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1 bus system along Central Avenue, and the best way for them to benefit from its
2 services is by offering them free access; and

3 WHEREAS, a zero-fare model alleviates the need to staff the rear-door of
4 an ART Motor-coach to verify passengers have paid their fares; and

5 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque has provided free transit service on
6 Albuquerque Rapid Transit for most of the line’s operation since its initial
7 operation date of November 30, 2019 and the City Council has determined that
8 permanent free transit service should be offered to riders on this route; and

9 WHEREAS, to ensure that transit service is equally accessible to people
10 of all abilities, the City Council and Transit Department have determined that
11 Sun Van services should also be free; and

12 WHEREAS, the City Council and Transit Department have identified
13 strategies for streamlining the qualification process for accessing Sun Van
14 services that remains in compliance with Federal Transit Administration
15 Americans with Disabilities Act Para-Transit requirements and standards; and

16 WHEREAS, offering a zero-fare paratransit service is critical to ensuring
17 access for disabled persons to medical care, economic opportunities, and
18 socializing events and such a service helps foster an equitable community by
19 increasing access to jobs, activities, and commerce for individuals who are
20 unable to access these opportunities otherwise.

21 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF
22 ALBUQUERQUE:

23 SECTION 1. Section §7-2-1-1 ROA 1994, “FARES AND PASSES,” is
24 amended by inserting new paragraphs (A) and (B) and re-lettering all
25 subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

26 “[+(A) The Albuquerque Rapid Transit Lines shall be free.”

27 (B) Regular Fare Sun Van, shall be a free fare upon qualification for the
28 service through the Transit Department’s Qualification Process.+]”

29 SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, paragraph, sentence,
30 clause, word or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or
31 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not
32 affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance. The Council
33 hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section,

1 paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of any
2 provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

3 SECTION 3. COMPILATION. Sections 2-6 of this ordinance shall be
4 incorporated in and made part of the Revised Ordinances of Albuquerque,
5 New Mexico, 1994.

6 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance takes effect five days after
7 publication by title and general summary.

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32 X/CL/USERS/CCOTGM/Pena/Transit/Ordinance ART and Sun Van Free Fare.

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