

DATE: October 26, 2010

SUBJ: Minutes of October 26, 2010 Transit, Parking and Traffic Committee Meeting.

Members Present: Gary Crain, Scott Flanagan, Bill Greenhaw, J. Ryan Johnson, Wing Ning Li, Andrew LoPinto, David Martinson, Mike Norton, Bridget Penrose, Carsten Schmidtke, Gary Smith, Susan Stiers, Matt Trantham and Tim Jiping Zou. Also present was Elaine Quinn, secretary.

Gary Crain made the motion to approve the September 26, 2010 minutes. The motion was seconded by Susan Stiers and passed.

CURRENT STATUS OF PARKING:

1. Lot 36A – the house on the corner of Douglas and Storer Streets is being demolished to begin construction of a 31 space asphalt parking lot. The Reserved permit holders in lot 36 will be moved into this lot.
2. When Baldwin and Shell moves out of the three houses on Lindell Avenue, these lots will become gravel parking lots for faculty and staff.
3. Lot 2 Project – the closing is now scheduled for January. This will affect several ADA, Reserved and Psychology Clinic parking spaces but emergency vehicles will still be able to access the buildings and the Plant Science loading zone will still be usable.
4. Lindell Avenue and Douglas Street intersection will have a 4-way stop installed by the city.
5. Razorback Transit has received an award from the Federal Transit Administration for the largest increase in ridership in Region 6, which includes Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas and New Mexico.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Parking request for teaching assistants from the Provost – In the past, graduate students were considered students and could only purchase Student or Remote parking permits. Some graduate students are teaching assistants who have the primary responsibility for teaching undergraduate classes, similar to faculty. The proposal is for Transit and Parking to work with the Graduate School to authorize from 10 to 20 teaching assistants, who are the instructor of record for University classes, to be able to purchase Faculty/Staff parking permits. Wing Ning Li made the motion to proceed with the proposal as long as certain criteria were in place in making the decision. The motion was seconded and passed.

Tim Zou asked if there was any way to mark certain parking spaces in the Stadium Drive Garage as “compact car” spaces. Several extended cabs and trucks extend far

out into the drive making it difficult to get around. Gary said he would research options for this.

Susan Stiers commented that they have a Student Advisory Board and one of their main discussions centered on the need for some of the bus routes to begin a little earlier and end a little later. Some students had trouble getting to their 7:30 classes when the bus started at 7 and then some needed more time to get back at the end of the day. Some of this has to do with classes getting more spread out during the day because of a larger enrollment. As student enrollment increases each year more and more classes will extend further into the day. Gary asked Susan if she could provide some data on the number of students this affects.

Last year the committee discussed having departmental vehicles park in their own special lots to get them out of Faculty/Staff parking lots. Gary said we need lots on both the north and the south sides of campus to make it convenient for the departmental vehicles. Discussion then followed about "park and ride" lots. Right now that wouldn't be economical for us because students aren't even parking for free at Baum Stadium.

Mike Norton asked about the possibility of another crosswalk across Garland Avenue from the new garage closer to the Maple Hill side. Garland Avenue is a state highway and they will not permit another crosswalk. That could change in the future as the state may release several highways.

Garland Center now has a "3 Spoons Yogurt" and soon will have a Wal-Mart Pharmacy combined with a mini "Neighborhood Market". There is also a possibility of a sandwich shop, a video game store and nail store. 80% of the retail space should be under contract by the end of December.

The Master Plan for Athletics will probably be complete in January. They are looking at their facilities to decide if they are in the best location, need renovating, moving or eliminating.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.