

Date: **July 18, 2008**

To: **Annual Report of Parking & Transportation Committee, FY '08**

From: Cynthia Heaton
Chair, Parking & Transportation Charter Committee

Re: **Annual Report of Parking & Transportation Committee, FY '08**

Committee Chair: Cynthia Heaton

Committee Members: Samuel Carrell, Joseph Chen, Brett Cloyd, Julie Fell, Jamie Hansen, Cynthia Heaton, Starr Jennings, Johna Leddy, Brian McClatchey, Sarah Milani, Leonard Sandler, Anne Sullivan

Administrative Liaisons: Mary Jane Beach, Dave Ricketts

Committee Charge (from the University's operations manual):

a. **Membership.** Confirmed by the President of the University:

- (1) Three members appointed by the governing body of the faculty, currently the Faculty Senate;
- (2) Four members appointed by the governing body of the students, currently for purposes of this committee, the UISG;
- (3) Three members appointed by the governing body of the staff, currently the Staff Council;
- (4) Committee is chaired by a staff member; chair selection is made by the president of Staff Council.

b. **Charge to the Committee:**

- (1) The Committee shall be governed by the terms of the General Charter.
- (2) In addition, the Committee shall:
 - (a) Advise on both short-term and long-term plans for handling on-campus automobile and motorcycle traffic, including flow, control, parking, and storage. Committee members shall consult the appropriate administrative officers and the Campus Planning Committee to inform themselves regarding land use, parking lot design, and landscaping as these considerations bear on campus

- parking and transportation policies;
- (b) Advise on plans for campus bicycle traffic;
- (c) Advise on plans for other modes of transportation, including Cambus;
- (d) Advise on rules and regulations and fee schedules pertaining to all modes of campus parking and transportation, including priorities, registrations, and penalties for violations;
- (e) Advise on procedure for handling appeals of fines arising from alleged violations of traffic or parking regulations;
- (f) Advise in developing and renewing plans for coordinating University transportation and facilities with those of city, county, state, and federal agencies.

Meeting Dates: The committee met 2 times during the fall semester (2007) & 4 times during the spring semester (2008). Dates were October 22, November 26, January 28, February 25, March 24, and April 28. A meeting was set for December 10 but cancelled due to weather.

Activities:

- 1) **Organizational Overview:** A Parking and Transportation organizational chart was presented to provide an overview of the department's roles. Two new positions were highlighted; Assistant Manager for Parking Services which was filled by Linda Hochstedler in April and an Associate Director for Parking & Transportation Services which is currently being advertised.
- 2) **Parking & Transportation Rates:**
 - a. The Committee was presented with the FY 2009 proposed parking rates. Those rates were originally approved by the committee in the fall of 2004, as part of a four year rate package (FY 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009). The Board of Regents approves rates on an annual basis and this year's package needs to be ready in early January. The parking rates were forwarded to the University Administration, and were presented at the BOR meeting in February 2008.
- 3) **Campus Projects.**
 - a. **College of Public Health Building:** This building will be constructed on the current site of the International Center: Utility and demolition work will be in the near future with construction starting in the spring of 2008. There will be a permanent loss of parking spaces from Lots 23, 42 and the meters. Vehicular access to the new building will be provided by extending a road from the southwest end of Lot 42, up the hill. Ferson Ave., the current route to

the International Center, will be closed to all but emergency and large service vehicles.

