



Transportation & Parking Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 10th, 2024

Meeting Minutes

1. Attendance & Reminder of previous meeting minutes on Governance website
2. Adoption of agenda

Old Business:

3. Updates from Carrie regarding over the summer projects & changes taken place since our last meeting (see slides that accompany these minutes); Kiera Schneiderman (student at the meeting) asked a question about the wrong affiliation charge and how it is more detrimental to the students if they buy a pass rather than if they do not buy a pass (\$45/\$65); Carrie Cox explains that it is only \$45 if they are unable to affiliate the vehicle as a student vehicle. Kiera also adds that it was a sharp \$20 upward charge for students, as Carrie explained that the committee voted last semester and were all advocates of this charge being increased. AJ Prussin, Kayla Dean, and Diane Agud weigh in on how the increase is a deterrent for students. Lydia Qualls weighs in with a question of where to find this information, or warning, to not park in these spaces. Pam Tate explains where the students can find this information and what all is provided to them ahead of time.

New Business:

1. Maternity Parking Proposal – Amber Robinson presenting – Amber Robinson provided a proposal that are also included with the minutes and explained how it can be burdensome for women who are pregnant, especially later in their term, to navigate multiple modes of transportation and walking extended distances. Carrie Cox responds to explain that only DMV can issue an ADA permit, parking cannot authorize this without a DMV permit. Recommendation to work with their doctors, and get a temporary ADA permit. There is a temporary medical permit available to students with some documentation, which could be upgraded to faculty/staff but not ADA.
2. Payroll Deduction Continuing Option – LaTawnya Burluson – Staff Senate working with constituents across campus and a constant subject would be an option to payroll deduct pro-rated parking pass at multiple times throughout the year. Pam Tate responds that it is a doable situation except with wage, and some of the lower paid salary workers, that when first deduction comes out it could wipe their full check. This is an option parking services is looking at and are currently talking to some peers at other universities as to how it works.
3. Service vehicles, golf carts parking on sidewalks around Durham/Mitchell Hall – AJ Prussin – AJ states this has decreased but a lot of golf carts; currently a work in progress. Carrie Cox states they will look at golf carts at the location

4. Clarification on ParkMobile & bus, bike, walk passes – Lydia Qualls – Lydia is requesting to know where ParkMobile is used and where you would not use it; Pam Tate explains it is for anyone who does not have a permit, forgot their permit, time barrier parking, etc. Some students abuse the system and park in faculty/staff who use ParkMobile. Lydia asks if a bus/bike/walk pass can use Park Mobile if they are out of opportunities to use that pass.
5. Ex Officio membership – Carrie Cox – Carrie Cox introduces Mike Dunn from Facilities, whom we feel like it is important to designate someone in this position on the committee since they work on several projects. Committee votes on membership in the chat of the zoom, all members are in support of this and it is approved by the committee. This will move forward to April Myers.
6. Elect secretary & vice-chair for AY24-25 Committee – Jennifer Walters volunteers for secretary; vice-chair is volunteered for by LaTawnya Burleson but upon further investigation after the meeting, LaTawnya is not currently in the roster so vice-chair is currently still open
7. Diane Agud brings up Gilbert parking – Carrie Cox responds with it being a VTF facility and it is not managed by parking services/permits are not valid there. Carrie Cox stated she would reach out to her contact at VTF and see if they would put some signage or communication out. There are signs currently but Carrie will reach out again to see how we can best help the situation.
8. AY24-25 Work Plan – Jason Brooks is with VTPD and in for Chief Babb; they are working on Hokie Blitz campaign to help mitigate issues with traffic, parking, and pedestrians on campus; to help with education and conduct. Workplan looks good, VTPD would like to be included in the workplan.

Meeting adjourned.

