

MINUTES

Transportation & Parking Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 11th, 2025
11:00am
Zoom

Present: Kayla Dean, Joseph Cooley, April Williams, Carrie Cox, Alan Munshower, Ginny Wagg, Nick Quint, Sonya Shelor, Brock Burroughs, Mike Dunn, Pamela Tate, Jason Brooks, Diane Agud,

Absent: AJ Prussin, Jenn Million, Derrick Fowles, Mac Babb, Ashlin Hicks, Lydia Qualls, Jacob Lahne

Guests: Juno Bartsch

Kayla Dean called the meeting to order around 11:07AM due to zoom issues.

1. New Business:

Nick Quint - Update on Transit Center Project

Nick announced that the sustainable transportation department and the Hokie Bike Hub would be moving into the new building on Monday, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house scheduled for the following Thursday. Refreshments, a self-guided tour, and commemorative T-shirts would be available.

Undergraduate Student Senate Parking Concerns

Carrie shared that the undergraduate student Senate, particularly the Inclusive Affairs Committee, has expressed concerns about student access on campus. They have created a resolution stating their thoughts, which are not actionable. The resolution includes requests for parking enforcement hours to be reduced from 7 to 10 pm to 5:30 pm and for parking services to consider implementing a payment plan for collecting outstanding fees from students. Carrie explained that parking services no longer manages payment plans and that this is handled by the Bursar's Office. She also clarified that the longer enforcement hours are in place to ensure all users contribute to the expenses of parking facilities. Carrie assured that they continue to work with the committee and the undergraduate student Senate to address their concerns.

Retiree Permits & 30-Year Permits

Carrie announced the new roles of Pam Tate as the assistant director for auxiliary services and April Williams as the interim manager for parking services. Carrie also discussed the evaluation of low-cost permits, including the retiree permit, to provide an equitable experience for all parkers. The retiree permit, which was initially intended for infrequent use, has seen an increase in usage, leading to concerns about its fairness and potential abuse. The team is considering adjusting the eligibility criteria for the retiree permit. Carrie and the team reviewed the 30-year permit program, which is not documented in policy but exists in their protocol. They discussed the decreasing number of eligible people and the cost structure, with the permit costing \$5 a year for those eligible. The team also considered the value of the program and the impact on campus parking. Diane suggested increasing the funding for retirees' parking passes, but Carrie noted that all options are on the table due to budget constraints.

NEC Garage & Elevator Updates

Juno to discuss the North End Center garage disruptions and the lack of signage around Gilbert. Juno expressed concerns about people parking in the North End garage and the need for better signage. Carrie clarified that the North End garage is not a city-owned facility and that they have shared the concerns with the foundation that manages it. Carrie and Juno discussed the ongoing issues with the elevators in Perry, which have been broken for a while. Carrie confirmed that all four elevators in the facilities are being upgraded, with the equipment ordered and the process underway. She assured that the upgrades are significant and necessary, and the team is working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. Joseph Cooley also provided a presentation regarding elevators and how they are managed on campus.

Undergraduate Senate Funding for Crosswalks

Mike Dunn discussed the undergraduate student Senate's funding for projects, focusing on three crosswalks that had past accidents or problems. The crosswalks are located at West Campus Drive near Grove Lane, Kent Street near the Owens Access Drive, and Southgate Drive between Beamer Way and Stare Drive. Mike proposed using solar-powered pedestrian signs with blinking lights to highlight these areas. The Senate will vote on which crosswalk to highlight. Diane raised concerns about lighting at some crosswalks, especially at night, and Mike explained that while lighting is expensive, some locations are on a list for funding. He also clarified that the blinking signs are continually active, not just when a pedestrian is present.

2. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54am.