

Transportation & Parking Committee (TPC)
26 January 2015 Minutes
Alumni Board Room, Holtzman Alumni Center

Members present:

Virgilio Centeno, Gregory Fansler, Leon Geyer, Bruce Harper, Richard McCoy, Hunter Pittman, Ben Poe, Anne Marie Ihling

Members excused:

John Seiler, Annabelle Fuselier, Kevin Foust

Agenda and minutes:

The November 18, 2014, minutes were approved. Motion by Leon Meyer; 2nd by Ben Poe, Motion unanimously carried.

Parking and Transportation update:

Richard McCoy delivered copies of the Transportation and Parking Survey completed in 2014. A noticeable change, the community preference has shifted regarding Visitors payment for parking. In the 2002 survey, the community wished Visitors paid for parking – a sentiment that was not put into practice. In the 2014 survey, the community preferred visitors did not pay to park on campus. The preference is that full time students and employees continue to subsidize visitor parking passes through their yearly permit cost.

A RFP has been sent out with a deadline to receive proposals by the end of January. The RFP is for a firm to create a Master Plan for Parking and Transportation; incorporating the recent survey results. The bid will likely be awarded towards the end of Spring semester; which means the winning firm will begin their work in September 2015. The university Master Plan is slated to begin in two-years. Due to the construction of the classroom building behind Derring and loss of parking spaces, Parking Services needed to begin the process to address needs and issues before that timeframe.

Since 1989, Parking Services has implemented parking at the university in the same manner. There has been dramatic change to the university's infrastructure since then. New procedures and permitting tiers are viable options – or permitting might remain the same. It is yet to be determined how parking will be implemented in the future.

Fansler asked, despite funding differences, are there any synergies happening between the Town of Blacksburg and the university regarding Parking & Transportation. The Town's recent efforts relate to downtown merchants and creating access for those businesses – no impact concerning university efforts.

A remote lot pilot program is being explored. The cost for this remote lot permit could be about 60% cheaper than the regular parking permit. The shuttle service would provide 7-15 minute shuttle service to a variety of locations. Anticipated remote lot is Chicken Hill. Ann Marie questions if the 15 minute wait for shuttle service is enticing if patrons can walk to most locations on campus within 15 minutes. There are many scenarios to play devil's advocate in regards to the success of a remote lot pilot program.

After the Derring parking lot was fully taken over Parking Services acted swiftly to determine where demand and supply shortfalls were occurring. They added additional commuter spaces and took away 30 of the 60 T/A spaces. A dramatic decrease in F/S spaces occurred – the demand didn't warrant the supply originally allotted when the construction began.

Facts shared:

- Cost per surface parking space is \$3,000
- Cost per parking garage space is \$14K-16,000
- A Parking lot is considered fully utilized at 92% occupancy

Finally, the structure and implementation of the new parking appeals committee has exceeded expectations.

Virginia Tech Police Department update:

None Offered

Constituent Reports

None offered.

Next meeting

The committee is to review the Transportation and Parking Survey provided by Mr. McCoy and provide feedback at our next meeting on: February 23, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Fansler
Committee Chair