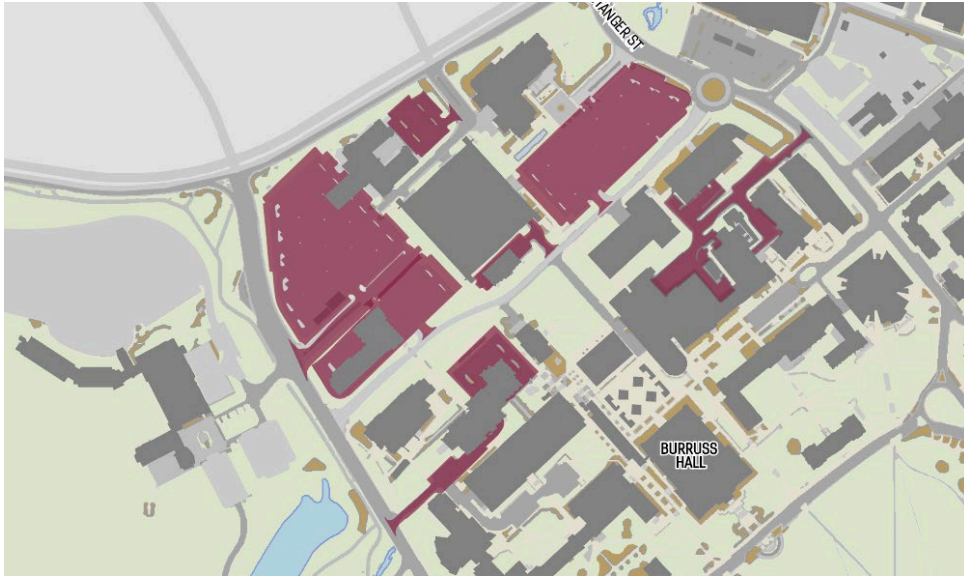


Transportation Changes for Blacksburg Campus

CARRIE COX
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY SERVICES

September 10, 2024

PARKING DISPLACEMENT: CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

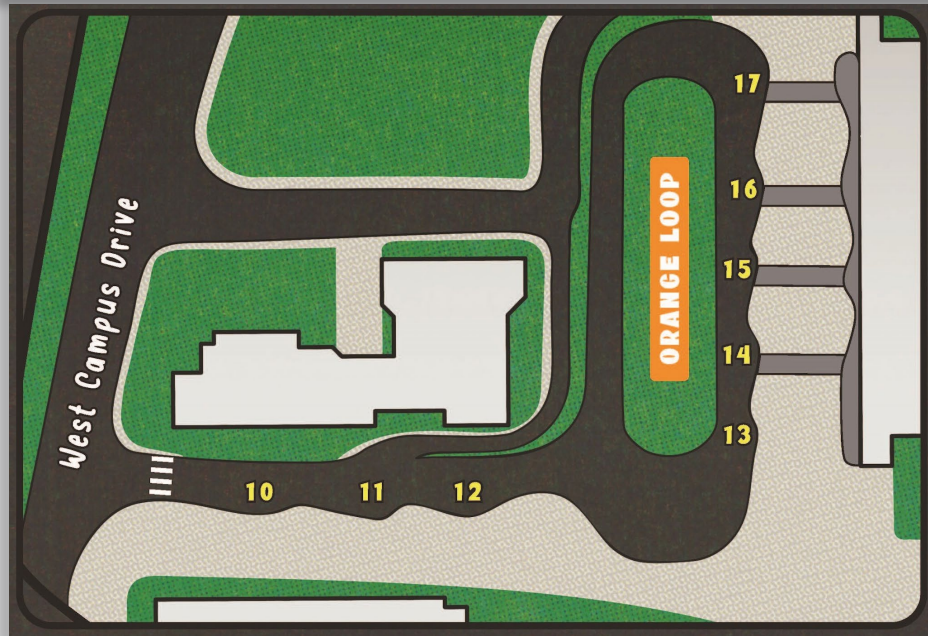
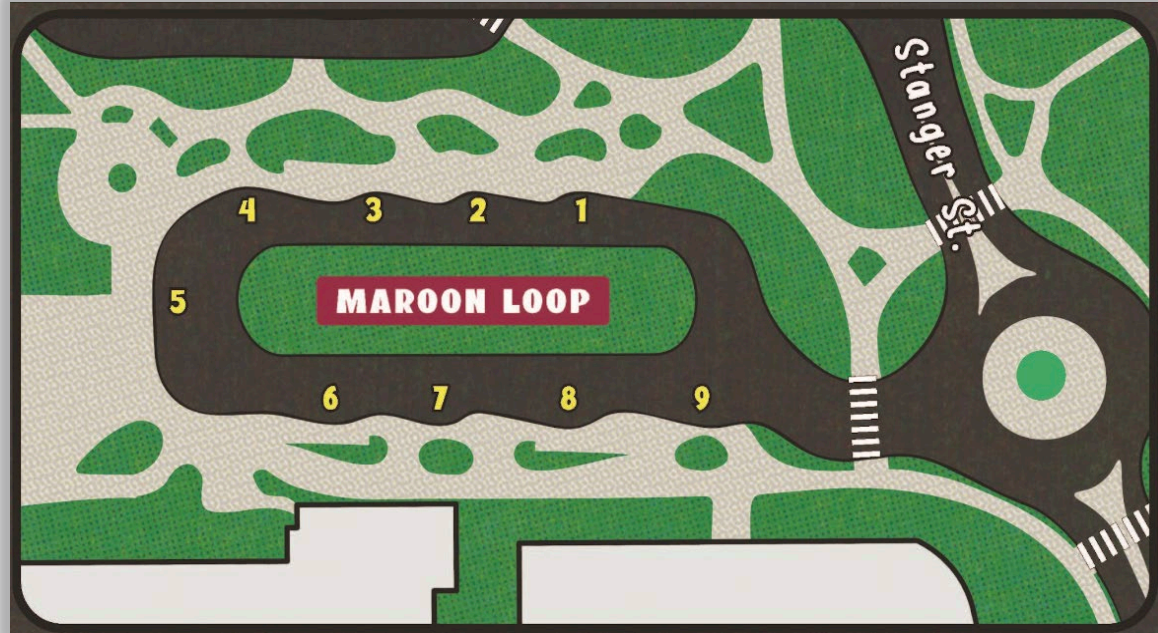


