

PARKING TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)

September 22, 2004 (revised)

<u>Present:</u>	Sandy Anderson Cindy Arbour Randall Bovin Mike Brennan	Al Byam Debora Ferreira Donald Futrell Robert Hawkins	Rob Hendry Linda Hillenbrand Laura Howard Jim Kierstead	Brian Long Tom O'Donnell Paul Shuldiner Larry Snyder	Barbara Stewart
<u>Absent:</u>	Eduardo Bustamante	Jennifer Turner	Ann York	SEIU (Vacant)	ISGA (Vacant)
<u>Vacant:</u>	AGC (Vacant)	CPPC (Vacant)	GEO (Vacant)	GSS (Vacant)	IBPO-B (Vacant)

MINUTES The minutes of May 12, 2004 were approved with one revision. Replace "Innovation" with "Innovative" under TAP report.

SUMMER REPORT FROM PARKING

Mike Brennan handed out PTAB handout #1 outlining Parking Services Accomplishments. Under Installed Paystations, the lot is 34, not 32. Under Changes to Retiree/Emeritus parking program it was stated that retired employees will receive 20 free passes to use in the garage or a lot or they can buy a permit at a reduced rate. Mike will bring the retiree employee-parking document to the next meeting. The success of school opening was due largely to the on-line capability to purchase permits, etc. Mike will also bring freshmen numbers for this year. Parking Services will be adding some metered parking to Lot 45 & Lot 65.

SUMMER REPORT FROM TRANSIT

Al Byam reported that due to the current PTVA funding, Transit needed to eliminate some Town of Amherst bus routes. After meeting with the Town, they were able to save some routes, but with reductions. The Minuteman Express bus operating between Northampton and UMass was not funded for Fall 2004. The University received numerous emails to save this route. After UMass met with PVTA and Five Colleges Inc., we were able to save the route but with a reduced schedule for FY'05. This will be re-evaluated next year. The Route 9, 4-lane construction from Coolidge Bridge through Hadley is going out to bid next month. Construction will begin next spring. Transit had a very successful driver training this summer. Over 20 student drivers were trained and are now driving! Transit implemented a Meet & Greet service with a leased luxury sedan that transports visitors to/from various destinations e.g., airports, train stations and other UMass campuses. Meet and Greet fees are competitive with local transportation services and there are no multiple stops along the way. This service recently received a great commendation from the Provost! Al will bring Meet & Greet brochures to next meeting. See www.umass.edu/campus_services/meet for more information.

PARKING MASTER PLANNING

Don Futrell reported that it's time to revisit entire campus master plan particularly planning for parking. There are lots of challenges the campus is facing -- some are ongoing and some are new construction that will impact parking. He stated that we must consider all alternatives to replace what is being displaced with all new construction. If parking garages are to be considered, there are issues that would need to be addressed: security issues, revenue sources, etc. Challenge to Parking: no longer have opportunity to build new lots -- running out of space. Have to think differently -- help to understand the feasibility of parking garage. He concluded that it would be wise to use construction of the Visual Arts Building and Integrated Science Building (ISB) on the east side of Pleasant St. to strategize, direct, and coordinate planning process with master plan goal. Working on draft campus parking master plan to become part of larger master plan. Parking plan will be done by the end of year. May lose Lots 62 & 63 to new construction. Security & traffic concerns: doesn't receive as much attention as it should. Should be priority and done during the construction phase, not after.

SOFT SURFACE TRAIL PROJECT

Mass Highway, in conjunction with UMass, wants to designate a place to construct an ADA compatible soft surface trail on UMass campus. This trail would be built on an engineer-designed base and structured to test various aggregate materials. Where to place test trails? Near Worcester DC? Campus Pond? Slope at Southwest Horseshoe? There will be a walk through tomorrow to evaluate possible locations. It will then be up to Mass Highway to develop standards, test, and fund the project.

PHYSICAL PLANT PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Larry reported that the Yellow lot behind Parking Services has been graded. Physical Plant conducted a test area in the center of campus by putting burms to eliminate traffic. This worked well and also makes campus look better. Now he's looking to expand the areas. Physical Plant was asked to soften the look in the Southwest concourse area. They added several big planter boxes. They would like to do all the way to Fearing St., pending available funding.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

There were some lengthy discussions as to high pedestrian crossing areas: the crosswalk by Hampshire House, Lincoln & Mass Aves. Sandy will put these discussions on a future agenda, inviting others with more expertise on traffic issues. Police PTAB Members brought up issue of Mullin's Center event traffic i.e., terrible lighting, no where for police to stand in road to direct traffic. It was suggested this may be a Police department issue, not this board's. Sandy will convey this concern to appropriate parties. It was suggested that EH&S be contacted.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Pedestrian Safety/Way Finding System
- Retired employee parking program
- Continuation of PTAB report
- Adding Housing Services representative
- Parking issues at opening
- Number of freshmen permits issued for Fall 2004
- Distribute new Meet & Greet brochure
- FY'06 Parking projects
- FY'06 Parking & Transit budgets
- Review Parking Master Plan
- Proposed renovation: new building at Transit

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 20 at 12:15 p.m.
Continuing Ed. Classroom

Minutes prepared by:
Sue Laford
Parking Services

cc: J. Hatch
J. Cahill
P. Daly