

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY-SECOND COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-16-30 ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY: Trudy E. Jones

1 RESOLUTION

2 ESTABLISHING THE ABQ RIDE COMPANION ANIMAL PILOT PROJECT, A SIX  
3 MONTH PILOT PROJECT ALLOWING CERTAIN COMPANION ANIMALS ON  
4 ABQ RIDE PUBLIC TRANSIT.

5 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque recognizes that companion animals  
6 bring comfort, companionship and protection for the vulnerable regardless of  
7 their owners' income or social status; and

8 WHEREAS, those who have limited income and are most in need of  
9 affordable transportation may be unable to get their companion pets to their  
10 veterinary appointments; and

11 WHEREAS, allowing for low-income individuals to travel with their  
12 companion animals on public transit supports self-sufficiency and helps those  
13 pet owners to get to their necessary appointments; and

14 WHEREAS, the designation of a pet friendly city which includes public  
15 transportation with a pet encourages tourism and benefits the local economy.  
16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF  
17 ALBUQUERQUE:

18 Section 1. The City of Albuquerque hereby establishes the ABQ Ride  
19 Companion Animal Pilot Project to allow pet dog or pet cat companion  
20 animals to ride ABQ Ride fixed-route public transit and paratransit with an  
21 adult passenger during off-peak hours subject to the following restrictions:

- 22 • Permitted Animals. Only domesticated pet cats or dogs are  
23 permitted, and only one animal is permitted per adult rider;  
24 • Hours. Companion animals are permitted at any time on Saturday  
25 and Sunday, and Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or

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1 after 6:30 p.m. Drivers or transit staff may refuse admission to a companion  
2 animal if there is insufficient space on the bus due to heavy ridership;

3 • Fairs. Riders shall not be charged an additional fair for their  
4 companion animal;

5 • Locations & Security. Companion animals are not permitted on  
6 passenger seats and may ride only on the lap of a passenger, under their seat,  
7 or at their feet in a location that does not impede walkways or exits. Dogs  
8 must be in a closed crate, or if not in a crate then leashed and muzzled at all  
9 teams. Cats must be in a closed crate at all times. Crates must be of a size  
10 that can reasonably accommodate the animal and that can be carried by the  
11 passenger without assistance;

12 • Behavior. Companion animals must be under the control of the  
13 passenger at all times so as to not annoy, threaten, or inconvenience other  
14 passengers or companion animals. Drivers or transit staff may refuse  
15 admission to a companion animal, or eject any passenger and their companion  
16 animal if the companion animal is not clean, appears or becomes vicious, or  
17 acts to appears likely to annoy, threaten or inconvenience other passengers or  
18 companion animals;

19 • Cleanup. Passengers shall clean up after their companion animals.

20 • Penalty. Non-compliance with any of these restrictions and  
21 limitations may result in suspension of the passenger and/or companion  
22 animal from ABQ Ride service.

23 • Exclusion. Nothing herein is intended to limit or otherwise restrict  
24 “service animals” as defined by the Federal Transit Administration, U.S.  
25 Department of Transportation.

26 Section 2. The project shall begin July 1, 2016 with an anticipated  
27 completion date of December 31, 2016.

28 Section 3. Upon completion of the project, the City of Albuquerque  
29 Transit Department will request input from riders and interested parties to  
30 determine if the project is beneficial to the community and whether there is  
31 justification for its continuation.