

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

October 18, 2017, 3:45 – 5:00 P.M., JCK 1140 REGENTS ROOM

In Attendance: Steven Herrera, Adam Clark, Connor Clegg, Adrian Cooper, Leighton Gambles, Dr. Roque Mendez, Elliot Rodriguez, Dr. Jaymeen Shah, Dr. Peter Siegenthaler, Chief Jose Bañales, Stephanie Daniels, Margarita Pitti, Stephen Prentice

Absent: Gordon Green, Dr. Joanne Smith

Guest: Dr. Eric Paulson, Graduate College

### Updates from President's Cabinet:

There were no updates from the President's Cabinet.

### Approve Minutes

Meeting minutes from TSAC meeting on September 27, 2017 were approved by council prior to meeting. Suggested changes were made and minutes are available on the TSAC website.

### New Proposals

#### **Proposal for Red/Restricted Parking Permit for Graduate House of Representatives House Leader:**

Dr. Eric Paulson presented a written proposal (included in packet) for House Leader of Graduate House of Representatives to have a red/restricted parking permit. The House Leader is required to make multiple scheduled and unscheduled stops around campus throughout the week. Dr. Paulson spoke with him. Connor Clegg, Student Body President, explained that he contacted the Chief of Staff and then Vice President of Student Affairs for their approvals before returning to TSAC for final approval.

Mr. Herrera will draft a document explaining the council's decision to allow Graduate House Leader to request a red parking permit and explaining the steps the student will need to take for final approval.

There was some objection to this, however, the majority of the committee members were agreed to this proposal. The proposal was approved to move to the next step in approval process.

#### **Proposal for more reserved parking in the Woods Street Parking Garage:**

A written proposal was submitted by Dr. Sivitanides requesting more reserved parking in the Woods Street parking garage. Dr. Shah spoke on behalf of Dr. Sivitanides as he was teaching at the time of the meeting.

The main concerns that were brought up were that there will be a lack of parking when the engineering building is being built. Mr. Prentice explained that approximately 259 spaces will be lost due to building and staging for the engineering building. Once construction is completed 150 spaces will be created or returned.

Dr. Sivitanides also proposed adjusting the price of reserved parking spaces until the demand for the spaces is reduced to the number of spaces requested. Permit pricing will be reviewed in full at a later TSAC meeting.

Mr. Prentice also brought up the concern that adding more reserved parking will take away the opportunity to turn over a parking space 3-4 times a day. Mr. Clegg agreed with this and stated that it would be more beneficial to everyone if the spaces were available for multiple people to use each day.

The council agreed not to move forward with this proposal of either adding more reserved parking or changing the price of reserved parking.

#### **Proposal to add charging stations to campus:**

Mr. Prentice explained that Parking Services would like to install four electric vehicle charging stations on the first floor of the Woods Street parking garage and collect data on the demand for these charging stations on campus.

Proposal is for the following:

- 4 spaces on first floor of Woods Street Parking garage because of access to electricity.
- Cost for charging stations is \$14,000.00 that will be paid for by Parking Services.
- There will be a charge of \$2.00 per hour of charging time.
- Stations will be prepaid.
- There will be a 2-hour limit to charge based on how long it takes for an electric vehicle to charge.
- If a car is parking at one of the charging stations and it not charging they will be towed.

A question was asked about notifying drivers that they will be towed if parked illegally in the charging spaces. Mr. Prentice explained that there would be signage explaining that vehicles will be towed if not using the spaces for their intended use.

Another question was asked about asking drivers if they drive an electric car when they purchase their parking permits. Mr. Prentice answered that we can if we would like to start collecting this type of data.

The council had no objections to these charging stations being added to the campus.

#### **Transportation Ridership**

Mr. Herrera provided handouts and discussed ridership reports for shuttle, ZipCar, and CARTS Services. The shuttle reports compare ridership from Spring 2016 and 2017, and Fall 2016 and 2017. Mr. Herrera explained that the consistent drop in ridership for the shuttle services is mostly due to the ongoing construction on and around campus. This slows down the system which causes it to take longer for each lap. Transportation Services is also in the process of auditing our counting system.

Mr. Herrera explained that ZipCar is a car sharing service that anyone on campus can use. 2017 total approved members for ZipCar have consistently been trending upward.

CARTS is the local municipal transit. With a Texas State ID, students, faculty and staff may ride the CARTS buses free of charge. The chart shows quarterly usage by the campus population. This ridership has been increasing.

#### **Report on Permits Sold**

Mr. Prentice handed out a document showing the number of each type of permit sold this year. He stated that in the case of a commuting population, it is standard practice to sell more permits than there are spaces since not all commuters are on campus at the same time. The industry standard is to provide space equivalent to 30%- 40% of the number of permits purchased. Parking Services has not sold more green (residential) parking permits than there are spaces at this time. He also explained that the commuter lots have at least 1,000 empty spaces even at peak hours, even though we sell more permits

than we have spaces. Information about the number of permits sold is also available on the Parking Services website.

Next Meeting

November 15, 2017 - 3:45to 4:45 p.m., JCK 1140

Minutes from this meeting will be submitted to council electronically for review.

Adjourn: 5:00 p.m.