

# PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 11, 2022 2:00 pm

206 TAPS/via ZOOM

## **ATTENDEES:**

**MEMBERS:** Maj. Brad Barber, Emily Bartley, Jennifer Clark, Noah Fineberg, Phoebe Funai, Kyle Garner, Thomas Hawkins, Allen Masters, Keith Rambo, Mark Rush, Matthew Terza, Scott Washburn, Matt Williams

**LIASONS:** Eddie Daniels, Linda Dixon, Scott Fox

**NON-MEMBERS:** Kaylee August, Andrew Castenheira, Tom Feather, Ron Fuller, Robbie Grassano, Jason Hall, Laurie Hall, Emily Hind, Frank Javaheri, Iris Meeker, Rachel Mandell, Jeremy Marquis, Cydney McGlothlin, Alison Moss, Jacob Pruitt, John Michael Simpson, James Vignola, Milo Zapata, 904-907-5033, Nina Shubert (Recording)

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Ann Baird, Eric Esterline, David Kays, Michelle Leonard, Kalen Manasco, Ramzi Salloum, Vincent Saviano

**STUDENT MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Vincent Savarino

**CHAIR:** Keith Rambo

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Keith Rambo. Dr. Rambo spoke of the sad news of recent passing University community and committee member Dr. Stephen Hardy.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Agenda item was corrected by Ron Fuller to reflect minutes from September 2021, not October 2021 as there was no meeting. Keith Rambo asked the committee to review and approve of the minutes from September 2021. Motion to approve with a correction to Rachel Mandell's name, changed from "Madell", was set by Thomas Hawkins and seconded by Jennifer Clark. The minutes of September 2021 were approved.

## **TAPS UPDATE**

**PRESENTING: RON FULLER, TAPS**

### **DISCUSSION:**

- Projects
  - Continued work on Hull Road – Great improvements
    - Extended turn lanes
    - Museum Road remains accessible through the construction
  - Noted increased population on campus –
    - Options for Zoom and other non-in-person modes keeping numbers down.
  - Solution for illegal parking - HPNP/Biomed Circle and ARB/Harrell pedestrian corridor
    - Breezeway area always intended to be for pedestrian access
    - Vehicles (state, vendors, caterers) parking on pavers along corridor – Pavers are being broken.
    - Solution is installation of concrete bollards (similar to those at the O'Connell Center) around the circle to discourage vehicles from jumping the curb area and removeable bollards installed in fire lane access. – Bollards removed only for emergencies
    - Gainesville Concrete finishing the 16 bollards ordered.
    - A diagram was presented of bollards' location.
- COVID Testing Sites -
  - Garage 11 restored to full parking use
  - Through January testing is at the stadium north end, Gate 7 – at concessions, not inside the stadium.
  - Post January testing will be conducted at the Infirmary student health care center.
- Scott Fox discussed some points of information for TAPS

- Financial health of Transportation and Parking Services as an auxiliary department.
  - Financial responsibilities include:
    - ✓ Salaries
    - ✓ Utilities – lights in garages and parking lots
    - ✓ Structural maintenance
    - ✓ Bonds on recently constructed garages
  - 2020 COVID season – \$5.7 million loss
    - ✓ Refund of parking fees in April
    - ✓ Waived parking fees for May – August
    - ✓ No fines
    - ✓ No special events
  - Received federal CARES relief – \$3.8 million
  - Decal revenue has not rebounded – less than 90%
  - Discussed possible revenue solutions:
    - ✓ Decal pricing
    - ✓ Reduction of expenses
- Parking Garage 15
  - Not yet funded
  - In idea review and development mode
  - Targeting the Gator Village residence community – East side of campus
- RTS status
  - Reduction of service due to driver vacancies

Noah Fineberg asked regarding the discussion for generating revenue for TAPS. Concerned about raising decal prices. Discussed loss of available parking as the cause of the reduction in decal sales. Scott Fox stated that all TAPS rates and fees were under review for adjustment consideration.

- Preference to possibly raise rates for violations
- Determine if free/give-away services should continue. Ex. Faculty and staff Campus Cab rides

Scott suggested these things should be further discussed at a separate meeting

There was a question regarding the location of the next garage, Garage 15. The possible location, which is in the Campus Master Plan, is located south of the Main Housing office near Beatty Towers. Access would be off SW 13<sup>th</sup>. This location would be on existing parking lots and one of the few remaining sites on the east side of campus.

