

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)

FEBRUARY 16, 2011

Present:	Al Byam (Chair) Mike Brennan Ann Carr	Martha Nelson Patrick Randy Boivin	Jake Clemen Rob Hendry Niel La Cour	Jennifer Bennett Barbara Stewart	Ryan Quinn Maxine Greenblatt	Kyle Howard Jim Plaza
Absent:	Pam Monn	Tom O'Donnell	Ben Thompson John Collura			
Vacant:	SGA (1)	SWAG				
Special Guests: Juanita Holler, Assoc. VC Facilities and Campus Services, Andy Soles from Facilities and Campus Planning						

INTRODUCTIONS: New members Jennifer Bennett and Maxine Greenblatt were introduced.

MINUTES: Approved minutes from November 20, 2010 with corrections noted and made

MASTERPLAN: Al Byam discussed the special meeting that will be held on March 9, 2011, and how PTAB members can help with the Master Planning process by expressing their ideas. The Master Plan Team will also be holding public forums and workshops to get all ideas from the University community. The Master Plan will roll out on the 150th year anniversary for the University in the Spring of 2012.

Andy Soles from Facilities and Campus Planning presented the new Commonwealth Honor College Residential Complex plan. This new complex will take up the entire parking area lot 40 between Boyden Gym and the Recreation Center. It will include six new buildings with a \$161M TPC, total program area: 500,000GSF, 1500 beds, connecting courtyards, and cafeteria. Completion date is set for summer 2013. This new residential area will house 600 first year students, 900 upper-class suites and apartments, 2 faculty apartments, 4 staff apartments 9 classrooms, Commonwealth Honors College Administration student services and a multipurpose room.

This project will displace 300 parking spaces, including 232 permits, 63 metered, 13 housing support and animal care. The replacement parking plan includes 295 spaces :

- A. Surface parking at Dickinson (70 spaces);
- B. Expand ROTC Lot 42 (88 spaces);
- C. Expand lot 33 (64 spaces);
- D. Refurbish a part of lot 12 (add min. of 73 spaces);
- E. Increase shuttle service from these lots to the campus core.

Maxine noted that the need for handicapped parking specifically around Goodell is essential. Mike Brennan stated Parking Services increased handicapped parking north of Goodell but will look at the numbers again. Al Byam mentioned that Transit Services is looking at shuttles for employees who have to park in outlying lots a distance from their buildings.

TRANSIT UPDATE:

- Transit budget was distributed and discussed. Al talked about specific expense items and also Transit's plan to renovate the Bus Dispatch area to accommodate the new vehicle locator system.
- Megabus: Is a private discount bus service that requested to serve campus last fall. They instead located at the Hampshire Mall. They offer some discounted trips from \$1.00 - \$20.00 to New York City and Hartford.
- Bus Ridership: January ridership was down due to snow cancellations. February ridership continues to increase.

PARKING UPDATE:

- Parking budget was distributed and discussed.
- Text Alert Status: 300 individuals have signed up and only eleven text messages have been sent to customers telling them that their vehicle has been removed from campus.
- Discussed the Library Commons reduced rate for overnight parking in the garage. A new pilot program for enforcing illegal parking near the library was begun at the beginning of the Spring Semester. Parking Services is performing the service and distributing informational brochures for the enforcement program. 70 citations have been issued to date, and the numbers are dropping as the word is spreading.

COMMUTER OPTIONS:

- Discussions are taking place with Nuride Software Company, a Massachusetts State contract vendor for ride sharing. The software would allow UMass students and employees who are looking for a rideshare to and from work. Smith College has utilized the service. The present rideshare database is only for UMass, although Nuride could add all colleges.
- DEP (Department Environmental Protection) Survey compiles the number of people commuting to and from work: 50% commute alone, 29% use Transit, 10% are carpooling, 5% walk & bike, and 1% telecommute. There are more “informal” car pools operating than are registered. Employee carpool numbers have increased.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Niels talked about idea gathering sessions for the Master Plan, and how public forums and meetings with campus groups have been submitting ideas. The Campus Planning Department is taking a “hybrid approach”: instead of hiring a consulting firm to do the planning, the department is performing the majority of the work itself. One consulting firm has been hired to do some planning functions. The Master planning website is up and running and there will be places on the site for people to click green thumbs up on an idea, or a red thumbs down. This is a positive and exciting project to get the UMass Community involved and an opportunity for PTAB to get its ideas and concerns heard.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| -- Master plan | - Winter Parking policy |
| - Pay station Updates | - Abandoned Bike Policy |
| Lot 24 Tilson Farm Road | - consultant's report |

NEXT MEETING: March 9, 2011 Room 903 Campus Center 12:00pm – 2:00pm – Master Plan!!