

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 13, 2024 at 2:00 pm

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS: Jennifer Clark, Marty Dempsey, Thomas Hawkins, Emily Hind, Carolyn Kelley, Charles Kammin, Walter O'Dell, Scott Washburn, Matt Williams

LIASONS: Linda Dixon, Lynda Reinhart, Seth Wood

NON-MEMBERS: Ron Fuller, "Derek", Jim Harriott, Matthew Hartley Travis Hastay, Melanie Heflin, Bart Knowles, Rachel Mandell, Alison Moss, Michael Panarisi, Mike Ryan Simonovich, Nina Shubert (Recording)

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Emily Bartley, Margaret Fields, Sarah Gamble, Matthew Terza

STUDENT MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Connor Wells

CHAIR: Scott Washburn

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Scott Washburn

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Washburn asked the committee to review and approve of the minutes from December 2023. (The January 2024 meeting had been cancelled due to weather.) There were small corrections in the minutes made by Scott Washburn. The motion to approve revised version was set by Thomas Hawkins and was seconded by Emily Hind. The minutes from December 2023 were approved.

TAPS UPDATE

PRESENTING: RON FULLER

DISCUSSION:

Ron Fuller introduced Lynda Reinhart, interim director of Transportation and Parking Services. Lynda is the Senior Director of the O'Connell for 17 years and with Scott Fox's departure she was asked to step in until the Senior Director of Transportation and Parking Service position has been posted. There is a nation-wide search to fill this position.

Ron Fuller discussed the following items:

- Expansion of Passport to Garage 6 rooftop (1329 Building).
 - 40 spaces to assist with intermittent department parking needs for off-site employees and others.
 - Noted this is working well.
- Expansion of Passport to parking meters and possibly other locations
 - Pay-by-phone option at all parking meters.
 - Expanding to East Campus for visitors.
 - Expanding to new Student Health Care Center – 90 minutes of virtual parking
 - Will assist having patient parking and parking enforcement in the area.
- Continuing to monitor several construction projects around campus.

UF HEALTH ORTHO OR BUILDING ADDITION – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

PRESENTING: TAMERA BAUGHMAN, PD&C

DISCUSSION:

Tamera Baughman presented the design development phase for the UF Health Orthopedic/OR building addition. This project was presented for committee discussion. Noted:

- The expansion project is taking place on UF Foundation property.
- Existing parking is not managed by TAPS.

- Parking is specifically for the surgery center.

Linda Dixon stated that the property is in the Campus Master Plan and should be an action item and so changed on the agenda.

- Project Overview – Discussed of previous expansion and parking -
 - Location of project site, off 34th Street and Hull Road
 - Project area
 - 27,000 square feet addition to west end of current building with renovation of 7,000 square feet
 - Provides a new drop-off area near adult patient entrance.
 - Building addition will be on existing parking area with new parking to be added –
 - 18 patient spaces
 - 58 employee spaces
- Existing Conditions
 - Presented photos and map diagrams.
 - Discussed briefly tree removal in the expansion area.
- Site Plan
 - Proposed building addition on existing parking with the proposed parking addition.
- Photos of proposed trees to be removed.
- Sustainability and Site Impact Analysis Survey -
 - Project will pursue no sustainability certifications.
 - Due to removal of existing parking stormwater conveyance system, including inlets will need relocation. With additional impervious area existing stormwater management facility will need to be expanded for added runoff.
 - Existing water and fire service are adequate for the addition/expansion. Some electric will require rerouting.
 - No modifications anticipated for existing GRU sewer lift station. 13:57
- Project was presented to LVL a couple of times regarding concerns for tree removal.
 - Investigated and concluded there was and will be a need for the proposed employee parking spaces at the center:
 - Considered as well are patients traveling from out of town for procedures and the guarantee of parking at the facility.
- Presented design images new entrance – Adult and Pediatric

The committee followed up with questions and extensive discussion regarding:

- Permeable surface pavement – Not part of this project.
- Stormwater issues with tree removal
 - Travis Hastay, CHW, discussed the stormwater basin, tree removal between existing parking and pond area.
 - Due to land elevation reduction of parking would not assist in retaining trees.
- Bicycles and pedestrian access and enhancement for area
 - Noted extensive discussion for previous expansion project.
 - Bike route and bike rack in the facility area
- Emily Hind discussed biking in the area and the issues with the heat and asphalt.
- Linda Dixon further discussed the project's area in the Campus Master Plan and the reasons for presentation to the UF committees and not under the City of Gainesville development review process, emphasizing this as an action item.
- Additional discussion regarding adding bike racks and demand and pedestrian access.
 - Employees/patient bike rack demand – Patients likely not using bike racks as this is a surgical facility.
- Bicycle and pedestrian traffic concerns:

- Crossing at 34th Street.
- Encouraging bicycle transit for employees and visitors
- Adding 5 bike racks/10 spaces
- Linda Dixon talked about a future addition in the Master Plan and parking losses.
- Matt Williams pointed out that 34th Street crossing is part of the City of Gainesville
- Thomas Hawkins commented on suburban elements and the area's buildings/structure/sidewalks and considerations and future proposals.
- Discussed minutes from November 2020 and previous expansion – Pedestrian improvements, trees added.
- Additional discussion on area's future expansion and considerations – Bike/pedestrian access, building access, parking and infrastructure.
- Bart Knowles concerns for bike thefts in the area. Matthew Hartley stated that there would be cameras in the parking lots.
- Indoor/covered parking for future building projects.
- Project's parking need study – Determined the parking numbers currently and for the future.
- Extensive discussion regarding long term concerns for building design and placement.

ACTION:

There was some discussion with Tamera Baughman regarding the structure and content to be included in the motion. Marty Dempsey discussed further the concerns for the area regarding a motion. Matt Williams offered clarification for the bicycle considerations as part of crafting the motion. Thomas Hawkins and the committee further discussed:

- Road access to the building.
- Creation of an adequate street connecting the building to Hull Road.
- A pedestrian and bicycle utilization study for area.
- ADA access

Emily Hind discussed concerns regarding poor design, excess of parking, lack of repurposing.

There was a motion presented by Matt Williams to approve the project as presented with the following caveats:

- Check and confirm bicycle utilization/use.
- Concrete pad in place for future bike racks, as demand warrants.

The motion was seconded by Carolyn Kelley.

There were 3 approvals and 3 opposed. Scott Washburn approved the project, breaking the tie. The motion passed.

UF-675 DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER ADVANCED SCHEMATIC DESIGN PHASE

PRESENTING: TAMERA BAUGHMAN, PD&C

DISCUSSION:

Tamera Baughman presented and discussed the advanced schematic design phase for Disability Resource Center. This project has been previously presented to the committee.

- Project Site –
 - Original project was to be across University Avenue.
 - The project site is now located at parking lot east of Florida Gym, south of proposed Hamilton Center (old Infirmary) west of Bryant Space Center.
 - Parking lot has Gold, Silver and ADA spaces.
 - Additional parking spaces in service drive to the west.
- Presented photos of site area.
 - Photo of concrete/bike rack area proposed to have additional diagonal car parking, maintaining bike racks.
- Site Survey –
 - 53 parking spaces in lot between Fletcher Drive and Stadium Road

- Additional 10 spaces on service drive to west
- Grade changes of 11'+ from west to east.
- Site Plan –
 - Presented rendering of building façade
 - Building on east side, retaining west side for future testing center
 - Parking
 - Loss of 53 spaces
 - Addition of 8 spaces in service drive, retaining bike racks
 - Net parking loss is 45 spaces.
 - Mitigation fee will be paid for parking loss.
 - Presented photo of crosswalk at Fletcher, concrete area for proposed parking spaces
 - Existing parking vs. new building
 - +/- 5 feet differential between existing parking and proposed finished floor of DRC building.
 - Existing parking is angled and dimensions do not allow for perpendicular parking.
 - Desire to retain as much current surface parking until next phase (pends approval and funding).
- Project is pursuing LEED Gold certification.

The committee's questions and discussion included:

- Impact on two oak trees in northwest corner –
 - One oak tree has damage and rot and will be removed.
 - The other trees are healthy and will remain.
 - Intent is to preserve trees.
- Laurie Hall and Tamera Baughman noted future large utility replacement will be done in this area
- Machael Panarisi inquired regarding how the building will affect the grid and electric vehicle use/charging in the area. Matt Williams stated that there has been discussions regarding capacity needs for electric vehicles. There is no anticipated issue and electric vehicles do not require much infrastructure.
 - Matt Williams stated that there has much discussion regarding the infrastructure needs for electric bikes, scooters and other charging needs.
 - Eventually seeking a campus-wide policy on outside electrical charging.
- Marty Dempsey inquired regarding bike racks being moved to accommodate the proposed parking, possible increased traffic in area and a need for more bike infrastructure.
 - Ron Fuller stated that there were bike racks on north, specific to building.
 - Matt Williams requested the bike rack count for the area, which will be provided by Laurie Hall.

ACTION:

Thomas Hawkins moved to approve the project advanced schematic design phase. The motion was seconded by Matt Williams. With no discussion and no opposition, the motion was approved.

MP08578 – FLETCHER – BUCKMAN ONE-WAY PAIRS STUDY

PRESENTED BY: MELANIE HEFLIN, PD&C

DISCUSSION:

(As the meeting was running long, Scott Washburn asked if the project was crucial. Linda Dixon stated that they would like to move forward on project due to the public meetings conducted before the end of the semester.)

Melanie Heflin introduced the study for the installation of one-way pair traffic operations on Fletcher Drive, off University Avenue. Jim Harriott presented the project discussion points:

- Project Meetings and Presentations Schedule (so far) – November 2023 to February 2024
- Project Overview – Map – One-way pair feasibility study for Buckman Drive and Fletcher Drive

- Project Goals
 - Explore conversion of Fletcher Drive and Buckman Drive to one-way streets, integrating with one-way pair off-campus configurations recently implemented on NW 17th Street and NW 18th Street.
 - Enhanced pedestrian and bicycle travel and safer non-vehicle travel by reducing conflicts.
 - Accommodate buses.
 - Accommodate emergency vehicles.
 - Improved operations and safety on University Avenue
 - Improve loading zone for official and delivery vehicles, discouraging street parking for delivery vehicles.
- Vehicle Movement Counts
- Traffic Study/Analysis Chart – One-Way and Two-Way Options
 - Build up the supporting traffic analysis –
 - Level of service at Buckman Drive/University Avenue and Fletcher Drive/University Avenue
 - Alignment with corridors (one-way pairs) on north side of University Avenue
 - Operational improvements and queue length in auxiliary lanes in University Avenue
 - Improve green time for bike and pedestrian improvements on Buckman Drive/University Avenue and Fletcher Drive/University Avenue
 - Safety benefits
 - Provide dedicated bike, pedestrian and multi-modal facilities to minimize conflicts with vehicles.
 - Minimize conflict between non-vehicular modes of transportation.
 - Convenient access to transit
 - Provide loading zones and access to greater variety on delivery vehicles.
 - Minimize street parking of delivery vehicles and deliveries blocking travel lanes and bike lanes.
 - Four Options – Discussed pluses and issues, counterclockwise rotation between Buckman and Fletcher and use of parking lot on the north edge of this loop.
 - Two-Way for both Fletcher Drive and Buckman Drive
 - Two-Way for Buckman Drive and One-Way (southbound) for Fletcher Drive
 - One-Way (northbound) for Buckman Drive and Two-Way for Fletcher Drive
 - One-Way (northbound) for Buckman Drive and One-Way (southbound) for Fletcher Drive
 - Presented grid chart – Does the option meet the goal?
 - Options which met the goal –
 - ✓ One-Way (northbound) for Buckman Drive and One-Way (southbound) for Fletcher Drive - Creates a pedestrian mall approach on Buckman Drive
 - ✓ One-Way (northbound) for Buckman Drive and One-Way (southbound) for Fletcher Drive – Pedestrian mall approach, Fletcher would be two-way.
- Routes – Circulation, Traffic Flow
 - Buckman Drive Pedestrian Mall Configuration – Cross Section
 - Fletcher Drive Cross Section Configuration – Two-Way (Pedestrian Mall)
 - Buckman Drive Separator Options – Proposed options and existing sections,
 - Raised Separator
 - Brick Flush
 - Pavement Markings
 - Planted Median
 - Fletcher Drive Service Treatment – Infirmary and food service areas
 - Stadium Road Enlargement – Two-Way Circle Track – Use a bike box technique.
- Recommended Option – True One-Way Pairs
 - Buckman Drive - Separator/Two-Way Cycle Track

- Travel Lane
 - Bike Track Way
 - Loading Lane
- Fletcher Drive – Service Treatment
 - Travel lane
 - Bike Lane
 - Parallel Parking
- Buckman Drive and Fletcher Drive – Connections
 - Bike Box
- Plan Enlargements
 - Bike Box
 - Bus Hub
 - Chemistry building service area
 - Fletcher Drive dumpster area

The committee discussed the following:

- Ron Fuller inquired about traffic controls, stop signs and bike boxes on Stadium Road. There would be traffic controls with stop signs.
- Drainage/ponding in the project areas
- Parking lot access at Fletcher from University Avenue
- Bus routes/bus lanes consideration along Buckman Drive
- Allison Moss suggested an all-purpose lane and have split phasing at Buckman Drive and University Avenue.

ACTION:

Thomas Hawkins set a motion to approve with the following:

- Option on Fletcher Drive and Buckman Drive for the one-way motor vehicle and two-way bike track, with median separator.
- Request to investigate split phasing for northbound traffic on Buckman Drive for a dedicated bicycle phase.

Matt Williams seconded the motion. With no discussion and with no opposition the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

PRESENTED BY: SCOTT WASHBURN

No other business presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.