- Goodwin – 406 (FY14)
 - New Classroom Building – 423 plus 10 motorcycle (FY16)
 - Transit Center – 760 (FY21)
 - Data and Decision Sciences – 398 (FY21)
 - Hitt Hall – 79 (FY22)
 - Undergraduate Science Lab Building – 542 (FY22)
 - Mitchell Hall – 114 (FY24)
-
- Over the past several years, multiple new facilities and major renovations to existing buildings have taken place throughout the North Academic District.
 - This construction has, and will continue to, displace a substantial amount of parking in the campus core.
 - In line with the Campus Master Plan and the university's strategic goals and objectives regarding campus development

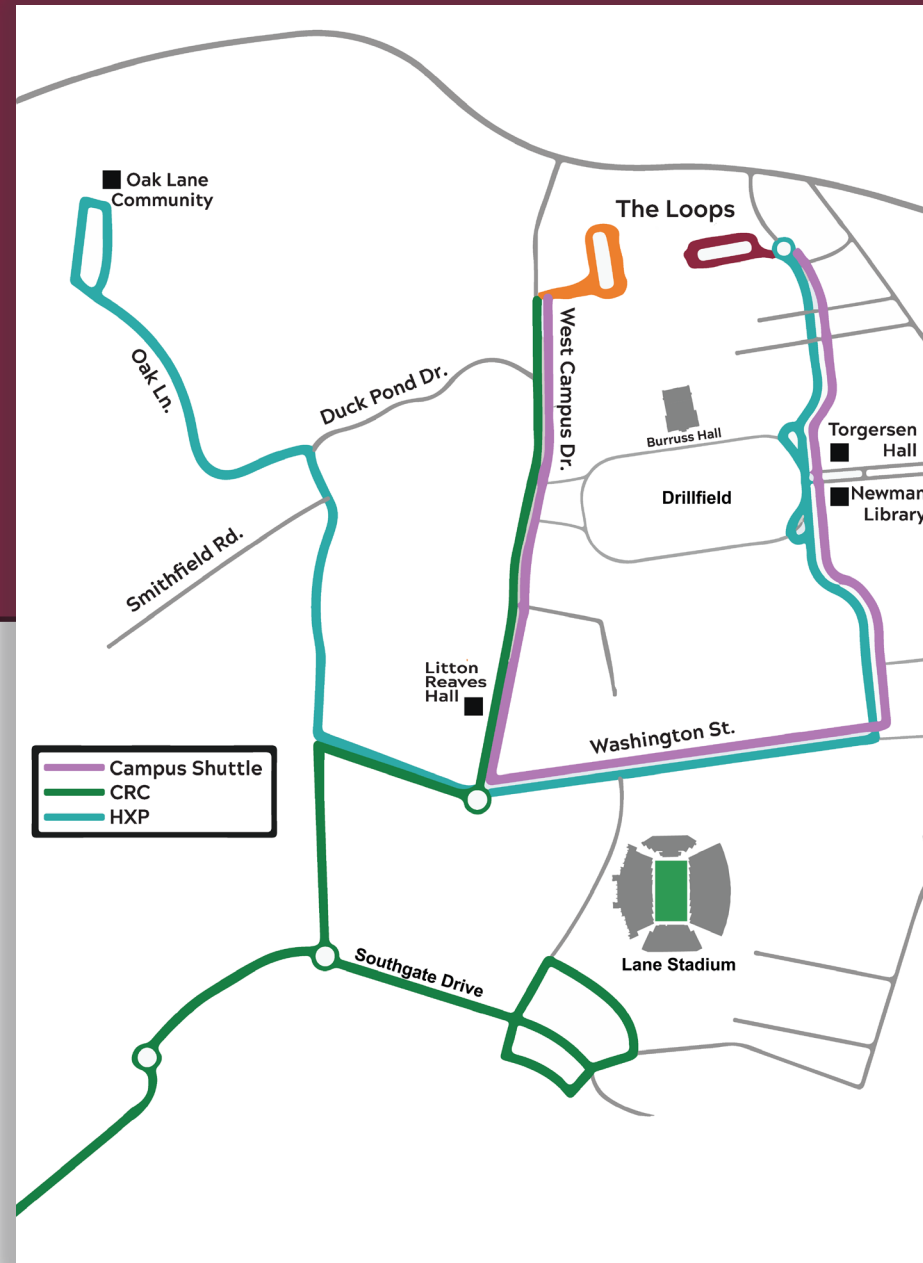


BLACKSBURG TRANSIT

THE LOOPS



CAMPUS ROUTES

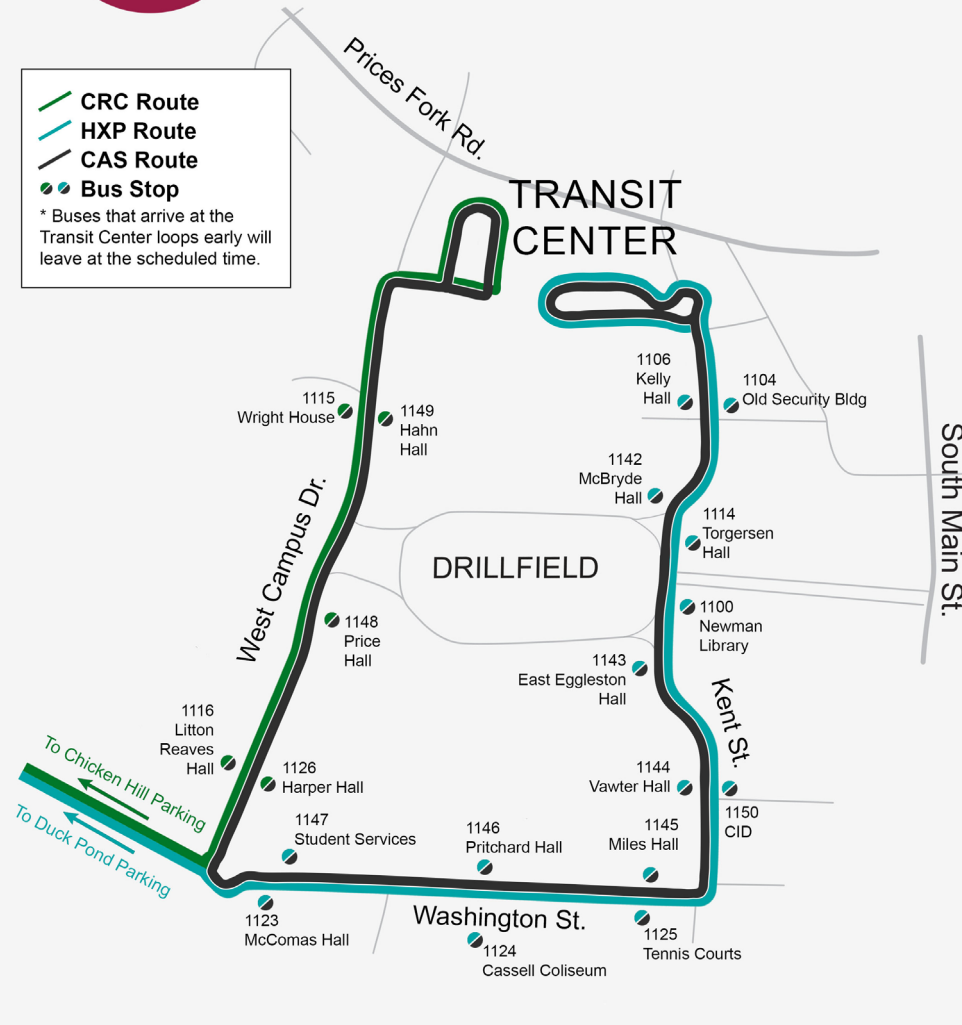


CAMPUS ROUTES



Campus Routes CRC HXP CAS

- CRC Route
 - HXP Route
 - CAS Route
 - Bus Stop
- * Buses that arrive at the Transit Center loops early will leave at the scheduled time.



CAMPUS ROUTES DETAILS

- Campus Shuttle
 - A bus approximately every 7 mins
- CRC
 - A bus every 15 mins for first hour then every 30 mins
- Hokie Express which begins and ends at Oak Lane
 - A bus every 15 mins