**MP06934 PHYSICS SHARED USE PATH – ADVANCED SCHEMATIC DESIGN**

**PRESENTING: JAMES VIGNOLA, PD&C, JEREMY MARQUIS, MARQUIS, LATIMER & HALBACK**

**DISCUSSION:**

James Vignola introduced the advance schematic design for the Physics shared use path. This project is in the Landscape Master Plan. The path is located south of the Physics building and north of the water reclamation plant. This is a heavily utilized area for all transportation. The area currently has utilities and overgrowth making the path undesirable. The goal is to give this area a significant overhaul adding:

- Better lighting
- Security
- Accessibility
- Create a gateway to campus

Construction budget for the project is \$1.8 million. This project will be presented to Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee and the Land Use Committee. Construction to begin in summer 2022 with completion in spring or summer 2023.

Jeremy Marquis presented the following project points:

- Recommended bicycle circulation
- The path is not just for shared use by garages/parking areas on Gale Lemerand but will also extend east in campus.
- Met with groups from Physics and the water reclamation facility.
  - The project area has a tight space between the Physics building and the water reclamation facility
- Seeking to create a direct pathway from the garages.
  - Align the area with garages
  - Keep the 5% slope for ADA accessibility, safe shared use path for pedestrians and bicycles
- Presented an overview drawing of the project.
  - West entrance of the path starting between Garage 14 and 5, gradually heading uphill to Sweetwater side.
  - Creating a path with fewest conflicts with vehicle traffic –
    - Singular vehicle area is at Gale Lemerand crosswalk.
    - Shifted vehicle entrance to north creating a truck turn-around behind water reclamation facility,
    - Shifted ADA parking to south, which provides connection with the shared-use path.
  - Using a pervious asphalt on path and concrete for retaining walls, and all else in compliance with the Landscape Master Plan.
  - Lighting and Astronomy lawn area
  - Presented graphics rendition.
  - Will return in March 2022 for design development.

The committee discussed:

- Maintain signaling and crosswalk area
- Safety and lighting – emergency blue light
- Connection sidewalk with Sweetwater – Part of the DSIT project
- Prohibiting motor vehicles off path – Bollards proposed
  - Cars, other motor vehicles
  - Game day traffic
- Keeping site lines clear around crosswalks
- Timing traffic controls in consideration for heavy traffic times and storm/emergency situations.
- Service drive parking area
- Turn-around/dumpster area design and separation from share-use path
- Motion to approve should include bollards and/or other traffic control devices.
- Game day parking and Astronomy lawn area

**ACTION:**

Thomas Hawkins moved to approve the advance schematic design phase with the modification of the addition of bollards/motor traffic control devices. Allen Masters seconded the motion. The project phase was approved

**MP06867 WEST BABY GATOR EXPANSION – ADVANCED SCHEMATIC DESIGN (corrected from DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PHASE)**

**PRESENTING: ROBBIE GRASSANO, PD&C, LAURIE HALL, CHW**

**DISCUSSION:**

Robbie Grassano introduced the advanced schematic design for West Baby Gator Expansion. Laurie Hall presented the project points – to renovate the existing facility and increase the capacity.

- Budget is \$3.3 million
- Expansion will be approximately 5,500 sq ft.
- Renovation is 8,860 sq ft.

- Best sustainability practices, but no certification pursuit
- Safety consideration – Not expanding east due to traffic on Village Drive
- Presented site location and existing conditions
  - Parking area – 29 spaces Green/staff commuter and spaces parents use for pick-up and drop off.
- Presented site concept plan
  - Challenges due to land grade changes
  - Solution was to expand west in existing parking lot
  - Adding additional spaces along Corry Circle
  - Worked with housing to relocate the volleyball court. Maintaining the basketball court.
  - Proposing a new parking lot – 30 spaces
  - Improve the dumpster area

The committee and attendees discussed the following:

- Parking lot areas – Created a pull-off space for emergency vehicles and idea is parents can utilize for quick run-in to building.
- Dumpster area – Enclosure, maintaining dumpster and recycling area
- Speed control in parking lots
- Bike traffic and drop-offs at entrance.
  - Laurie Hall noted speed humps at Corry Circle
  - Noted new sidewalk connections.
  - Covered parking for bicycles.
- Consideration of one-way traffic through parking area
- Sustainable building certification
  - Project is considering sustainability options. Noting Baby Gator is an auxiliary.
  - HVAC system will be replaced with all new fresh air intakes.