- b. **UIHC Master Planning:** Various options were discussed showing possible outcomes of the Hospital's Master Planning efforts including—razing Hospital Ramp I (468 spaces) and Hospital Ramp II (670 spaces), Wendell Johnson Speech & Hearing, and the Center for Disabilities & Development.
 - c. **Iowa Institute for Biomedical Discovery:** This is the third new research building to be built on the Medical Campus since 2000. Its purpose is to bring various research areas together in a collaborative approach. It will be located along Newton Road, directly south of CBRB.
 - d. **UIHC Sports Medicine Clinic:** This project is in the early stages of planning. The 26,000 to 46,000 square foot clinic will be located by the Hall of Fame.
 - e. **East Campus Wellness and Recreation Center:** This building will be on the southwest corner of the intersection of Burlington and Madison Streets. Demolition starts in 1-2 months with completion expected by spring of 2009. Parking loses space in Lot 27 and in a large service vehicle lot. Parking is also expected to provide 100 spaces for public access to the building.
 - f. **Madison St. Services Bldg:** This building is located at the end of S. Madison and is close to completion.
 - g. **Fleet Services Fueling Station:** The fueling station is currently under construction and expected to be completed in December 2007.
 - h. **Cambus Maintenance Facility:** The project will be an expansion on the south end of the current building to house the fleet of buses.
 - i. **Myrtle Street Meters/Lot 48:** In the spring this lot will be reconstructed, with the meters being changed to a pay-station type parking for the students, and a new surface of previous concrete that allows water to drain right through the surface. During this time period the faculty/staff in Lot 48 will be temporarily relocated. Parking intends to keep law students parking on the site during construction.
- 4) **Open Discussions:**
- a. **Melrose Ave. Parking Facility/Lot 90:** Discussion of the appearance of Lot#90 and to be currently underused and inquired as to the reason. The new facility was opened and all of the former Lot 6 (Field House) and Lot 90 (Hospital Ramp IV) permit holders were moved into the new structure, but additional permits were not

immediately issued. Over the summer more than 100 new assignments were made. Hospital Ramp IV is being used almost exclusively for patient parking. The new facility was designed so that patient parking capacity for Hospital Ramp IV can be expanded by opening up into Lot 90. Parking expects that to happen within the next year or two, and proceed incrementally. Currently all new physicians are being placed in Lot 43 automatically (243 current permits) and will continue to do so; Lot 90 is only available through the waiting list. It was suggested that Dr. Chen present a formal suggestion to the Dean of Medicine and that more information be given to the departments by Parking & Transportation about the availability of the Physician Permit program.

5) **Associate Director Search Update:**

Mr. Jim Sayre has accepted the Parking and Transportation Dept. Associate Director position and will start on April 7, 2008. The position will be supervising the Parking Services Office and Parking Enforcement. Also, the position will help coordinate the operations of the parking, transit, and fleet divisions. He has valuable experience in the field and has been the President of the Southwest Parking Organization.

- a. **Faculty Parking:** A report was presented to the committee outlining improvements made in faculty parking assignments since the current Faculty/Staff assignment policy was implemented in November of 2000. Overall, there are 152 more faculty assignments today than in 2000, with about half of those gains coming in Lot 43. The report also showed that many faculties have been able to move closer to their work site. Mr. Ricketts agreed to work with the College of Medicine to modify the way Physicians Permits (PH) is allocated among the clinics. It is believed that making the rest more readily available to physicians could reduce or eliminate some key shortages.

6) **Project Updates:**

- a. The City of Iowa City will be lengthening the radius of the NW corner of the intersection of Church & Dubuque streets when the spring semester ends. The work will improve the turning radius for buses. This will affect the Red, Blue, Hawkeye-Interdorm, and Interdorm routes.
- b. The expansion of the UIHC was briefly discussed, with possible directions and the affect it could have on Parking and Transportation's Hospital Ramps I and II. Mr. Ricketts agreed to invite the UIHC to present the master plan to the committee in an upcoming meeting.

- 7) **Cambus:** Cambus currently has 27 full-sized transit buses and is in the process of purchasing 12 new replacement buses with a delivery date in July or August. The new buses will be low floor which will be easily accessible for ADA users and should help in efficiency of the routes. Some of the buses that are being replaced will be kept for possible route expansion.
- 8) **Bicycle Parking Study:** The 2007 University of Iowa Bicycle Parking Study was presented by Michelle Ribble. The information compiled was compared to the study completed by Steve Clark Associates in 1993 to determine the affect of bicycle parking improvements made since then; the study showed there was only a small growth in use, but major improvements in parking availability, location, quality, and utilization. One key outcome was the near elimination of bicycles being illegally parked.
- 9) **UIHC Expansion Master Plan:**
 - a. John Staley presented the UIHC Strategic Facilities Master Plan FY 2006-FY 2035, with the following highlights from his presentation: The first building of UIHC was constructed 32 years ago. Because the technological aspect of health care is so much more advanced, the hospital needs to upgrade to meet the standard that exists in the healthcare world. The UIHC Marketing area is divided into three sectors: Primary Service—30 mile radius, Secondary Service—31-60 mile radius, and Tertiary Service 60-90 mile radius. Fifteen percent of the hospital's patients came from outside of the tertiary service area. In order to compete with other hospitals, UIHC needs to construct and update their current inpatient rooming system. The overall market is projected to grow 9.4% over the next 10 years, 2.3% due to general population growth and 7.0% due to utilization growth (ageing)
- 10) **Nite Ride Program:**
 - a. Officer Brad Allison, Crime Prevention Specialist of UI Public Safety, gave a presentation on the Nite Ride program at the University of Iowa.
 - b. The original purpose of the program was to provide safety due to the assaults on women in the downtown area. The program is a safe means of late night transportation for women only. The downtown route stages at Washington and Clinton Streets and operates from 10:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. The downtown route was the originating route and because of requests an academic route has been started and operates Sunday through Thursday, 10:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m. and will pick up riders at any UI building, parking lot or parking ramp, with the exception of resident

halls and UI housing and will deliver the rider to any UI building, parking lot, parking ramp, including resident halls, UI housing and apartments with the specific boundaries. If the van is not at the stage location then dispatch can be called at 319-384-1111 to see where the van is and estimated time of arrival at the staging location. For further information see Nite Ride internet page under Public Safety.

- c. Prior to the start-up of the University's program, IACLEA (International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators) had conducted a survey to see what types of programs existed. Officer Allison compared the different programs and chose N. Illinois and Marquette Universities because of the large number of ridership/usage of their programs. Both of these universities do not have any other transit system available on their campus. Once the survey had been perused, Public Safety set up the guidelines for the Universities Nite Ride program and it was started two weeks later.
- d. The program receives financial assistance from UISG; they also received \$12,400 grant from the Safe-Walk program which enabled Public Safety to add the Academic Route. The difference between the two routes is that when riding the Academic Route the prior consumption of alcohol is not allowed, while it is allowed on the Downtown Route if you are within guidelines. Since the inception there have been approximately 996 riders, on 20 plus trips per night carrying from 3-13 riders per trip. The program will not run during the summer and will be assessed at that time.
- e. Some ideas from the committee are to advertise/market around campus and on Cambus, also check into adding the program name and times of operation on the transit signage at the staging location, and possibly a survey to find out how knowledgeable the university community is about the program. Public Safety needs to check on alternative means of transportation because the van is not ADA accessible and may be required at some point in time.

Final Contributions and Recommendations:

- 1) The Committee covered a wide number of issues related to its charge and enjoyed amiable conversation throughout the academic year.
- 2) Minutes for the meetings were usually kept by Starr Jennings, secretary in the Parking and Transportation Department. Ms. Jennings was absent due to surgery for a couple of the meetings and minutes were only

compiled later after notes were collected. Assigning a secretary for minutes ahead of time is well advised for future chairs.

- 3) Finding ways to better communicate the work of the committee. It has been my suggestion for some time that we post minutes of the committee to a web site. My preference has been that this happens at the President's site for charter committees, but if this can be done by the Parking and transportation department, that might be acceptable, too.
- 4) During the spring and fall of 2008, the committee will be developing a new multiyear rate package.
- 5) Drawing of Hospital Ramp II, and would like the JCCOG or Iowa City Transit to present at a meeting on their system and growth, etc. The UIHC Master Plan will be a dominant issue in the future. The plan has been presented to the BOR and received their approval to proceed with planning. There are several factors that involve the Parking and Transportation Dept. and need to be determined before the actual expansion can begin.
 - i. Concern about growth and traffic control.
 - ii. How much space is needed in the long run to get through the UIHC expansion and support of expansion?
 - iii. Expansion of Hospital Ramp II is not feasible because of cost, construction, and net gain is only 150 spaces.
 - iv. If Hospital Ramp II is torn down and replaced approximately 2,000 permits will be displaced.
 - v. Cost to tear down Hospital Ramp II and rebuild would cost around \$55 million.

Hospital Ramp III could be connected to the hospital via an automated walkway or skywalk once the new Pediatric wing is complete.

Thanks for the opportunity to work with Faculty Senate, Staff Council, and Student Government on important issues concerning the University community.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

CC: Martha Greer
Marsha Adolph
Kathy Kleines
Mary Jane Beach

Dave Ricketts
Park & Transportation Committee Members