- Summer is Reduced Service, but shift to Full Service with Fall classes
 - <https://ridebt.org/hours-of-operation>

	FULL SERVICE & INTERMEDIATE HOURS	REDUCED SERVICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday	7 am - 12:45 am	7 am - 9:45 pm
Friday	7 am - 2:45 am	7 am - 9:45 pm
Saturday	9:30 am - 2:45 am	9:30 am - 9:45 pm
Sunday	9:30 am - 10:45 pm	9:30 am - 9:45 pm

ROUTE CHANGE INFORMATION

- Stops on the Drillfield, Beamer Way, and Alumni Mall have been removed
- 14 new stops added
 - 10 in the Academic core of campus
 - 2 on Duckpond Drive by the Vet School
 - 2 in the South Stadium Lot (2)
- Off-campus Routes timing will be adjusted with the start of the school year
- Blacksburg Transit app: <https://ridebt.org/bt-app>
- Link to the Loops page: <https://ridebt.org/loops>
- Beginning August 12, the Regional Transit Service buses moved to Maroon Loop (Bay 1 primary) and will no longer pick up on Alumni Mall or the Stadium Lot
 - VA Breeze, SmartWay, SmartWay Express, and OurBus



CHICKEN HILL PILOT

- Blacksburg Transit collaborated with Virginia Tech to offer a 1-year pilot providing earlier bus service to the Chicken Hill Remote Lot
 - 1 hour and 15 minutes earlier each day than previous years
