

Transportation & Parking Committee

Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2019

1. Attendees included Richard Ashley, Nick Quint, Kristin Link, Carol Bishop, Diane Agud., Don Fraser, Courtney Steele, Kirk Felton, Ryan Speer, Sandra Gabbert, Chitti Raju, Debe Osakwe, Phil Miskovic, Mike Mollenhauer, and Mac Babb.
2. Minutes from November meeting were approved.
3. Meeting schedule for Spring Term will be the first Wednesday of each month at 2:00pm. Due to the Holiday break, the first meeting will take on February 5, 2020.
4. Mike Mollenhauer presented on scooter safety and current VTTI scooter research.
 - The current research is a collaboration with Ford, VTTI, and Spin. The goals are to assess the impact of e-scooter deployment on campus and to provide data for policy making. An e-scooter committee was started six months prior to the launch to discuss the issues and create policies.
 - The Town of Blacksburg has voted to allow e-scooters in most areas. The downtown area does have some restrictions.
 - There are about 200 scooters on campus each day; the scooter operating hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm.
 - Crash rates, behavior, impairment obstacle/infrastructure, stunts, pedestrians/vehicle interaction, helmets, etc., are being studied. The project is also studying regulatory compliance (i.e., adherence to rules and regulations) and the degree to which the scooters are a nuisance on campus (with regard to parking, clustering, blocking access).
 - Data collection methodologies include fixed cameras, subjective questionnaires, spin mobile app, and on-scooter instrumentation. There are currently 18 fixed cameras and 50 of the scooters are equipped with cameras, GPS, etc. The fixed cameras allow data to be collected on helmet use, how a backpack is being cared, dangerous riding and parking behaviors, intersection conflicts, etc.
5. Mike will be available to meet at the next CUS meeting.
6. Lisa Assad will be at the next meeting to discuss parking/citation concerns.