**ACTION:**

Motion was set by Jennifer Clark with the following considerations:

- One way traffic control through parking area
- Bicycle and bike-trailer access with a covered area for drop-offs.
- No reduction in dumpster/recycling area
- Speed bumps and/or signage for traffic calming in this area.

Allen Masters seconded the motion. The project’s design phase was approved with the considerations.

**SUB-COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ON ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING FOR STATE VEHICLES**

**PRESENTING: THOMAS HAWKINS, UF FACULTY**

**DISCUSSION:**

Thomas Hawkins presented results from an ad-hoc subcommittee regarding enforcement of parking for state vehicles and vendors. This subcommittee discussed bicycle and pedestrian safety. Similar to the issues presented concerning the Biomed circle area, these are vehicles located in non-parking areas around campus. Presents more than inconvenience, but also safety issues when these vehicles are blocking bike lanes. The subcommittee discussed the possible need for rule changes, cited:

- 3.006 Traffic & Parking; Definitions.
- 3.010 Traffic & Parking; Control of Parking
- 3.011 Traffic & Parking; Control of Traffic

These rules and regulations are consistent with the state statutes (316.1945 Stopping, standing, or parking prohibited in specified places.) presented and discussed were the following:

- Issues
  - Change of practice – No active enforcement

- Would affect and require attention from TAPS, UFPD, and Facilities Services
- Could affect other departments
- PATAC forum
  - Members of affected department participate in meetings
  - Committee reports to Vice President of Business Affairs, oversees affected departments.
- Example Actions
  - Cite drivers parking on bike lanes, sidewalk or grass
  - Educate drivers to set the expectation not to park on bike lanes, sidewalks or grass.
  - Communicate with campus vendors and delivery services to set expectations their drivers may not park on bike lanes, sidewalks or grass.
  - Increase the number of services drive where Facilities Services employees can park to access campus buildings.
  - Plan for Facilities Services to access buildings without parking on bike lanes, sidewalks or grass. Example: Facilities Services could plan to:
    - 1) Consolidate materials and employees into fewer vehicles.
    - 2) Move material from parking spaces to buildings using hand carts or other means.
  - Develop bike lane and sidewalk closure and detour plans for the exceptional circumstances where building access requires parking on bike lanes or sidewalks.

Discussed by the committee and attendees:

- By some of these suggestions in some areas on campus prohibiting sidewalks or bike lanes will have service vehicles and vendors block roadways (Example: The HUB area).
- Service drive permits – Although intended as temporary, many will park all day. Eliminate the use of service drive permits.
- On-going interference with bicycle and scooters
- Designated spaces for department vehicles - Department vehicles using service drives for all day parking.
- Service and vendor deliveries – Searching for other ways to distribute supplies such as smaller electric vehicles
- Searching for a satellite warehouse location within the campus core – Eliminates driving through pedestrian zones.
- Off hours for service and delivery vehicles – Not to coincide with class changes.

The committee and attendees continued discussion of the lack of service vehicle access in areas in the north side of campus – Buckman Drive, Chemistry Lab building, Hernandez Hall.

Scott Fox had these discussion points:

- Service vehicles parked for University service work vs. breaks
- Using the available service drives
- Citations/no citations for service vehicles
- Providing services for auto-free zone
- TAPS and police department not given authority to cite state/department vehicles
- Messaging about parking to start – Seeking departmental support

Linda Dixon spoke of possible locations with Master Plan for a central storage location. Emily Hind discussed blockage of bike lanes in the Grinter area.

#### **ACTION:**

Tom Hawkins made a motion with the addition of

- Request for responsive ideas regarding the six points presented at the next or future meeting.

- Adding a seventh point suggestion for TAPS to identify violations by state vehicles and provide communication back to the department and communication back to Facilities Services for accountability.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Clark. The motion was passed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PRESENTED BY: KEITH RAMBO**

Jennifer Clark discussed the idea of incentive structure for resources to be brought on campus. Loading and unloading around campus can be difficult. There may be a possible pricing option for permits.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.