 - 6:00 – 6:55 am bus departs Chicken Hill every 15 minutes
 - 7:25 – 6:55 pm bus departs Chicken Hill every 30 minutes
- F/S Remote Lot permit is only \$44
 - 10% of an annual permit price



TRANSIT CENTER



- Blacksburg Transit and Sustainable Transportation will share the facility
- Expanded footprint for the Hokie Bike Hub
- Opening late 2024



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

GOBBLER GEARS

- Student bike rental program
- Launched Spring 2024
 - 7/10 available bikes were rented
- 17 bicycles rented this fall with over 70 on waitlist
 - 1 semester = \$60
 - 2 semesters = \$100
- Lock, lights, helmet, and free repairs included



SECURE BIKE STORAGE



- Perry Street Garage, Level 1
 - \$30 per semester
 - \$50 per year
- Lockers for personal gear
- Repair stand and air pump
- Electrical outlets for charging e-bikes and e-scooters

EV CHARGING STATIONS

- Squires Lot, Fleet Services, and Perry Street Garage
- 6 stations, 12 plugs, 1 ADA space
- Available only while charging



CONNECTING VA APP

- Free to sign up
- Find rides for carpooling and vanpooling
 - Transit and bike buddy options
- Log trips to earn rewards
- Access to Guaranteed Ride Home Program

