

## **TRANSIT, PARKING, AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES**

April 23, 2013

Susan Stiers, Chair

Members Present: Matt Trantham, Jeremy McAtee, Katie Helms, Reggie Houser, Jered Guist, Alexandra Boyd, Luti Salisbury, Donna Daniels, Susan Stiers, Gary K. Smith, Jim Gigantino, Sam Fehr, and Angela Blake, secretary, was also present.

**Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes:** Matt Trantham made the motion to approve the minutes from February 13, 2013. The motion was seconded by Reggie Houser and passed.

### **Report on Current Status of Parking at U of A:**

Gary briefed the committee on the following:

1. Transit route changes for fall – Razorback Transit will increase service on several routes starting with the Fall 2013 Semester. This increase is to enable us to provide better service to several large, student focused, off-campus housing complexes, as well as the reopening of the newly renovated Hotz Hall as an active residence hall.

The Brown Route will have a second bus running from 7:00 AM until 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. The Purple Route will have a second bus running from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. The Yellow Route will have a second bus on the route between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. The Gray Route will be rerouted to return to Union Station by way of Leverett Street. This change will provide additional service, from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday, in a highly utilized corridor where the Blue Route has experienced capacity passenger loads.

In order to accommodate the increased demand and provide the most effective use of available resources, Razorback Transit will discontinue the Maple Hill Express Route. The Yellow route serves the bus stops formerly served by the Maple Hill Express route. The Pomfret Express Route will be consolidated into the Yellow Route, providing a second bus for both Pomfret Hall and the Maple Hill District residence halls. All other Razorback Transit routes will remain unchanged.

2. The loss in FTA capital funding for bus replacement has caused us to request a 5% increase in the student transportation fee.
3. Charter program update – Now have a 10-passenger plus one wheelchair space van for charter use, in addition to the two 32-seat buses.
4. Parking program update
  - a. Cleveland parking lot construction – 225 spaces on the Sunshine Apartment site, including two houses near the apartment site.

- b. Reagan and Gregg lot construction – Being discussed with Facilities Management now.
- c. Lot 1 expansion – on MLK, unknown space count at this time. Hope to partner with Facilities Management, the UA, and possibly Athletics.

5. Construction update

- a. South Utility Plant – Closing west half of lot 55 during the summer and part of fall semester. Closing the west end of lot 64A permanently ~ 20 spaces lost in 64A.
- b. Athletics
  - I. Matt Trantham gave an update on the Academic Dining Center. The project will start in early Fall '13 and the earliest completion will be Spring of '15. This project will close lot 54 and the north ends of lots 55 and 64, an exact space count is not known at this time. This will be the catalyst for the 800 spaces being built off of Razorback Road to compensate for the loss of parking to be completed by Fall '14 possibly.
  - II. Matt moved on to another Athletics project to start late Summer of 2013 and finish in Summer 2014. A new basketball facility will eliminate lot 56C. The facility will house two practice gyms and offices. The project will also enhance sidewalks in the surrounding area.
  - III. When the new Football Operations Center is complete, members of the staff will gain 109 parking spaces. This increase in the area will decrease the amount of staff parking in Lot 44 and open that for other faculty/staff members on campus.
  - IV. A new baseball and track facility will be taking a part of Baum Stadium parking but this portion of parking is maintained by Athletics rather than the Transit and Parking Department.
- c. Reggie gave an update on projects from Housing. The first is the new Housing building being built on the north side of Douglas Street, between Lindell and Oakland Avenues. There are no plans for parking being built to accommodate this increase in staff on this portion of campus. The staff members had used Hotz Hall for offices for 20 years. Hotz will open again this fall as a 417 bed student housing facility. Hotz will house Honors College students, and these students will have first choice parking for Resident Reserved. This will bring the total of residents living in the Maple Hill District 2,819. Founders Hall will house 215 beds to bring the total students living in the McIlroy Hill District to 1,687. Housing will not need overflow housing this year.

