

## **Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Date: March 8, 2013

Place: PTS Conference Room, Stadium Parking Garage

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Attendance: Jeff Syptak, Emmanuel Papadakis, Jeremy May, Ruth Manny, Tommie Trevino, Kirby White, SGA (replacing Andrea Trevino, SGA), Zachary Irons, Esmeralda Valdez, Bob Browand, Paul Lozano, Syed Kamran Riaz, Angelar Jackson (Arris), Mylien Triet, Edward Bell

#### **I. Open Forum**

#### **II. Approval of February Meeting Minutes**

#### **III. Frontier Fiesta Communications Update**

- a. Email signed by both Jeff Syptak and Bob Browand was sent out on the previous Monday regarding Frontier Fiesta, with follow-up email to be sent Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> as a reminder on parking lot closures and parking and transportation alternatives
- b. Signs (paper and electronic) were posted in and along streets and entrances to these lots
- c. Daily Cougar also included article about Frontier Fiesta, including announcing lot closures
- d. Facebook posts will be updated a few time in the weeks leading up to the event
- e. News release was posted on the Parking website with more detailed information

#### **IV. Bayou Oaks Parking Plan**

- a. Kenny Mauk from Residential Life and Housing (RLH) visits to discuss plans with TPAC for resident parking options at Bayou Oaks
- b. There are about 322 spaces and 17 handicapped and metered spaces
- c. Committee discussed how the costs of parking should be distributed, what kind of permit should be used, and the distances of adjacent lots
- d. Concerns with charging more expensive RHE and student commuter permit rates with Economy lots within a tenth of a mile. (4A and Bayou Oaks Temporary lot)
- e. Pros and cons of options addressed:
  - i. Charge residents the RHE permit rate
    - More funding for shuttles
    - Residents keep their reserved spaces
    - But, costs more and gives option to park Economy nearby while RHE lot remains empty
    -

- ii. Charge the Student Commuter rate
  - More funding for shuttles
  - But, spaces are no longer reserved
- iii. Change nearby Economy lots to Commuter lots
  - More funding
  - But, residents pay more
- iv. All RLH residents pay Commuter rate
- v. All RLH residents pay RHE rate
  - Fair market rate for receiving reserved spaces
- f. The Committee was in favor of a tiered approach:
  - i. Parking requirements will remain the same in 2013-2014 with Bayou Oaks Residents needing at least an economy permit to park in the gates lot.
  - ii. RLH will decide if a separate Bayou Oaks permit is necessary and they will control access to the parking gate.
  - iii. In 2014-2015 Bayou Oaks residents will be required to purchase a student commuter permit and economy lots 4A AND Bayou Oaks Temporary Lot will be converted to student commuter.

**V. Parking Rates FY14 and FY15**

- a. Timelines and processes of options shown to get transit fee approvals:
  - i. To be approved by Texas Legislature, student referendum needed by SGA and legislator serve as sponsor
    - Took UT Dallas and UTSA two years with similar processes
    - Projected timeline: referendum by Fall 2013 (or Spring 2014 at the latest), sponsor chosen by Spring/Summer 2014, legislature pass by January 2015, and start transit fee usage in Fall 2015
  - ii. To charge/allocate to Student Service fees, approvals needed by Student Fees Advisory Committee, VP for Student Affairs, and Board of Regents
    - Projected timeline: SFAC recommendation by Fall 2013, SGA approval/election by Spring 2014, start fee usage in Fall 2014
- b. Jeff Syptak will reconvene with SGA to review for next meeting
- c. Drafted revised Rate proposals:
  - i. Option 2 stays the same
  - ii. Option 3 split into 3A and 3B: (assumes a Transit Fee is in place)
    - 3A – permit rates for F/S increase by 10%, students have no change (implement for Fall 2014)
    - 3B – permit rates for F/S do no change, student rates decrease by 10% (implement transit fee in Fall 2015)
  - iii. Committee recommends staying with Option 2 due to the unknowns involved with the Transit Fee.

**VI. Parking Relocation Cost Rollover Proposal**

- a. Formal recommendation will be sent by Jeff Syptak to Administration and Finance for review and approval, with memo letter needed with the proposal

**VII. Member Items**

- a. Validate the toll tag reader in garages to operate properly
- b. For purposes of discussion, Kirby White mentions bill in SGA to rename and re-identify all campus parking lots as part of efforts to improve campus way-finding and signage
  - i. Names are suggested for renamed lots, as well as the feasibility of getting funded sponsors whose names will be used for these renamed lots
- c. Esmeralda will discuss with Kirby and Dean Oliver in Architecture who is currently working on a new campus way finding program.
- d. Appeals board's main issue with towing policy
  - i. Parking illegally at the end of rows, especially in gravel lots. More signage for gravel lots by the end of spring break.
  - ii. Improve communications or signage of campus lots and construction

**NEXT MEETING:**

Date: April 19, 2013

Place: PTS Conference Room, Stadium Parking Garage

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm