

# PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 14, 2021 2:00 pm

206 TAPS/via ZOOM

## ATTENDEES:

**MEMBERS:** Maj. Brad Barber, Emily Bartley, Eric Esterline, Noah Fineberg, Phoebe Funai, Kyle Garner, Thomas Hawkins, David Kays, Allen Masters, Keith Rambo, Carley Rudd, Mark Rush, Ramzi Salloum, Matthew Terza, Scott Washburn, Matt Williams

**LIASONS:** Linda Dixon, Scott Fox, Craig Hill

**NON-MEMBERS:** Ron Fuller, Emily Hind, Frank Javaheri, Rachel Mandell, Wade McLauren, Cydney McGlothlin, Mac McKinney, Alison Moss, Alex Wong, Nina Shubert (Recording)

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Ann Baird, Carlos Dougnac, Michelle Leonard, Kalen Manasco, Ramzi Salloum,

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

**CHAIR:** Keith Rambo

## CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Keith Rambo.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Keith Rambo asked the committee to review and approve of the minutes from May 2021. Motion to approve as presented was set by Jennifer Clark and seconded by Scott Washburn. The minutes of May 2021 were approved.

## TAPS UPDATE

**PRESENTING: RON FULLER, TAPS**

### **DISCUSSION:**

- Projects
  - Bus Pull-Out on SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street is complete
  - Closure of Union Road at SW 13<sup>th</sup>
    - Have begun work around gate house and surrounding area.
    - Portable booths purchased
    - No gates – Visitor parking is with hangtags
  - Newell Corridor work has started
- First home football game went well – Attendance est. 88,000
  - Considerations
    - Construction and road closures
    - Loss of parking areas – UF Bookstore for UAA, commuter lot for RV's
    - UAA has consolidate RV parking to the new baseball stadium
    - TAPS added temporary (1 year) RV parking at Flavet tennis court lot.
- Decal sales brisk – Revenue up.
- Continuing efforts to support COVID-19 testing and vaccine sites at Garages 11 and Ben Hill Griffin Stadium
  - Continuing through the end of this year (2021).
- Utility work continuing along Museum Road – Through 2023
  - First phase closed section of Museum Road from Newell Drive to Center Drive
    - Additional phases to close Museum Road to the west. Access to all parking areas remaining open, but more difficult to travel through campus.
    - Deactivated the auto-free zone areas.
    - McCarty Drive west opened for private vehicles to exit area at the west. – Road remains westbound, one way.

- Notification to expect delays getting to and from parking.
  - Noting significant increase in traffic in campus core - Important for all to be aware of pedestrians, bicyclists, e-scooters.
- Scott Fox added that TAPS will be responding to traffic changes as they occur with this project.

The committee had a large discussion regarding e-scooters. Discussion points and concerns included:

- E-scooter data feedback
  - Accidents/incidents – Major Barber stated there have been very few issues.
  - Anecdotal – Multiple people riding together on one scooter
- Operation hours – Start at 6:00 a.m., cease operation at 10:00 p.m.
- Matt Williams stated that EH&S is updating their policy that prohibits e-scooters from blocking building entrances and exits.
- E-scooter and bike safety education
  - Each vendor has safety training
  - Training must be completed to set up an account.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

**PRESENTING: RON FULLER, TAPS**

**DISCUSSION:**

There was some discussion by Keith Rambo and the committee/meeting attendees regarding PATAAC chair duties/obligations, the Senate Committee and the potential line of secession and the need for a vice-chair for this committee's succession.

**ACTION:**

Thomas Hawkins nominated Keith Rambo to take the chair for this year. Scott Washburn moved to approve the nomination, seconded by Jennifer Clark. Vice-chair position was offered and accepted by Scott Washburn and approved by the committee.

**UF-653 – ARCHITECTURE BUILDING RENOVATION/REMODELING AND DCP COLLABORATORY**

**PRESENTING: CYDNEY MCGLOTHLIN**

**DISCUSSION:**

Cydney McGlothlin presented the programming phase for the renovation/remodeling of the Architecture building. The original structure was built in 1979. Due to budget cuts at the time, the structure was not completed to the full specifications.

- Water intrusion issues
- Not at current Florida building codes
- Not currently ADA compliant

This project is seeking to bring the building up to code with building additions or possibly construct a new building. The programming includes a three-story structure, 54.8k GSF. The new building space will include:

- Research labs
- Teaching space
- Creative commons space for students.

This project is planned to begin construction in 2023, pending funding.

Impacts for this project:

- Parking - May include temporarily four (4) spaces at the Music Building. Possible rework, but no removal
- Sidewalks – Angled sidewalk.

Note was the plan to keep most sidewalks and enhanced them as Stadium Road is a pleasant walking area.

The committee discussed and had concerns regarding the following:

- Pedestrian area and sidewalks
  - Routes through area

- Parking at and access to Music Building
  - Loading dock area
  - Deliveries
- Service Drive access
- Vehicles/trucks in project area
- Inner Road/Utility Project
  - Safety
  - Parking
  - Limited access to area
  - Noted eventual two-way road – alleviate traffic
- Noted scooters parking and blocking access ramp at building

**ACTION:**

Thomas Hawkins moved to approve the programming phase of this project with the inclusion of the following:

- Pedestrian pathways through proposed area
- Service drive and loading needs.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Clark. The motion with the inclusions passed.

**DISCUSSION ON HIGH HOOD VEHICLES**

**PRESENTING: EMILY HIND, UF FACULTY**

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Emily Hind presented to the committee an excerpt from an article written by Angie Schmitt, “Right of Way: Race, Class and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America.” This prefaced concerns regarding road hazards for bicycles, scooters, people using disability/mobility devices and pedestrians from large/oversized vehicles with high ended hoods such as pick-up trucks, SUVs and minivans. These vehicles have low visibility due to this design and it has been observed that these vehicles often drive too fast and do allow room in the designated bike lanes. The discussion with the committee included the following:

- Laws for bumper heights on vehicles
- Enforcement of rule where oversized vehicles are operated
- University owned vehicles
  - Conversion to lightweight, low-profile fleet vehicles
- County and city road improvements
  - Improvements to University Avenue – Speed reduction
- Increase parking decal rates for oversized vehicles
- Bicycles and E-bikes
- Reduced speed zones
- Climate impact of operation of oversized vehicles

**ACTION:**

Thomas Hawkins asked Dr. Hind to compile a bullet pointed list of action items as to not allow this issue to settle. Suggested was to set a meeting with the Infrastructure Committee to address these concerns. Major Barber discussed police efforts to improve traffic and vehicle movement on campus. Thomas Hawkins suggested a report prior to next PATAC meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PRESENTED BY: KEITH RAMBO**

Alex Wong, a University graduate student, presented a proposal to change parking permissions to only permit Green decals and not Orange decals in Garage 7. This would protect the graduate student parking in the garage. As well he proposed permitting Green decal be able to park in the O’Connell Center surface lot to increase graduate student parking options. Scott Fox spoke of graduate student parking now available at Flavet Field former tennis court lot. Ron Fuller spoke of Green decal parking in these areas:

- Garage 7 – Roof has open spaces daily
- Garage 14 – Has designated Green decal floors
- Garage 5 – Lower levels are Green decal parking

Scott and Ron also spoke about:

- Event parking through the year at the O'Connell Center in which parking restrictions may be lifted
- Exclusion of Staff Commuter decals from Garage 7.
- Parking difficulties at the beginning of the fall semester – Parking evens out after around two weeks.

Discussion suggestions for graduate student parking alternatives and options:

- Premium parking option for graduate students
- Student parking priority pricing
- Protected/reserved parking

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.