

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 8, 2022 2:00 pm

206 TAPS/via ZOOM

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS: Emily Bartley, Jennifer Clark, Marty Dempsey, Noah Fineberg, Emily Hind, Thomas Hawkins, Carolyn Kelly, Major Bart Knowles, Matthew Terza, Emma Towler, Connor Wells, Scott Washburn, Matt Williams

LIASONS: Eddie Daniels, Linda Dixon, Chad Doering, Scott Fox

NON-MEMBERS: Jacob Adams, Kaylee August, Mairead Baker, Chris Carlson, "Derek L.", Matthew Doty, Ron Fuller, Tom Feather, Sam Hanzel, Charles Kammin, Rachel Mandell, Cydney McGlothlin, Brian Montenegro, Allison Moss, Keith Rambo, Gabriel Weinstein, S.A. Wright, Milo Zapata, Nina Shubert (Recording)

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Ann Baird, Ifgeneia Giannadaki, Ramzi Salloum,

STUDENT MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Brady Alexander, Shelby Schultz

CHAIR: Scott Washburn

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Scott Washburn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Washburn asked the committee to review and approve of the minutes from October 2022. There were some typos to be corrected. Motion to approve was set by Thomas Hawkins and seconded by Emily Hind. The minutes of October 2022 were approved.

TAPS UPDATE

PRESENTING: RON FULLER, TAPS

DISCUSSION:

Scott Washburn asked Scott Fox to provide an update regarding the memo sent to Vice President Reynolds after TAPS update is presented.

Road Closures and Projects:

- Jennings Service Drive – Converts to 2-way traffic and Red decal only on 11/14/2022
- Broward Service Drive (restricted access) for ongoing UF-654 project
- Inner Road TBD – Project start delayed until early 2023
- Museum Road between Center Drive and Newell Drive to open very soon
- With opening of Museum Road east of Center Drive the section from Gale Lemerand Drive and the Reitz Union will be closed
- Newell Drive will be closed from Museum Road to past EH&S starting November 14.
 - Other phases of Newell Drive to Harrell service drive will be closed late November 2022 and January 2023
 - Newell Drive should reopen in entirety May/June 2023.
- Temporary connections to buildings are being implemented and a relocation of parking
 - Relocating contractor parking lot north of Brain Institute will be relocated Diamond Drive.
 - 25 Spaces

Chris Carlson added regarding the Jennings area road closure that they are getting a truck to drive through the parking lot to check access. Some parking spaces may need to be blocked off to allow truck turning access.

- Northeast Gateway at Tigert is completed with booth and circle.
 - Final part is the reconfiguration of the entrance at Criser parking lot.
 - New entrance for this lot is just past the booth turning right into the lot.

- TAPS assisted with restriping of Tigert parking lot.
- TAPS assisting with installation of gates at Tigert parking lot.

Permit Sales:

- Continuing to go well.
- Noted revenue loss in Blue decal sales from Health Science Center (HSC) moving to professional areas.

LPR:

- Process continues to get more refined each month.

Scott Fox discussed the pre-pandemic auto-restricted zone. This zone allowed only state, service and emergency vehicles, disability placards, buses with the intent of keeping out drop-off and cut-through traffic. During COVID, the restrictions were removed and not restored due to construction projects. The auto-restricted zone needs to be reinstated for pedestrians, cyclists, and general safety concerns. This will be effective Monday, January 9, 2023, the first day of the spring semester. There was additional committee discussion regarding:

- Extending the auto-restricted zone to 5:30pm
 - Not possible due to end of regular business day traffic management.
 - Concerns about distracted drivers during this time.
- Alternative exit routes
- Inner Road closure and campus traffic flow

Noah Fineberg inquired regarding RTS driver vacancies, as students are encouraged to take buses whenever possible. Scott Fox offered that the update on hiring for vacancies is not positive.

- Driver employment losses
- 40 vacancies
- Applicants do not meet minimum requirements
- Noted the national shortage of transportation operators.

Thomas Hawkins inquired regarding professional offices moving to the former Nationwide building. HSC manages their own decals/permits. TAPS assisted for a couple of years and HSC took over the operation.

