

Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee Minutes
Meeting of September 27, 2011
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
J.R. Howard Hall, Rm 302

Attending: Carl Vance, Tim O'Dwyer, Marilyn Sbardellati, Ian Gadberry, Johnny Weigel, Amy Dvorak, Freddy Vilches, Sherron Stonecypher, David Kelley, Michael Ford, Curt Luttrell (for Lisa Pogue), Hanna Neuschwander, Juleen Norling, Jason Feiner, Julio Iniguez, Tyler Janzen, Jennifer Holley

Absent: Seneca Gray, Lisa Pogue, Robin Aubry, Damian Miller

1. Minutes of Meeting for April 20, 2011

Minutes were sent to all members. If there are any changes please send them to Marilyn.

2. Parking Lot Maintenance

Johnny Weigel informed the Committee the Fir Acres parking lot was repaved during the summer at a cost of \$67,000. Restriping parking lots was also completed at a cost of \$9,600. Tim O'Dwyer asked Carl Vance if we were going to get on a schedule for restriping parking lots. Carl said that is the intent.

3. Pioneer Express Now Served by EcoShuttle

Johnny Weigel reported on the new Pioneer Express shuttle provider, EcoShuttle. This is a very eco-friendly company and the buses include wheel chair accessibility. All of the buses are fueled by 100% bio-diesel and include recycling bins. A GPS tracking system is also available for mobile smart phones. Hanna asked if we have made this information available to the campus community. Johnny informed the Committee that the application was nearly ready for student distribution and would be announced when completed. Hanna also noted there is only one bike rack on the shuttle, and it would be beneficial to increase the bike storage capacity. (The rear bike rack was destroyed following an accident and is being replaced).

Burlingame Stop Update: The stop at the Burlingame Fred Meyer will not be operational until construction on the remodel of the store is complete. Anticipated reopening is October 21, 2011.

Students Forcing Doors Open: When the shuttle reaches capacity some students have tried to force the rear doors to the shuttle open in order to board. This is causing damage to the door mechanism. Tim O'Dwyer suggested sending a message to students regarding behavior on the shuttle. Jason Feiner and Tyler Church will work on a message to students and send it out from the Student Body President. Jason will also include information regarding the GPS smart phone application.

Late Night Occupancy: Recently, the shuttle has experienced high occupancy during the evenings, particularly during the weekend evening hours. The potential problem is students being left in downtown Portland when the shuttle stops running at 2:00am on Friday and Saturday. Tim O'Dwyer suggested the Office of Campus Living bring this to the attention of students as a preventative measure, and include alternative transportation ideas for evenings.

Jason Feiner agreed and will work with ASLC to get this information to the student body. Jason will also include information on how to utilize the GPS smart phone tracing system.

Overcrowding: The Law School expressed concern that when the shuttle is at max capacity, it has not been stopping at the Law School on the way to downtown. Johnny will inform EcoShuttle of the need to stop regardless, so those waiting for the shuttle will know to either wait or seek an alternative ride from campus. Carl Vance suggested starting the shuttle midday service one hour earlier in order to alleviate overcrowding.

4. iParq – New Parking Software

The Transportation & Parking department launched a new parking management software program this year. The program, Iparq, is web based and will allow our customers easier access to their own parking records.

Carpooling: Johnny reported on the new carpooling procedures. As a result of concerns expressed by law students last year the Committee agreed to change the carpool program. Instead of applying for a carpool permit with a pre-configured carpool, commuters who wish to carpool purchase their own carpool permit. A valid carpool will consist of two carpool permits displayed in a vehicle. This allows carpoolers to mix and match their carpooling partners to better fit their schedules. Owners of carpool permits will be allowed to park with only one permit displayed up to five times each year, afterwards a daily parking permit will need to be purchased when not carpooling. Currently, this new carpooling procedure has worked with little complications. Staff carpool permit sales are similar to last year but student carpool permit sales have declined.

Continuous Payroll Deduction: The committee discussed the idea of continuous payroll deduction for faculty/staff members, meaning once the payroll deduction form is submitted, it remains effective until the individual alerts the Transportation Office of changes. Hanna believed this is not a good idea because receiving an annual payroll deduction form reminds people how they commute to work and at least gives them an opportunity to reevaluate commute options. The form makes it so the community is actively engaged in the parking decisions on campus. The committee concurred.

5. Parking Concerns

Carl Vance expressed the campus wide concerns regarding the lack of parking this semester. Data was gathered (see attachment) showing the sale of 61 fewer permits so far this year. However, there are 48 fewer spaces available this year. The losses include: 31 due to new dorm construction, 3 due to Graduate School reconfiguration, 3 lost to DSAs, 11 lost due to Pamplin reconfiguration (prior to this week the entire Pamplin lot was closed, 37 spaces). To help alleviate the parking situation the following will occur: all construction vehicles will now park at the temporary gravel lot at the Graduate School, up to thirteen staff will park in the cobblestone circle, the loading zone in front Platt will open for all vehicles, Graduate DSA will be relocated, and the College will rent space at St. Mark's church.

A number of people expressed frustration from community members who purchased permits but were unable to find parking. Carl announced an amnesty to those who parked illegally but

had indeed purchased a parking permit. All citations issued to permit holders parking illegally will be voided prior to 9/27/11.

Carl Vance announced the Pioneer Log article was incorrect. We can add 244 parking spaces and are looking to add 82 spaces at the Graduate School and possibly 88 at Houston Field. Carl said bids have been requested for these two projects.

Marilyn Sbardellati stated to the Committee that parking for events later this year would be critical. Sherron Stonecypher asked if any temporary measures, beyond what has already been suggested, are planned.

Jason Feiner suggested securing a remote lot for parking residential student vehicles during the week day. Carl suggested a lot somewhere along the shuttle route.

Hanna Neuschwander asked if it was possible to restore midday shuttle services. Carl said it is possible but not the Sellwood shuttle. Carl feels the Sellwood Shuttle incentivizes students to live off campus and wants more students to live on campus. Carl also feels the Sellwood Shuttle subsidized a small group of riders at a high cost. Johnny Weigel gave the Committee the cost for reinstating the midday service. Carl would like to test the midday service for the fall semester and extend it further if rider statistics show it is being used.

Carl approved reinstating midday shuttle service as soon as possible. The service will be preliminary and continuation will be based on ridership data.

6. Sustainability Transportation Sub-Committee Report

Moved to next meeting due to lack of time

7. Discussion

No further discussion

Carl Vance concluded the meeting at 1:00pm