

Transportation & Parking Committee (TPC)
17 March 2014 Minutes
Third Floor Conference Room, Holtzman Alumni Center

Members present:

Ladd Brown, Virgilio Centeno, Gregory Fansler, Joey Albert (for Kevin Foust), Bruce Harper, Mackenzie Jarvis, Richard McCoy*

Members absent:

Leon Geyer, Kathy Hosig, Ben Poe, Kasey Richardson, Patricia Williams

Guest:

Jason P. Soileau, Assistant Vice President for the Office of University Planning, who presented overviews of several projects:

Concept Review on Drillfield Drive Road Improvements

This project will allow two-way traffic between Stanger Street and Kent Street by converting the existing green islands to “roundabout-like” areas. The resulting north-south corridor will reduce traffic on the Drillfield, thereby increasing pedestrian safety.

The Drillfield itself –an “iconic space” on campus-- will be enhanced with: landscape grading and turf upgrades, pathway lighting, improved pedestrian walkways, trailheads (entry points), reconfigured parking, and plaza and terrace seating. The proposed interior construction should not restrict any intramural sports or Corps of Cadets activities.

There were questions and discussion about:

- regulating vehicles turning left from Alumni Mall to go to Kent Street
- the location and possible re-location of bus stops
- the possibility of using pavers in the new pathways and trailheads as fundraisers
- the extension of the proposed atmosphere up Alumni Mall to North Main Street

Concept Review of the Western Perimeter Road

This road will connect Prices Fork Road to new interchange at Southgate and create improved traffic flow to the Life Sciences District and the three primary commuter zones (B Lot, “The Cage,” and Chicken Hill).

Design Review of the Route 460/Southgate Drive Interchange Project

This will be a grade separated interchange project at US Route 460 and Southgate Drive.

Both the perimeter road and interchange projects will involve re-working sections of Southgate Drive and the Huckleberry Trail as well as affecting the airport.

Agenda and minutes:

The 17 February 2014 minutes were approved.

Parking and Transportation (P&T) update:

McCoy distributed the Parking Appeals Hearing Committee (PAHC) Background Information March 2014 document and PAHC University Operational Committee March 2014 proposal. In response to the TPC's revamping and codifying the PAHC bylaws, university administration recommended that the PAHC become a university operational committee. The proposal will go through proper channels; hopefully, the governance-sanctioned PAHC will be in place by the beginning of the Fall 2014 semester.

Other P&T items were:

- there will be a short Alternative Transportation survey out soon as part of the annual report on campus sustainability
- parking in the North End Center area is functional
- there will be overlay work done in parking lots over the summer
- there was considerable damage to parking gates during the last major snowfall

Virginia Tech Police Department (VTPD) update:

Albert did not have an update.

Constituent Reports:

There were no constituent reports.

The April meeting is TBA in the 3rd Floor Conference Room in the Holtzman Alumni Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Ladd Brown
Recorder