Scott Washburn inquired and discussed the memo sent to Vice President Reynolds regarding mitigating bad parking behavior. Scott Fox stated Vice President Reynolds received the email. He discussed the mitigation plan:

- Discussion has begun with the departments which are primary users of state vehicles.
- Message to the departments has been more positive – Alternative parking area, rather than sidewalk.
- Departments' response has been that parking in decal spaces upsets people who need to use the space.
- Looking to address valid points from departments.
 - Possibly carve out some parking areas for the state vehicles
 - Peer review and discussions with the other schools about their state vehicle parking policies.
 - Tracking state vehicle citations
 - Determine the responsible parties.
 - What do the citations look like?
 - Handling of the citations
 - Reaching out to Human Resource Services to advise that this kind enforcement will be used. Providing opportunity to address questions/challenges.

There was additional discussion about

- Communication tracking to internal and external customers
- Available database information and identifying responsible parties in violations.

UF-685 HOLLAND LAW UTILITY PLANT IMPROVEMENTS – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PHASE

PRESENTING: MILO ZAPATA, PD&C

DISCUSSION:

Milo Zapata presented the design development phase for the Holland Hall Utility Plant Improvement. This project was first introduced at the Land, Vegetation and Landscaping (LVL) committee in July 2022. The presented project overview included:

- Location/scope of project area
- Steam to Heating Hot Water Conversion and Chilled Water Utility Improvements
 - Replace aging Chilled Water equipment
- Solar Hot Water Installation
- Carport Solar PV Installation
- EV Charger Installation

This project has met with all concerned stakeholders:

- Transportation and Parking Services
- Alachua County Fire and Rescue
- City of Gainesville
- UF Housing
- University Athletic Association

Brian Montenegro presented and discussed the map of the Distribution Piping Impacts. The north side will be hand dug and the south side will have directional drilling.

- Total construction duration is 4-5 months
- Work will be done in phases so not all areas will be closed at the same time and for the same duration.
- Construction will be avoided during football season.
- All roadways, sidewalks and parking lots will be restored to match existing condition
- MOT plan will address detours for roads, sidewalks, bike paths impacted.
- More details on the fraternity parking lots
 - Phase 1 – Close the north part of the parking lot for two weeks while boring activities are taking place
 - Phase 2
 - Shrink work area to allow traffic flow around
 - East side angled parking spaces will be used as driving lane
 - Impact duration is 1-2 months
- Job Trailer Impacts – Map of job trailer area
 - Row of parking next to Holland Chiller Water Plant 7 (Building 758) will be used for job trailer
 - Job trailer expected installation by end of 2022
 - Job trailer removal expected by project closeout, 8/2024
- Heating Hot Water Solar Panel Array Impacts -
 - 19 solar hot water panels installed in the grassy area south of Holland Chilled Water Plant
 - Driveway may be closed for the duration of construction
 - Sidewalk, driveway and scooter parking not expected to be impacted
 - Scooter parking not affected post construction
 - Construction duration is one month
- Parking Impact for Solar Carport and EV Charging – Northeast side of Holland parking area
 - 100 kW Solar carport/parking canopy

- 3 EV chargers installed.
- Sidewalk along Holland Law parking lot closed during construction, not expect to be impacted post construction.
- If footing location is moved into existing sidewalk, additional sidewalk will be poured.
- Grass area to be used for equipment laydown area.
- Parking spaces will not be reduced post construction.
- Construction duration is 3-4 months .
- Existing EV charger at Levin Advocacy Center.
- New EV charger/signage will be similar.
- Level 2 charger for two subsequent parking spots underneath the solar canopy.
- Level 3 charger by chiller plant driveway on south side of plant for service vehicles.

Other committee discussions:

- Ron Fuller stated that TAPS is satisfied with plan as several discussions were held regarding impacts and disruptions.
- Emily Hind mentioned electric vehicles and dangers to cyclists and pedestrians. Concern is regarding sudden starts at stop signs. Inquired regarding plans for speed bumps in the areas of the EV stations. Scott Fox offered that TAPS would look at the areas and determine the needs for speed bumps as necessary. No discussion has occurred at this time.
- Speeds of e-vehicles traveling along Hull Road and other areas.

ACTION:

Thomas Hawkins moved to approve the project phase as presented. Matt Williams seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Keith Rambo inquired regarding Level 3 charging stations. As there are Level 3 stations installed for service vehicles will Level 3 stations be installed for general public use. Matt Williams stated that there are discussions about locations for these charging stations. Facilities Services is interested as 4 F-150 Lightning trucks are on order and they are considering if these vehicles could act for mobile changing.