<https://connectingva.agilemile.com/vt>



connectingVA
BY DRPT



PARKING SERVICES

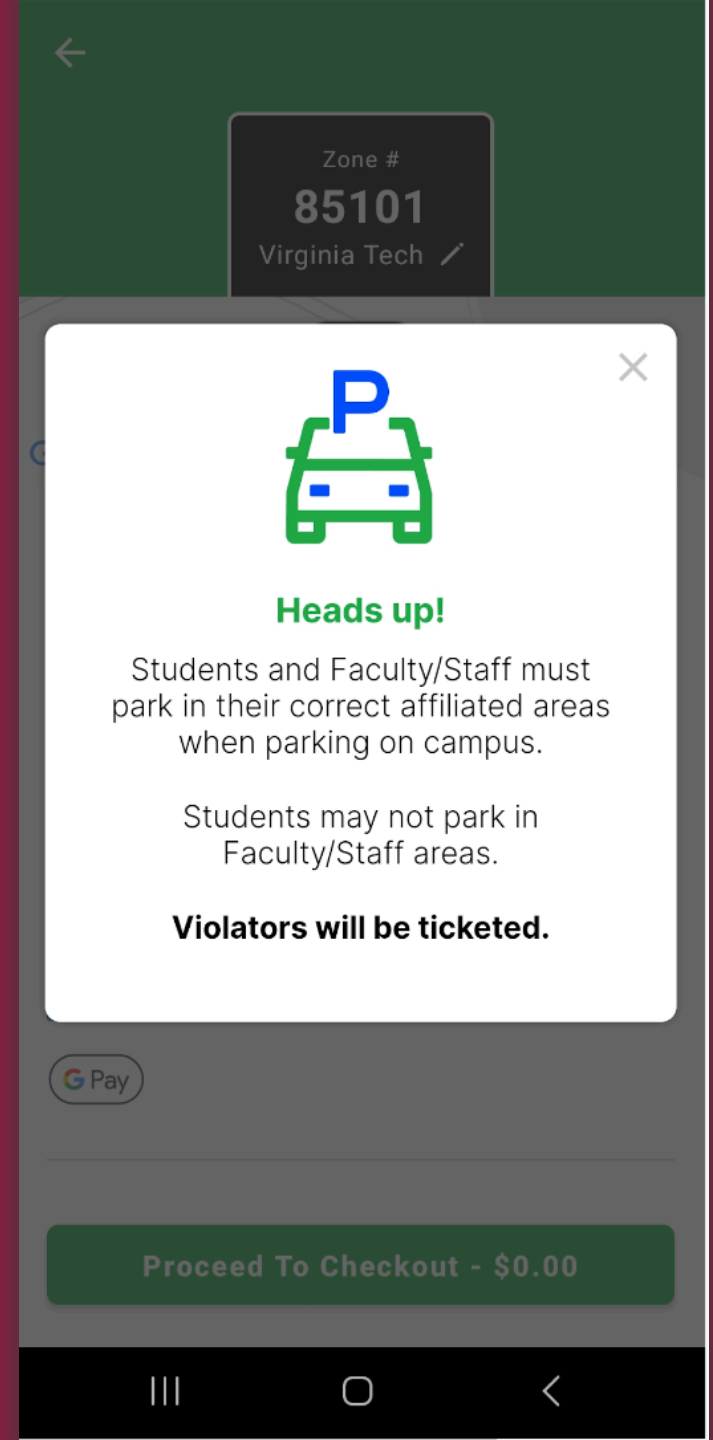
CONTRACTOR PARKING



- Construction Contractor (CC) permit
 - Lead contractor will purchase a limited number of permits for parking near construction site
 - They will be responsible for issuing them to/from subcontractors
- Contractor Remote (CR) permit
 - All other construction employees will only be able to purchase a CR permit and park in Chicken Hill Lot
 - BT pilot
- Service Contractor (SC) permit
 - All vendors and service contractors that need access to buildings, but not full-time parking will purchase a SC permit – same privileges as and replacing current VBC permit
- Regulations updated so any user parking out of affiliation can be cited; i.e. a contractor using a visitor permit

OTHER PARKING UPDATES

- USLB Lot open for F/S Parking
- Dedicated Carpool spaces removed
 - Permits remain only 70% of an annual permit
 - Each driver continues to get 5 daily permits, an additional \$40 value per driver
- New citation for Parked in Wrong Affiliation – ParkMobile warning (see graphic)
- Increased ADA Citation from \$250 to \$300
- Increased boot fee from \$35 to \$50
- No-Show fee for 2nd Appeal added: \$25
- PSG C/G Lottery: July 15 - August 4, lottery August 5
 - Much more accessible for all interested students than first come first serve approach; similar to Student Football tickets



