

Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2006

Members Present:

Shamim Sisson (Chair), Mark Fletcher, Elizabeth Lawson, Mike Gibson, Leonard Schoppa, Reba Camp, Ron Price, Student Member, Rebecca White (ex-officio)

Welcome New Member:

Ron Price from the Darden School has accepted an appointment to the Transportation and Parking Committee.

Old Business:

Late Night Bus Promotion

Extended late night bus service restarted for the Spring semester on January 20, 2006. Service is running exactly as it was run during the Fall 2005 semester and will run through April 2006. Passenger counts will be captured this semester by route segment so that passenger needs can be evaluated and route alignment and headway can be matched to needs. Shamim reported that a group of student leaders met in mid-January to strategize about marketing the late night bus service more thoroughly. Suggestions from the Committee included ISC/IFC Connection, library postings of map and schedule, interactive kiosk posting, etc. Committee member Reba Camp commended Parking & Transportation for the effort to provide late night bus service.

Bus Stop Safety Update

Shamim reports that the Bus Stop Safety committee is continuing their work despite some turn-over in student representation.

Other

- Parking & Transportation has taken delivery of two fleet cars, both of which are compact diesel vehicles which will run on Bio-Diesel fuel. P&T has a hybrid fleet vehicle on order which should be delivered in March 2006.
- Parking & Transportation continues to evaluate the route alignments and headways for possible improvements. Housing densities, commuter parker densities, John Paul Johns Arena impacts, etc. are all factoring into the evaluation. P&T will not remove service in any corridor without one year's notice.

New Business

Budget

Rebecca White reviewed a list of projected impacts on projected revenues and expenditures for 2006/2007 including:

- increased costs associated with the John Paul Jones Arena garage (cleaning, maintenance)
- increased revenues associated with John Paul Jones Arena events
- additional costs for on-line services for customers
- potential ridership program on CTS

- increased fuel costs (fuel costs are up 35-40% over previous year)
- cost of extended late night bus service on Friday and Saturday nights (funded in current year with a subsidy)
- the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles
- the loss of the A9 lot due to construction

Ms. White projected that almost all the additional costs could be absorbed by the pre-approved parking permit rates except the cost of the late night bus service (estimated at \$100,000) and the cost of a potential open ridership program on CTS (estimated at \$60,000-\$100,000).

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the funding implications of an open ridership program on CTS and Transportation Demand Management in general. One point of view questioned whether permit holders should pay more in premium lots so that people without permits (and therefore not paying for services) can have access to more services for free. Another point of view noted that charging a premium in premium lots is a nationally recognized strategy for funding Transportation Demand Management. In the short term, suggestions from the Committee included promoting CTS as a potential time saver, encouraging a student reporter to ride-along to demonstrate how accessible Charlottesville is through CTS, encouraging CTS to adjust Route 7 (which serves the Route 29 Corridor) to be more express-like to popular current and future student destination (Albemarle Place).

Rate Recommendations

Jo Lawson motioned and Mark Fletcher seconded the following motion:

“The Transportation and Parking Committee endorses the fee increases previously approved by the Committee and amended by the Vice President for 2006/2007 as follows: Commuter and Off-Site Storage - \$15/month; On-Site Storage – \$30/month; Non-Premium Reserved - \$33/month; Premium Reserved - \$43/month. The Committee recommends a \$10 increase in the Comprehensive Transportation Fee charged to students to \$126/year. “

The motion carried unanimously.

Parking & Transportation Updates

- Parking & Transportation has determined that when the John Paul Jones Arena opens in Summer 2006, UTS routes will not be re-routed to the Arena side of Massie Road. Further, a distinct permit will be sold for the parking spaces immediately surrounding the Arena. These two moves should reduce the number of events that will impact all permit holders and bus riders and will reduce the number of permit holders contacted during event disruptions. A lengthy discussion followed on the impact of the John Paul Jones Arena. The Committee is concerned that the addition of the Arena garage spaces do not translate into a consistent net gain of parking inventory because of the need to vacate the spaces during events. The Committee is interested in assisting in managing future

discussions about the Arena operation to minimize the disruption on the permit holders and the Department of Parking & Transportation.

- Parking & Transportation is taking advantage of some recent retirements to evaluate the organizational structure of the department. In the short term, Ms. White is currently severely short-handed.
- Green Route has been extended until 8PM on a pilot basis through mid-April 2006. This pilot will be funded by the Medical School.

Future Meeting Schedule

February 24, 2006, 3:30PM-5PM, ODOS Conference Room, 2nd Floor Peabody Hall

March 31, 2006, 11:30AM-1PM, ODOS Conference Room, 2nd Floor Peabody Hall

April 28, 2006, 11AM-12:30PM, ODOS Conference Room, 2nd Floor Peabody Hall

May 25, 2006, 11AM-12:30PM, ODOS Conference Room, 2nd Floor Peabody Hall