

# Transportation & Parking Committee

Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2019

1. Attendees included Richard Ashley, Nick Quint, Pam Tate, Kristin Link, and Carol Bishop, Natalie Keeper, Don Fraser, Courtney Steele, Kirk Felton, Diane Agud, Ryan Speer, Roberto Leon, and David Tribble.
2. Kristin Link was elected Vice-Chair was selected, and will meetings in the absence of Dr. Ashley.
3. Bicycle safety issues discussed:
  - VTPD officer has been working on bike safety the past 2 years.
  - Discussed the possibility of painting the bike lane green - similar to what they have in the town at University Boulevard. Also discussed removing the bike lane altogether.
  - Discussed bringing mangled bike on campus to raise awareness.
  - Rick will invite Mike Dunn to the November or January meeting to discuss ways of implementing the changes regarding the bike lane.
4. Scooter safety issues discussed:
  - Is there a way to record near misses and actual accidents?
  - Why are there only 50 cameras out of 300 scooters?
  - Why was the community not made aware of the scooter drop?
  - What are the rules of the road, usage, and moving scooters?
  - What is the rule involving helmets? (It was noted that there is currently no law in VA requiring a helmet while riding a scooter. The company involved in the VTTI scooter trial (Spin) agreed to provide 300 helmets to students who want them - they may be picked up at Alt Trans at no cost. At this time around 100 have been given out.)
  - Where can the scooter be parked? (This will be discussed in terms of Policy 5005.)
  - What information is made available on the app?
  - Is there a way to get information out to the community on how to use the scooter and app? There have been digital ads circulating since October 14<sup>th</sup> regarding using e-scooters on campus; these will run for 3 weeks. Notices went out in VT News on October 16<sup>th</sup> and will, at the Committee's request, continue periodically. It was brought up that an informative announcement can and should be added to the Canvas splash-page, including information as where they may be driven on the road.
  - Rick or Officer Tribble will ask Jeri Baker or Mike Mollenhauer about the policies on scooters at surrounding universities/institutions.
  - This topic will be further discussed at the November/December meetings.

5. Disabled parking issues at recent events, specifically a recent concert on the Drillfield, were addressed and resolved.
6. Other issues scheduled for discussion at the November/December meetings:
  - Meeting times for next semester.
  - Particular congestion issues – e.g., Derring/Pamplin lots outlet to Duck Pond.
  - Status of road construction plans – e.g., Plantation Road extension.
  - Construction/Moving plans for Perry St. area (Jeri Baker).
  - Parking citation appeals issues (when Lisa and Victoria are present).
  - Blacksburg Transit peak-capacity load problems.
7. Electric Vehicle Master Plan will be discussed at the November Meeting; all members should review the document on this topic distributed by Jeri last month in preparation for this discussion.