

PARKING TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)

February 07, 2007

Present	Sandra Anderson (Chair) Cynthia Arbour	Mike Brennan Randall Bovin	Ann Carr Rob Hendry	Jeanne Lapan Pam Monn	Tom O'Donnell Jim Plaza	Barbara Stewart Hasan Tekguc
Absent	Al Byam	John Collura	Chris LaFlamme			
Vacant:	Area Govt.	CPPC	GEO	IBPO-B	SEIU	SGA (2)

SPECIAL GUEST: Glenn Barrington [Transit]

MINUTES:

The December 06, 2006 PTAB Minutes were approved with a revision: changing Vice Chancellor for A & F to Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance.

RIDESHARE UPDATE:

Rob Hendry [Parking] reported that data indicates bus ridership and carpooling has increased (see handout). An increase in Student Fees and gas prices may be factors in bus ridership's continual growth. Rob will post the Ridership data 2006 survey on PTAB's website.

PARKING UPDATE:

Mike Brennan [Parking] discussed Parking's intent to install video cameras in student parking Lots 22, 11 and 44. Mike noted that wireless video technology should be available by the summer and that Parking would make a decision, in collaboration with UMass police department, on technology and commence installations.

Mike reported that Parking is one of the first departments to begin using the new University signage. The signs will be installed this summer and will meet the Campus Landscape Improvement Program (CLIP) new signage parameters. Cindy Arbour [Facilities & Campus Planning] circulated her CLIP binder to demonstrate which signs would be replaced. Pam Monn [Physical Plant] suggested using cement pads rather than setting the posts into the ground, noting this would make it easier for ground maintenance.

Randy Bovin [PTAB member] asked Mike to address the scheduled FY08 increases for employee parking fees and the possibility of re-negotiating fees. Mike explained that all bargaining units and Labor Relations agreed to use the aggregate salary model to determine employee parking fees. Salaries increased in FY07 due to cost of living and retro payments. This drives the increase in permit cost. It was suggested that Randy contact his union.

Construction of the new Recreation Center will begin this summer and will affect Lot 64. Randy asked if there would be a new parking lot constructed across from the Physical Plant building. Mike responded that parking in that area is yet to be finalized due to the Recreation Building still being in 50% design stage.

TRANSIT UPDATE:

Glenn Barrington [Transit] reported that Transit's start for the Spring semester went smoothly. Bus ridership increased 5.17% over 2006 (see handout). Five new buses will replace five older buses later this semester (see handout). The new buses are lower (they lack three steps), making embarking and disembarking quicker, thus allowing buses to stay on schedule. Student member Hasan Tekguc mentioned the lack of legroom in the new buses. Glenn agreed that the seat spacing is tighter but standing room has increased. Transit will bring this issue before PVTA as it will be a PVTA decision, not the University's, to change the design/model Glenn also reported that the new PVTA administrator is not happy with the new PVTA colors and logo. Hopefully, it will change!

Funding from PVTA and the Homeland Security Act was used to install 13 video interior and exterior surveillance cameras in Transit's compound.

Fleet update: Transit and the Physical Plant received campus funding to hire a consultant firm to improve the University's Fleet Team program. The contract is with the University's legal department awaiting signature.

Soil contamination was found in the ground near the fuel-shed (building to be demolished). This needs to be mitigated within one year to comply with safety standards and before construction of the new bus garage can begin.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Sandy Anderson [chair] reported that organizations that have yet to appoint representation to PTAB were sent letters during Intersession.
- Bike commuting to campus was discussed. PTAB recommends updating the existing bike plan as 48% of off-campus students have bikes. This would encourage biking to campus which would in turn help with emissions control.
- Jeanne Lapan [member] requested that a study for a new traffic light at the intersection of Hicks Way and Commonwealth Ave. be addressed. Discussion then included the difficult intersection by Tilson Farm.

SPRING MEETING SCHEDULE: Those members present voted to continue to meet on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. with box lunches provided.

March 7, 2007 Campus Center, Room 903
April 4, 2007 Campus Center, Room 903
May 2, 2007 Campus Center, Room 905-09

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Student Bike Issues	- CLIP program update
- Plans for new traffic lights	- Thatcher Way/Infirmary Way project update
- Construction projects updates	- Spring and summer Parking projects
- Fleet/employee transportation	- Vehicle Access Plan
- Cameras in Parking Lots	- Pay Station Issues