



**MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
June 6, 2023**

A meeting of the Mass Transit Department Board was called to order at 10:23 a.m. Board Chair Oscar Leeson was present and presiding and the following Board Members answered roll call: Board Members Alessandra Anello, Cassandra Hernandez, Joe Molinar, Isabel Salcido, Art Fierro, Henry Rivera, and Chris Canales. Late arrival: Brian Kennedy.

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CALL TO THE PUBLIC – PUBLIC COMMENT

This time is reserved for members of the public who would like to address the Mass Transit Department Board on items that are not on the Mass Transit Department Board Agenda.

Mr. Steven Strumer, member of the public, commented.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Board Member Anello, seconded by Board Member Canales, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** all matters listed under the Consent Agenda unless otherwise noted (Items approved, postponed, or deleted pursuant to the vote on the Consent Agenda will be shown with an asterisk.)

AYES: Board Members Kennedy, Anello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, Canales, and Board Chair Leeson

NAYS: None

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CONSENT AGENDA – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Goal 6: Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

1. *Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the minutes of the Mass Transit Board Meeting of May 9, 2023.

CONSENT AGENDA – REQUEST TO EXCUSE ABSENT MASS TRANSIT BOARD MEMBERS

2. **NO ACTION** was taken on this item.



CONSENT AGENDA – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Goal 8: Nurture and Promote a Healthy, Sustainable Community

3. *Motion made, seconded and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the appointment of Aziz Afravi to the Sun Metro Citizen’s Advisory Committee by Board Member Isabel Salcido, District 5.



REGULAR AGENDA – OTHER BUSINESS

Goal 7: Enhance and Sustain El Paso’s Infrastructure Network

4. **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso operates the Mass Transit Department (“Sun Metro”) to provide public transportation for the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, a Commercial Driver’s License (“CDL”) issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (“TDPS”) is required for operators of Sun Metro vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Sun Metro offers training for employees seeking a CDL for purposes of operating a Sun Metro vehicle; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the CDL training, Sun Metro employees, must take and pass the CDL test offered by TDPS in order to receive their CDL; and

WHEREAS, the waiting period for CDL testing at TDPS facilities can be lengthy and can cause delays for Sun Metro Operations; and

WHEREAS, TDPS offers a Commercial Driver License Third Party Skills Testing Program to authorize an organization to administer the knowledge and/or driving skills examination for CDL on TDPS’s behalf; and

WHEREAS, Sun Metro wishes to participate in the TDPS Commercial Driver License Third Party Skills Testing Program in order to be authorized to administer the knowledge and driving skills examination for CDL applicants; and

WHEREAS, Sun Metro’s ability to conduct CDL testing, in addition to CDL training is expected to result in better service to the El Paso community by reducing CDL testing delays, increasing the pool of individuals qualified to operate Sun Metro vehicles, and supporting the advancement of the citizenry of

the City of El Paso by providing an additional avenue to obtain their CDL licenses and the employment opportunities associated with same.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to sign and submit to the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas any required applications, documentation and information in order for the City of El Paso to participate in the Texas Commercial Driver License Third Party Skills Testing Program and be certified by TDPS as an Authorized Organization to administer CDL examinations.

That the City Manager, Chief Transit Officer, or designee, be authorized to sign all certifications, assessments, performance reports and documentation required by TDPS in order to continue participation in the 3rd party skills testing program and maintain the status of Authorized Organization to conduct CDL testing.

That the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to take actions necessary and effectuate any budget transfers, any related agreements, amendments to such agreements and documents necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Mr. Anthony DeKeyzer, Director, presented.

Board Chair Leeser and Board Member Anello commented.

Motion made by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member Salcido, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Board Members Kennedy, Anello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, Canales, and Board Chair Leeser

NAYS: None



ADJOURN

Motion made by Board Member Anello, seconded by Board Member Salcido, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

AYES: Board Members Kennedy, Anello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, Canales, and Board Chair Leeser

NAYS: None



Approved as to content:

Anthony DeKeyzer, Director of Mass Transit