REQUEST FROM HOUSING TO MAKE CHANGES TO PERMIT DESIGNATION IN JENNINGS SOUTH LOT DURING FINAL PHASES OF UTILITY WORK

PRESENTING: CHAD DOERING, PATAC

DISCUSSION:

Chad Doering presented a request to change permitting designation on behalf of bicyclists and pedestrians in the Jennings area. As part of the infrastructure project, UF-623B, continues there will be a need to close Newell Drive. Newell Drive is currently the exit of the one-way going into the Jennings Circle. An overview of the area was presented. The proposal is to change the parking restrictions to Red parking only with no Official Business permits. The eight reserved spaces would remain. The hope is to decrease traffic looking for spaces in this lot.

Scott Fox stated that although the PATAC committee doesn't decide permit designation changes, TAPS will work outside the committee to assist with changing the permitting designation.

- The parking area does not have Official Business parking however this type of permit may park in Red permit areas.
- These permit holders like the convenience of the area and take up the Red permit spaces intended for Jennings residents.

ACTION:

This was presented to the committee however no action needed to be taken.

COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES WITH UNIVERSITY SUSTANABILITY COMMITTEE

PRESENTING: SCOTT WASHBURN, ARIEL POMPUTIUS, CHAIR SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION:

Scott Washburn discussed a conversation with Ariel Pomputius regarding a collaboration between PATAC and the Sustainability Committee on items of mutual interest. Ariel Pomputius was unable to attend the meeting and this discussion/presentation will be postponed for a future PATAC meeting.

There was discussion by the committee regarding the following:

- The collaboration may assist the items of mutual interest
- The Sustainability Committee discusses items such as bicycle and pedestrian issues, climate action, etc.
- Sustainability Committee part of infrastructure but is considered ad hoc.
 - Projects do not require review by this committee

ACTION:

No action.

OTHER BUSINESS:

PRESENTED BY: SCOTT WASHBURN

Scott Washburn presented to the committee several discussion points. The committee discussed extensively the following items:

- Bloodmobile location and scheduling process – Weil Hall
 - Park all day
 - Play loud music to attract student donors – Disturbing to people working in the building.
 - Exhaust fumes from vehicles
 - Ron Fuller and Scott Fox explained the following:
 - The history of this issue – Originally all over campus
 - Limited available spaces - Approved sites for the bloodmobile
 - Meetings with Vice President, Business Affairs to negotiate the best locations
 - Ways to limit the number of days bloodmobile is present on campus
- Center Drive Crosswalks
 - Difficult to clear traffic southbound Center Drive due to pedestrian traffic
 - Pedestrian cross legally and illegally – problematic corridor
 - Discussed removing one of the three crosswalks
 - This current traffic situation will improve once the campus utility project is completed.
- Mowry Road Bicycle Lanes
 - A letter from UF employee Hao Ye discussed the bike lane/sidewalk ending on Mowry Road, south side of CTRC.
 - No sidewalk on south side of Mowry from CGRC to Archer Road
 - Pedestrians use bike lane
 - Bike lane disappears at intersection of Mowry and Gale Lemerand
 - Aware of the issue, but no funding or plan to renovate intersection at this time.

Rachel Mandell offered the streetscapes on the landscape Master Plan regulate sidewalks and bike lanes for campus construction guidelines. (The links were put into the meeting chat.) The Master Plan is also aware of the need for sidewalks on both sides of Mowry Road. There was discussion regarding presenting projects to University administration.

- Fine Art A bicycle parking rack
 - Request for bicycle rack to be moved due to vehicles (vendors, contractors) using the turn-around.
 - Bicycle rack is frequently used.
- Bike lane issue on Buckman Drive
 - Scott Washburn viewed the area and the vehicle behavior after 5:00pm.
 - A video was taken showing vehicle, pedestrian, and bike movement at the intersection.
 - Allison Moss offered the City of Gainesville One-Way Pair project will be proposing changes to the 17th and 18th Street areas.
 - There were several possible solutions discussed
 - Consolidate roadway to single lane.
 - Prevent left turns at peak hours
 - The committee was encouraged to offer additional solutions for this issue.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.