

Transportation Services Advisory Committee

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 19, 2009

Attendees:

Dr. Susan Bloomfield
Mr. Mike Caruso
Ms. Nicole Franzetti
Dr. R. J. Golsan
Ms. Lallah Howard
Mr. Jonathan Howson
Mr. Konrad Johnson
Ms Brandy Kosh
Ms. Olga Martinez
Dr. Joe Newton
Mr. Darryl Peterson
Mr. Robert Pottberg
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Ms. Rosey Saenz
Dr. Doug Slack
Mr. Rod Weis
Mr. Jeff Wilson
Mr. C.J. Woods
Ms. Mary Tess Eggebrecht

Absent:

Ms. Flora Reeves
Mr. Tanner Wilson

Guests:

Mr. Peter Lange
Mr. Doug Williams
Ms. Lana Wolken
Ms. Therese Kucera
Ms. Rose Berryhill
Mr. Kenny Kimball

1.0 Business

- 1.1 Meeting called to order by Rod Weis
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Reintroduction of new and returning members
- 1.4 Mr. Weis asked the committee members if anyone had questions for him
- 1.5 Dr. Price asked the members to review the minutes from October 22, 2009 meeting
 - 1.5.1 Asked for corrections to the minutes; none noted
 - 1.5.2 Dr. Newton made a motion to approve the minutes as written
 - 1.5.3 Ms. Kosh seconded the motion; all voted in favor, minutes approved

2.0 Safety Issues with the Canyon Creek Bus Stop

- 2.1 Mr. Weis discussed safety issues with the Canyon Creek bus stop on FM 2818; buses have to return to high traffic area; buses accelerate slowly and are hard to get back into traffic and then they need to turn about 20 feet from the stop; students are also crossing four lanes of traffic from 2818 Place and Parkway Place to use the Canyon Creek Bus Stop
- 2.2 Mrs. Wolken, Assistant Director of Transit and Mr. Weis has met with officials from the City of College Station on concerns about accidents, speed of traffic and students crossing the four lanes of traffic.
 - 2.2.1 The City Officials agreed that short term, the only solution was to remove the bus stop from 2818
- 2.3 The situation on FM 2818 gravely concerns Mr. Weis; the safety of students, safety for the 19 year old drivers and safety for other drivers
- 2.4 Ms. Howard told the committee that she has spoken with two other callers from the community that had concerns about this situation
- 2.5 Mr. Johnson stated that he can understand how there is a valid concern for everyone's safety
- 2.6 Mr. Weis stated that he would like to remove the stop
 - 2.6.1 Transportation Services will communicate the information with signs in buses and at the stop
 - 2.6.2 Transportation Services will offer the residents of Canyon Creek a free lot 100 permit to use for the remainder of this permit year
 - 2.6.2.1 Students must show proof of residency or have a contract from Canyon Creek
- 2.7 Mr. Pottberg described some of the accidents that they have seen at this intersection from the poultry farm on 2818 and Luther Street
- 2.8 Ms. Kosh stated that students or riders that use the stop must be aware of this situation and should not be surprised
- 2.9 Mr. Caruso asked what was the timeframe
 - 2.9.1 Mr. Weis stated to end it this semester
 - 2.9.2 Mr. Caruso asked if we could also let the riders know where alternate stops are located
- 2.10 Mr. Weis asked the students at the meeting whom else should he speak with on the safety of the stop for students, what groups
 - 2.10.1 Mr. Johnson stated that he would check with his leader, and let us know
 - 2.10.2 Mr. Weis told the students in the meeting that he would visit with other student leaders about the situation or anyone who would want to meet with him
- 2.11 Dr. Price asked for a motion to remove the stop; provide information on alternate stop locations, parking assistance until the end of this permit year for the Canyon Creek residents in Lot 100
 - 2.11.1 Mr. Howson asked if we could let the student request another lot for the ones that needed to attend classes at Blocker, like Lot 50; Peter Lange stated that Lot 100 is all that is available at this time; Ms. Howard stated that the students could catch an on-campus route and ride to the Blocker area
 - 2.11.2 Ms. Kosh made a motion to end the stop at Canyon Creek
 - 2.11.3 Dr. Bloomfield seconded the motion; all voted in favor

3.0 Additional Visitor Parking Locations

- 3.1 Mr. Lange presented a map that identified the areas deficient in visitor parking
 - 3.1.1 Told about new software, Veris Technology, that customers can pay using their cell phones, receive a text message when about out of time; will allow them to add time
- 3.2 Mr. Weis stated that we have had customers request visitor parking in the area of Lot 74; we are looking for a simple way to honor this request
- 3.3 Dr. Slack asked if the proposal is for Lot 74, Olsen and Penberthy; Peter said yes
- 3.4 Mr. Weis stated that he would like for the committee to move forward on the additional visitor parking needs
 - 3.4.1 Dr. Newton made a motion to place pay by space or pay and display visitor parking in Lot 74, near Olsen and near Penberthy
 - 3.4.2 Dr. Slack seconded the motion; all voted in favor

4.0 North Parking Garage

- 4.1 Mr. Weis stated that he and Lallah had met with Housing, Student Services and have had discussions about the location for the new residence hall. They are looking into the area of Lot 30. Parking will need to do something to assist the resident hall students.
- 4.2 Dr. Price asked what the loss of revenue, from building on another lot, be on our permit holders?
 - 4.2.1 Ms. Howard stated it is an operational issue for parking when a lot is taken for a building; Dr. Price stated she had concern for the permit holders
 - 4.2.2 Ms. Howard stated that we need to use caution-not to eliminate surface parking; we need to look at the big picture of what is best for the campus as a whole
 - 4.2.3 Mrs. Howard also stated that we are sharing this informational material with you because we felt that this group needed to know
 - 4.2.4 Mr. Pottberg asked if there was going to be a parking increase this next year; Mr. Weis stated there would not be for the next permit year
 - 4.2.5 Mr. Weis also informed the committee that last year's permit increases were approved in March and were rescinded and reduced in June
 - 4.2.5.1 The decrease throws off our financial plan a little bit; the next year we may need to ask for a 3% increase – Transportation Services is stable financially but we did this from the original plan, we knew that we needed to plan for something like this
 - 4.2.5.2 Dr. Newton stated that if the salaries get a 3% increase then that 3% is a lot more than the 3% of a permit price
- 4.3 Mr. Wilson gave an overview about the Resident Hall project and offered for Chareny Rydl to give a brief to TSAC about the Northside Resident Hall project.

5.0 Other Business

- 5.1 Mr. Weis asked the committee if they had any questions; none noted
- 5.2 Thank everyone for their help and wished them a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday

Meeting Adjourned