- d. Central Utility Plant expansion – This project will likely close lot 19 temporarily, with a loss of 31 reserved spaces.
- e. General use classroom and lab building – Located at the corner of Dickson and Duncan Streets, will close lot 17 permanently, with a loss of 21 reserved spaces, and likely temporarily close lot 19, a temporary loss of 31 reserved spaces.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The Islamic Center has proposed using temporary parking permits, valid from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. on Fridays only, for the standard meter rate, \$1.45 per hour. Each permit will cost \$2.90 for each date valid (FY13 rates). The permits can be issued for a semester or six months at a time. The charges will not include Fridays when the University is closed, i.e. Spring Break, Christmas break, and Thanksgiving break. Vehicles displaying the permits may be parked in lots 47N and 74. Reggie made a motion to approve this proposal, Matt seconded the motion and it passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The Transit and Parking Department received a request to add three parking spaces at the west end of Peabody Hall for three faculty members in that building who cannot always park in one of the ADA parking spaces located on the north side of this building. Facilities Management has developed a plan to add the spaces. The estimated cost of these spaces would be around \$20,000. The site is planned for a future building but there is no projected date for construction. Matt suggested removing ADA to make reserved or designate those specific ADA as Reserved ADA. Luti also suggested this, but Gary informed them that there would be wasted space because the three spaces needed would not need an access isle, and the ADA spaces there have isles. A discussion was led on regulations of acquiring an ADA permit by Gary after the mention of people misusing ADA. Jeremy posed the question of whether or not parking can handle this expense and if they are built over, does parking get their money back? Gary informed the committee that parking can handle the cost of these spaces and the policy on the issue says there is a \$6,000 refund per space when taken, if policy stays the same Parking will receive money back. A motion was made to add three reserved spaces, Michelle seconded, 5 members were in favor and 3 were against. The motion passed and the spaces will be built by fall 2013.
2. ROTC Request to change the restricted hours for lots 32 and 38. Approximately 45 ROTC Cadets run from 5 am to 7 am. The cadets currently park in Reserved lots 32 and 38. When they stay later than 7 am, they are cited for being in an unauthorized lot. They are requesting lots 32 and 38 be changed to Reserved from 7:30 am until 5 pm. The question was raised on how many vehicles park there on days the cadets train with a response of 45-50 from the ROTC representative. Gary stated that all Reserved lots and Garages begin being enforced at 7 am, changing this one would make the rules more difficult to follow. One of the members asked if it would be possible to make the student parking no overnight to open the student lots for the cadets. After discussing spaces in each

lot as well as the impact this will have on Greek life in the area, Reggie motioned to make Lot 31N no overnight parking to take effect Fall 2013. Matt seconded this motion and all members were in favor. The motion was passed.

3. Approximately 225 parking spaces are to be constructed this summer and early fall on Cleveland and Hall Street. It is recommended that this lot be designated as Resident Reserved. Hotz Hall will reopen in August with approximately 420 beds. This lot would serve the residents of the Northwest Quad, Reid Hall, Maple Hill and Hotz Hall. Reggie made a motion to accept the proposal and Matt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
4. A new lot is proposed to be constructed on the northwest corner of the Reagan and Gregg Street intersection. The space count is unknown at this time. It is recommended the lot be designated as Faculty/Staff. It will adjoin two small Faculty/Staff parking lots and be lot 14C. Reggie made a motion to approve the proposal with a second from Jeremy. All members were in favor and the motion passed.
5. Lot 1, on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. may be expanded this summer. Lot 1 is currently a Faculty/Staff lot. If the lot is expanded, it is suggested that it all spaces be designated as Faculty/Staff. Reggie suggested that it is marked as no overnight so vacating the lot for Athletic events is easier. Matt made a motion to keep the lot as Faculty/Staff with no overnight parking, Jeremy seconded. All were in favor, the motion passed.
6. The Athletics Department has requested to add lots 78 and 78A, located on the southwest corner of Gregg and Douglas Street intersection, to their list of scholarship parking lots. Reggie made the motioned for approval and Matt seconded. All members were in favor and the motion passed.
7. The Stadium Drive, Garland, and Meadow Street Garages currently require permits or meter payment until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Harmon Avenue Garage requires a permit or hourly payment until midnight, Monday through Friday. There is a large influx of parkers to the Stadium Drive Garage at 5 pm on weekdays. The vehicles are taking prime parking spaces and not contributing to the maintenance or operation of the garage. Because of this, should the Stadium Drive Parking Garage hours be enforced after 5 p.m.? Gary stated that the enforcement time would need to be to at least 10 p.m. Permit spaces would be unused unless the permit spaces were numbered to use as meter spaces after 5. Susan motioned to table this discussion until a later date when more time is available to discuss options. All members were in favor and the motion to table passed.

Susan adjourned the meeting.