OTHER UPDATES CONTINUED

- NEC garage
 - Removing most dedicated spaces to maximize space availability
 - No longer retail only on Levels 1 and 2
 - A few Carilion spaces remain which are required by VT Foundation contract
 - NEC permits still utilized for Carilion partners but no dedicated spaces for those



Signs indicated space and lot changes – warnings issued for 1 week





VIRGINIA TECH.®

- Committee formed by the President's request, part of University Governance
- The committee is made up of the following members:
 - Elected members from each Senate
 - A member from the Office of Equity and Accessibility
 - A member from the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
 - Senior Director of Auxiliary Services and Chief of Police are Ex Officio members
- CHARGE: To review and recommend rules and regulations governing traffic (including pedestrian, bicycles, and vehicles), parking (including permit sales, citations and special events), and alternative transportation methods; review and recommend programs to enhance campus parking, traffic, and transportation methods.
- Based on feedback last year and the Charge for the committee, proposal is to add an Ex Officio member from Facilities since they directly support transportation modes on campus.

Maternity Parking Proposal

As parking is moved increasingly away from central campus, this increases the distance that employees must travel from their vehicle to their work location. This distance can present a significant challenge for women who are pregnant, especially as their due date approaches. Campus shuttles and BT buses are not always a good option due to the timing schedule of the services and the distance of bus stops from parking lots and work locations. In the past, pregnant women have been referred to ADA for help with closer parking. ADA tells the women to ask for a handicap pass from their doctor. Often doctors do not consider pregnancy a handicap and therefore will not issue an official DMV handicap parking pass. Admittedly, the Americans with Disabilities Act does not consider pregnancy a disability but “some pregnant workers may have one or more impairments related to their pregnancy that qualify as a “disability” under the ADA.” Additionally, the Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act “requires a covered employer to provide a reasonable accommodation to a worker’s known limitation related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause the employer a undue hardship.” ([https://www.eeoc.gov/pregnancy-discrimination#:~:text=Pregnancy%20discrimination%20is%20against%20the,and%20Birth%20control%20\(Contraception\).](https://www.eeoc.gov/pregnancy-discrimination#:~:text=Pregnancy%20discrimination%20is%20against%20the,and%20Birth%20control%20(Contraception).)) We believe that VT Parking and Transportation Services is in the unique position to step into this gap and improve the lives of these women at least as they come to work.

We would like to propose that all expectant women be eligible for a temporary handicap parking permit, issued by VT Parking and Transportation for campus parking spaces, during the last trimester of their pregnancy. This would eliminate the hardship of them having to travel long distances from their car to their work. As each person is different, we also recognize that each pregnancy is different. Therefore, decreasing the walking distance would help to decrease health risks that these women could be facing as well as the simple inherent safety risks of traversing campus on foot (stairs, ice, road crossings, etc.). Allowing these women to decrease their walking distance would also decrease the physical discomfort they may experience by having to walk longer distances while pregnant, thereby allowing them to arrive at work in a better state and more ready for work.

To facilitate the issuing of these passes, women could submit a simple form that lists their expected due date and the date of the start of the third trimester. There would be a signature line for the employee and the doctor. The parking pass would be for a limited amount of time, from the start of the third trimester until 10 days after the expected due date.

Lastly, as we have already referenced, each pregnancy is different, and a woman may develop a specific health risk or condition earlier in her pregnancy than the last trimester. If this is the case, we would like to request that a woman in this situation be able to request a handicap parking pass earlier than the third trimester. This could be accomplished through the simple addition of a signature line on the above-mentioned form with a certification statement. Please see the below example form.



Department name
12345 Street Address
Building Name, Suite 1234
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
P: (540) 231-5555 F: (540) 231-5555
name@vt.edu

Request for a Temporary Handicap Parking Permit Due to Pregnancy

This form is for use by people who are pregnant to request a temporary VT Handicap Parking permit for the last trimester of pregnancy or earlier if circumstances warrant. This parking permit can only be used at locations that require a VT Parking Permit.

Employee Name:

Expected Due Date:

Date of the Start of the Third Trimester:

Employee signature: _____

Doctor/Nurse/Midwife signature: _____

Earlier than third trimester:

I certify that, the above-named patient, due to pregnancy, should not be walking extended distances from this date _____ until delivery.

Doctor/Nurse/Midwife signature: _____

Date: _____