

Minutes of the Transit, Parking, and Traffic Committee - February 22, 2010

Members Present: Michael Dodd, Reggie Houser, Elizabeth Jordan, Michele (Mikey) King, Wing Ning Li, Andrew LoPinto, David Martinson, Bill Mock, Cindy Pickney, Henry Rowe, Gary Smith, Susan Stiers, Robert Stassen, Matt Trantham and Tim Jiping Zou. Also present were Bryan Haines representing UAPD and Elaine Quinn, secretary.

Michele King moved to approve the December 4, 2009 minutes. The motion received a seconded and passed.

Report on Current Parking Status - Gary Smith

1. Two new 40' low floor Gillig buses have arrived. Each cost \$353,000 and we were responsible for 20% of that.
2. University legal is reviewing a contract with Hertz for a car share program. There will be three rental cars that any member could rent by the hour. The rental fee will be \$6.50 to \$8 an hour.
3. We have been performing lot inventory for possible afternoon and evening reserved permit program.
4. Our Annual Report is being finalized and will be on our website soon.
5. Twitter is now in use to notify followers of transit and parking information. This is in addition to the parkinginfo listserv.
6. There are about a dozen parking lots that need repairing in our summer maintenance list. Transit will be using grant money to get a new bus wash and bring the fuel island up to standard.

Three more buses are on order and will arrive in July. The Garland Garage is on schedule and should open the first part of August with 1500 parking spaces. The new Bookstore will open in July.

New Business

A. Departmental vehicles being stored in F/S parking lots – This concern was brought to Kevin’s and Gary’s attention by Professor Curt Rom. Many of the departmental vehicles that use to park in lot 16 are now parking in lot 36, taking up needed Faculty/Staff spaces. Last year Gary had spoken to the department heads that had the majority of these stored vehicles and some vehicles were moved to the Farm, but most of these vehicles are utilized by the departments every day and they need them relatively close. It was recommended that Gary contact Dr. Rom and ask him for input on how to solve the situation since most of the vehicles belong to different departments in the Agriculture College.

B. Parking prohibited on the east side of Garland Avenue, between Douglas and Maple Streets – Henry Rowe presented a Power Point presentation showing how narrow the sidewalk is between Maple and the construction area. When university vehicles or delivery trucks pull up onto the curb to get off the street, it forces pedestrians to walk in the street because there is also a fence keeping them from going around the parked vehicles. This is causing safety concerns. The university vehicles have been approved by Facilities Management to park on sidewalks on campus. Reggie moved for Gary to ask Ron Edwards to advise the drivers receiving the sidewalk parking passes that if they are blocking the sidewalk to the point of preventing pedestrians from using it, they need to park elsewhere. The motion was seconded and passed.

C. Moving Violation Fine Increases – There was no discussion on the proposed moving violation increases but Susan Stiers asked about the “stop for pedestrians” sign at the crosswalks and wondered if the sign could have a violation amount on it. Kevin said he would check into that but there are different amounts whether it is a university or a municipal citation. Better crosswalk lighting was also brought up. Matt Trantham moved to approve the violation increases. The motion was seconded and passed.

D. Lot redesignations – lots 58 (Stadium Drive) and 22 (west of Bud Walton Hall) – Last year the committee approved changing some Resident Reserved zone 8 to Faculty/Staff on the north end of Stadium Drive. Gary recommended changing six more spaces next to it from Resident Reserved to Faculty/Staff parking. This will not impact Sigma Nu parking. Gary also recommended changing five spaces north of the bus stop on Stadium Drive, across from Pomfret Hall, from Resident Reserved to Faculty/Staff and seven spaces at the south end of Lower Service Drive from Resident Reserved to

Faculty/Staff. Lot 22, which is behind Walton Hall, has 16 spaces that are not being utilized. Gary recommended changing these to Faculty/Staff. Lot 54, on the north end of Pomfret Hall, is also not being utilized. Gary proposed changing it from Resident Reserved to Student parking. We will work with Housing to notify the residence hall students of the changes. Matt moved to approve all the suggested designations. It was seconded and passed.

E. Afternoon Reserved Parking Permit Proposal

Problem: Employees arriving for evening shift, beginning work around 3 p.m., cannot park in Reserved lots and the Faculty/Staff lots near the campus core are full. These employees must park on the perimeter of campus when they arrive for work. When they get off work at 11 p.m. or later, they must walk to their vehicle on remote parking lots.

Proposed Solution: Implement an afternoon Reserved parking permit option for employees who work the evening shift. These permit holders will be permitted to park in their designated Reserved lots after 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The number of permits issued for any Reserved lot and the Reserved lots used will be determined by Transit and Parking staff, based on daily lot counts conducted by Parking Patrol staff. For the additional Reserved lot option, the employee will pay \$56 for 12 months. This is in addition to the cost of their Faculty/Staff permit. This amount will be prorated, like other annual permits, based on the number of months remaining in the permit year. The restricted hours for the Reserved lots will not be extended. The afternoon Reserved permit holder will be permitted to park in the Reserved lot after 2:30 p.m. This allows the evening shift employee to park near their work location when they arrive in the afternoon and not have to walk a long distance back to their vehicle at the end of their shift.

Henry Rowe would like for the cost to be less but it is easier to start higher and if needed then come down. Usage is more important. Motion was made to approve the permit proposal for the \$56 and it passed. This will begin as soon as possible.

F. Matt Trantham reported that the Tyson Indoor Track Facility may be used as a voting precinct starting in the fall. This had been discussed in an earlier meeting.

Old Business:

None presented.

Meeting adjourned.