

Parking & Traffic Standing Committee Meeting
Lyceum 110 – 3:00 p.m.
Monday – November 11, 2019

Attended:

Nequel Burwell, Linda Christian, Victor Daniels, Mike Dunnivant (in Dean Hansen's place), Mike Harris, Jane Mahan, Johnny Price, and Opulence Venton

Discussion:

- Mike distributed copies of the meeting agenda packet. He asked if anyone had anything they wanted to add to the agenda. No one indicated they had anything to add. The agenda was then approved.
- The minutes of the previous meeting (October 14, 2019) were approved.
- Following the order of the agenda, there were no items under *Old Business*. Mike proceeded to *New Business*.
 - a. *Reduce Commuter Permit Allocation*
Mike explained that the current ratio of commuter parking permits issued to available commuter parking spaces is 2:3. For the Fall Semester 2019/2020 there are 3,171 commuter spaces and 7,293 commuter permits issued. Mike stated that when he came to work at UM in 2014 the ratio was 2:8, which was very high. He said the ratio has been reduced each year since then. Mike said he would like us to get to a ratio of 2:1. He said we have the inventory now to meet the 2:1 ratio. To accomplish this we will need to issue 951 less commuter permits for the Fall Semester 2020/2021. He stated this will obviously make some people happy and other people unhappy. One measure to help meet this reduction would be to fully utilize the Residential Garage involving commuter students. There are 300+ spaces in the garage not utilized currently. Residential Garage decals are now issued only to students who reside on campus. Mike explained that part of the challenge with the issuance of student parking permits is DPT (Department of Parking & Transportation) do not know how many students will bring a vehicle to campus until they arrive for the start of the fall semester.
 - b. *Create New Waitlist*
Mike said DPT will need to create a new Waitlist. Two Waitlists will be needed for commuter students for 2020/2021: 1) For regular commuter parking permits with regular commuter designated parking access (this waitlist currently exists); and 2) Residential Garage for commuters if there are spaces available after the first week of the fall semester. After the first week, DPT would start working on the Waitlist. Commuter students who want a Residential Garage permit so they could park in the

garage would pay the residential permit fee which is higher than the regular commuter parking permit (Commuter/\$210 and Residential/\$325). The Residential Garage permit would guarantee the commuter access to park in the garage but not a specific parking space. Mike said that the highest number of Residential Garage permits issued in the past was around 1300 (there are approximately 1500 spaces in the garage). Mike emphasized that one benefit to a commuter who opted for a Residential Garage permit is game day access. This refers to home football game days. The policy now is to allow any student with a residential permit (which includes the garage) access to campus on game days. Student residents must park in their designated zone of campus on game days. All other motorists on game days must be issued a parking permit by the Athletics Department to gain access to campus and to park in a designated space/area. Students issued a Residential Garage permit are required to park in the garage only from 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. weekdays. After 5:00 p.m. weekdays and on weekends (except for home football game days) they may park elsewhere on campus. Mike stated there are plenty Park-N-Ride parking spaces available on a daily basis – potentially in the range of 550-600 spaces.

- *c. Remove Spaces on Hill Drive for Bike Lanes*

Mike stated that we want to eliminate parking on both sides of Hill Drive starting at the intersection of the east end of Jeanette Phillips Drive/Hill Drive west to near the roundabout at Chucky Mullins/Hill Drive. He pointed out that these spaces are not fully utilized now. He said that reducing the number of regular commuter permits will reduce the usage of these spaces. On home football game days the south side of this section of Hill Drive is reserved as an emergency vehicle only lane and no vehicles are allowed to park.

- *d. JAC Roof Construction*

Mike said this project at the Jackson Avenue Center (JAC) will start at the Malco Theatre area then to the east end of the JAC building. Work is to start November 15, 2019, and is a 150-day project. The laydown and crew area will be located in the rear of the complex. The rear loading dock and fire lane will still be accessible during the project.

- Additional comments not related to agenda items

Thad Cochran Research Center Roof Project

Mike mentioned that he had attended a new project meeting earlier in the day that will involve a roofing project of the Thad Cochran Research Center (also referred to as the Natural Products Center). The laydown area for this project will be within the current STEM project construction fence. This project will involve a large crane at times. There likely will be some loading/unloading on the street (All American Drive) for which the construction crew will provide a flagman during regular business hours.

Next Committee Meeting

Mike stated that there is a likelihood the committee will not meet in December and January since the committee decided not to meet when students are not on campus (i.e., student members of this committee). The December date would fall within exam week, and the January date is before the start of the spring semester. However, he said we could meet (or email committee members) if something comes up that needs to be dealt with prior to the next meeting.

Request for New Crosswalks

Victor mentioned he had been contacted by some students interested in the placement of crosswalks at a couple campus locations: on Student Union Drive from the sidewalk coming out of the Upper Women's Terrace Parking Lot toward the Student Union Building; and on Sorority Row coming out of the small parking lot between the Southern Culture Center (Barnard Observatory) and the Phi Mu Sorority house across the street to the exit of Sorority Circle Parking Lot. Mike Harris asked Mike Dunnavant (who is with Facilities Management) to have Facilities Management personnel take a look at these two locations and see if they are conducive to crosswalks.

- The meeting was then adjourned.