

Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 18, 2013

Place: PTS Conference Room, Stadium Parking Garage

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

I. Open Forum

- a. Two representatives from SGA met to address two initiatives or concerns:
 - i. Carpooling and
 - ii. Bus systems
- b. Carpooling has been marketed on the Parking website and in emails, but there has not been enough support to promote it further.
 - i. SGA has put up signs on campus, but there have been no responses from students. Will need support from TPAC in order to spread word on the option of carpooling to students.
 - ii. On Facebook, there is a free program called ZimRide that lets you find people with whom to carpool, which is something to be considered and used after further research and monitoring to ensure safety and security for riders and drivers. SGA supports this and would like to promote it.
 - iii. Ridesharing RFP for bids to go into effect next fall, so this and carpooling initiatives will be on the agenda for February meeting
- c. Voiced complaints/concerns on the bus system from the perspective of a student resident on campus:
 - i. Buses are too short and there is not enough room for sitting or standing; frequency of arrivals at bus stops are too long
 - ii. TPAC is still in process of transitioning new buses from Groome Transportation, but the new fleet of buses coming in June will be bigger in order to fit more people, sitting and standing.
 - iii. PTS had already reacted to these concerns of residents with RLH for the beginning of this semester by adding two additional buses to the Outer Loop. Service will revert back to TPAC's recommendation at the start of the Fall semester.
 - iv. If the student body wishes to add transit services a transit fee must be introduced to fund the shuttle bus operations.
 - v. SGA will attempt to get this fee approved by the students in the upcoming spring elections.
 - vi. TPAC has listened to the student representatives' concerns on behalf of those who use the bus and are fully aware and working on it.

II. Approval of November and December Meeting Minutes

III. Spring Parking Update

- a. Garages are now filling up, and PTS has run out of garage parking permits, not anticipating so many upgrades due to construction work, but they are reselling annual permits at the semester rate instead.
- b. Sent out emails to all on the garage waitlists and then closed the waitlist down and are selling directly to students.
- c. Current oversell for Student Commuter permits is 2.6, which is up from the fall semester
- d. Garage oversell is currently 1.58 with a goal of 1.83

IV. Shuttle Service Update

- a. New tracking system for the bus services, which is being marketed as Cougar Trax, developed by ETA Transit. NextBus is no longer being used.
 - i. System shows location of buses on route, arrival times, etc. There are both a PC based public site and a Mobile site for use on smart phones
 - ii. Marketing as Cougar Trax
 - iii. Cougar Trax promotions are being done in buses, at bus stops, and on the Parking website

V. Parking Rates FY14 and FY15

- a. Narrowed down to focus only on Options 2 and 3
- b. PTS will research with Facilities to reduce the deferred maintenance of 2% (which equals roughly \$1.2 million)
- c. Transit fee for each semester will need Senate approval to pass; must present to the Board of Regents in May after SGA votes on it in February
- d. Project funding will be for lot maintenance and paving; 1.6 will cover annual maintenance and equipment changes needed
 - i. Transit fee – Transportation funding
 - ii. Projects – Parking and Operations funding
- e. TPAC will put both options on the agenda for the Board to consider
- f. Motion for Option 3 with contingency on Option 2 – Passed
- g. Time to have further research and specifications on the transit fee and project costs
 - i. Best to have approval on Option 3 first in order to discuss actual numbers in detail
 - ii. What services will TPAC recommend with the transit fee? Consider the addition of traveling to/from the Medical Center.

VI. Member Items

- a. For February meeting, discuss parking relocation cost rollover plan
- b. Frontier Fiesta (FF) addresses concerns of not being able to help parkers with the limited amount of parking spaces they will be renting
 - i. Compared to the challenges now, options need to be explored in order to address these concerns ahead of time, with TPAC and FF united, to send the same message to parkers
 - ii. Will readdress FF's final layout and timelines at the next meeting

VII. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING:

Date: February 15, 2013

Place: PTS Conference Room, Stadium Parking Garage

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm