

# Transportation & Parking Committee

{Meeting: 2:00 pm May 6, 2020 via Zoom}

**Attendees:** Pam Tate, Sandra Gabbert, Diane Agud, Kristin Link, Jeri Baker, Maggie Ma, Nick Quint, Courtney Steele, Richard Ashley, Kirk Felton

## Old Business:

- Nomination/Election of Chair & Vice-Chair for next year.
  - Ryan Speer – Vice chair elected
  - Richard Ashley – Chair re-elected
  
- Selection of date/time for first meeting next Fall.
  - If we continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each month, then our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 2nd.
  - After considering teaching schedules for several faculty members, the Committee decided to meet at 1:00 – 2:00 on that Wednesday, and on the first Wednesday of each month thereafter.
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- Parking permit payment-refund process issue. (Salvatore Millington & Jeri Baker)
  - Jeri explained that parking permits have no refund value beyond the end of Spring Term.
  - Moving forward, Parking Services will be including the refund schedule in the parking manual, beginning next term.
  - An internal consideration was made of not offering refunds at all, but this option was rejected because a review of policies at our peer institutions indicated that this change would make VT an outlier. The Committee was in agreement.
  - Parking Services is providing parking permit refunds to students who return permits this year based on a March 9<sup>th</sup> date, due to the COVID-19 situation.
  
- Policy 5005 Task Force progress. (Jeri Baker)
  - The Task Force is not currently meeting due to current situation.
  - The group has broken into four groups: different mode types that share spaces, bike lane conditions, input from stakeholders in the community, and a comparison to peer universities.

- An initial report has been compiled and sent on to Dr. Pinkney; he has requested that the Task Force put its work on hold over the summer months and recommence work in the Fall.
- In late Fall the results of the VTTI research project should be available, and will lead to an additional report from the Task Force.
- It was noted that no scooters are currently being deployed, and that August 18<sup>th</sup> is the last date that scooters will be allowed on campus under the current agreement.
- Once the final results from the VTTI research study become available, the University will make a determination as to how to proceed with respect to the provision of e-scooter on campus. At that point a competitive RFP will likely be offered to companies who wish to come onto campus.
- Next year the Committee will review whatever changes to Policy 5005 that the Task Force (and Dr. Wilson's office) recommend and pass our comments along to the CUS.

### **New Business:**

- Jeri Baker noted that a proposal to begin charging visitors for parking has been submitted to the budget office to review for the upcoming year.
- Jeri Baker also notes that an online permit payment option is currently under review and that it is believed that there will be increased demand for daily passes versus a yearly permit because tele-work has become successful within many departments, it is believed that people will be more likely to buy a daily pass – especially online -- as opposed to a yearly permit. She notes that this online payment options will also facilitate the issuance of fee-based visitor parking permits.
- Diane Agud inquired about changing the policy of relaxing enforcement of parking restrictions after 5pm. In this regard a concern was raised in respect to students who work in the dining halls. Jeri Baker responded that we will not be making this change this year, but that something along these lines will likely be implemented. She also noted that Dining Services has helped implement a \$30 annual permit especially to assist their low-wage employees; Richard Ashley suggested exploring how this could be made into a pre-tax benefit for these workers.
- Diane Agud re-raised the issue of the SmartWay bus congesting the driveway in front of Goodwin entryway. Jeri Baker noted that this issue is complicated by their need to vary the size of their equipment. They have discussed making this stop an ordinary one, rather than a time check, which would alleviate this situation, whereas they think that moving the stop altogether is not feasible at present. On the other hand, it was noted that construction on the MMT will be underway this Fall, at which point this stop will have to be moved in any case.

- Diane Agud also raised the issue that the lot near McBryde is chronically congested, and Jeri Baker noted that they are currently working on a solutions for this problem. In particular, delineators will be put into place once the construction in this area is complete.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm**