.

7. Discussion regarding Title VI demographic survey.

Ms. Fierro reviewed the need for committee members to complete the requested Title VI Survey; three members had not yet completed it.

8. Discussion regarding purchase of new vehicles for LIFT paratransit.

Ms. Caraveo provided an update on the new vehicles and advised members that the electric vehicles will be in service early next year. A few committee members had questions which were all answered by Sun Metro staff.

9. Discussion regarding training portal for committee members.

Ms. Orozco went over the training portal for committee members. Mr. Afravi asked if he would get notified by email, Ms. Orozco replied yes.

10. For notation

Mr. Rimkus reviewed EPATS monthly meeting times, and Mr. Caraveo reviewed the Sun Metro Paratransit Advisory Public meeting dates and times.

Public Comment

No member of the public signed up to address the committee.

Adjourn

Motion made by Ms. Carreon, seconded by Mr. Graham, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting of July 9, 2025.